The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Leading Law Firm Networks
Leading Law Firm Networks

How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/suteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Leading Law Firm Networks Nationwide

Leading Law Firm Networks: The Elite
Leading Law Firm Networks: Highly Regarded

Band 1 Leading Law Firm Networks: The Elite

Interlaw
Number of member firms: 88
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 66
About this network: Interlaw connects law firms in over 150 cities across the world and is characterised by its promotion of close relationships between members and a culture of knowledge sharing. Interlaw fosters inter-firm collaboration and communication through the creation of affinity groups and special business teams, along with the provision of regular newsletters. Its focus on collaboration has enabled its member firms to provide seamless multi-jurisdictional service on a diverse range of corporate and commercial matters. Glenn Cunningham chairs the network and is a key contact.

Interlex Group
Number of member firms: 49
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 43
About this network: Interlex Group is a widely renowned legal network with firms operating in over 60 countries across Europe, Asia, the Americas and the Middle East. Founded in 1973, the group selects its members by assessing their eligibility against rigorous criteria and generally selects only one member per country. The network has an informal alliance with LEX Africa, a network including over 20 African firms. The key contact for the network is president Lawrence Swibel.

Lex Mundi
Number of member firms: 152
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 146
About this network: An acclaimed name among legal networks, Lex Mundi consists of leaders in more than 120 locations globally. Its associated firms offer businesses both depth in local markets and effective cross-border coordination, acting in accordance with the network’s established service protocols. Group members foster strong relations through training, events and shared mandates. Membership is subject to regular review, providing quality assurance to clients. President Helena Samaha is a key contact.

Meritas
Number of member firms: 185
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 120
About this network: Meritas connects businesses with full-service firms worldwide, ensuring superior legal representation through consistent client and peer review of its exclusive membership. The group operates in more than 90 global jurisdictions, and engages in frequent network events to promote global relations and stronger coordination capabilities. A key contact for the group is president Sona Pancholy.

TAGLaw
Number of member firms: 163
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 108
About this network: A globally renowned network of over 160 departments across more than 90 jurisdictions. Prospective members are subject to rigorous screening by the TAGLaw advisory board in accordance with its specifications, ensuring a consistently high membership standard for clients requiring the full range of legal services. Members also benefit from its dedicated learning body, TAG Academy, strengthening relations and service coordination throughout the group. Key contacts include chair Chris Cervellera and CEO Richard Attisha.

World Law Group
Number of member firms: 54
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 51
About this network: World Law Group is a trusted brand among global legal networks, its firms servicing clients in over 80 countries. Member firms offer collaborative cross-border support to multinational clients and take an active approach to networking through biannual events, cultivating relations which improve the depth of the organisation’s services. Executive director Beth Castro is a key contact.

World Services Group
Number of member firms: 108
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 96
About this network: The World Services Group is a well-regarded legal network, consisting of a strong group of firms and service providers in corporate business law, investment, cross-border trade, dispute resolution and all manner of specific practices and sectors. The 100-plus members assure high-quality legal services in more than 150 legal jurisdictions. The key contact for the network is chief operating officer Maricarmen Trujillo.

ALFA International
Number of member firms: 145
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 65
About this network: Founded in 1980, ALFA International has expanded to include over 75 law firms in the USA, with a total of 145 members globally. The network’s presence includes over 90 cities in the USA with coverage across Canada, South America, Europe and Asia. It promotes close inter-member relationships and unilateral service standards through the provision of seminars and webinars, joint publications and educational opportunities. ALFA International members offer a range of legal services including counsel on corporate litigation and transactions, labour and employment, construction and transport. Key contacts at the network include CEO Peter Rogers and marketing director Katie McCormack.

American Counsel Association
Number of member firms: 188
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 73
About this network: The American Counsel Association has a rich history dating back to its founding in 1928 and today includes member firms located across North America, Europe and Australia. The network shares a commitment to the enhancement of the standards of practice and the development of professional relationships between member firms. It provides a number of scholarship programmes for gifted law students in the USA and further afield. President Frank Neuner and president-elect Brett Harrison are key contacts at the network.

The Harmonie Group/Canadian Litigation Counsel (CLC)
Number of member firms: 92
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 40
About this network: Established in 1992, the Harmonie Group consists of an elite membership of legal service providers throughout all US states, Canada and Europe. Thanks to its thorough vetting proce-
The ARC Group Canada Inc.
Number of member firms: 7
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 4
About this network: The ARC Group Canada is a network that brings together independent law firms from across the country to offer a well-resourced service for clients. The network's membership is made up of both law firms and individual lawyers, particularly in the insurance and risk management areas. The group's commitment to the insurance sector seeks to provide an enhanced experience and service to clients within the industry - insurers, self-insured companies and others - specifically targeting and delivering on business needs. Director of administration John Sutherland is a key contact.

Employment & Labour / Insurance
Leading Law Firm Networks

dure, affiliate firms share a commitment to quality in litigation. The key contact for the group is executive director Timothy Violet.

International Network of Boutique Law Firms
Number of member firms: 323
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 80
About this network: The International Network of Boutique Law Firms brings together a range of deeply experienced, single-discipline boutique law firms across the USA and Canada, offering expansive geographical coverage and specialist expertise in a range of legal practice areas. INBLF conducts extensive review processes on prospective members to maintain the network's high standards of service and reputation. In addition to its North American presence, the network is aligned with a number of European, Asian, Middle Eastern and Latin American full-service law firms, ensuring representation to clients around the globe. President Arnold Lutzker is a key contact.

IR Global
Number of member firms: 735
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 136
About this network: IR Global is an expansive multidisciplinary network of professional service providers, consisting of lawyers, accountants and financial advisers spread across 155 jurisdictions. Operates 11 practice area-specific working groups overseen by regional steering committees to enhance group development and ensure multi-jurisdictional mandate coordination and high delivery standards across the network. IR Global offers additional services through the provision of expert professionals in the areas of marketing, branding and cybersecurity. Founder and managing director Thomas Wheeler is a key contact.

SCG Legal
Number of member firms: 134
Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides: 89
About this network: Founded in 1989, SCG Legal draws its membership from service providers across over 50 countries around the world, offering expert knowledge of local jurisdictions and management of international mandates through its partner firms. It holds members to a high service standard, informed by endorsements from clients, members and professional bodies. The key contact for the network is CEO Alina Gorokhovsky.

Employment & Labour
Nationwide

Employment & Labour
Band 1
Employment Law Alliance

Band 1
Employment Law Alliance

Insurance
Nationwide

Insurance
Band 1
The ARC Group Canada Inc.
## Band 1

### Shiparrested.com

**Number of member firms:** 217  
**Number of firms ranked in Chambers guides:** 83  

**About this network:** Since its establishment in 2000, Shiparrested.com has grown to become the world’s largest maritime law network, working across over 100 countries. The network facilitates international cooperation between its members, which range from law firms, arbitrators and consultants to shipping industry players. It serves a diverse array of clients including ship owners, managers and traders, P&I clubs, banks, suppliers and charterers. The network, as well as offering expertise in general maritime law, focuses particularly on ship arrest law, and is involved in the arrest and release of ships in over 1,000 ports globally. In addition, Shiparrested.com issues a quarterly newsletter covering issues pertinent to the sector, as well as an in-depth annual publication. Felipe Arizon is the network’s founder and a key contact.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Aboriginal Law
Aboriginal Law

How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Aboriginal Law

Aboriginal Law Nationwide

Leading Firms
Band 1
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
Fasken
Lawson Lundell LLP
Band 2
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
Ottawa, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
Band 3
Dentons Canada LLP
McCarty Tétrault LLP
Norton Rose Fulbright
Torys LLP

Aboriginal Law

Senior Statespeople

Aboriginal Law

Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bergner Keith Lawson Lundell LLP *
Isaac Thomas Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP *
Dolywn John Lawson Lundell LLP *
Band 2
Adkins Sam Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP *
Gogol Sandra Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP *
King Richard Ottawa, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP *
O’Callaghan Kevin Fasken *
Band 3
Armstrong Brad Lawson Lundell LLP *
Bursey David Bennett Jones LLP
Gray Bryn McCarty Tétrault LLP *
Junger Robin McMillan LLP (ORL) *
Labeau Pierre-Christien Fasken *
Milton Roy Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP *
Shipley Lana Lawson Lundell LLP *
Singh Sharon Bennett Jones LLP

Senior Statespeople

Aboriginal Law

Leading Firms
Band 1
JFK LAW LLP
Olthuis Kleer Townshend
Ratcliffe & Company LLP
Band 2
DGW Law Corporation
First Peoples Law
Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
Mandell Pinder LLP
Miller Titerle + Company LLP
Pape Salter Teillet Barristers and Solicitors
Woodward & Company
Band 3
MLT Aikins LLP
Nahwegahbo Corbiere Genoogamejig Barristers

Aboriginal Law

Band 1 Aboriginal Law

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon fields a strong Indigenous law group with a national presence and offering clients a full service. The team possesses expertise which encompasses consultation and accommodation, impact and benefit agreements, regulatory proceedings and a range of commercial transactions. It also handles treaty negotiations and litigation matters, including challenges to government actions and permitting, judicial review proceedings and settlements. The lawyers act for a number of large international energy and oil companies, as well as industry associations and Aboriginal groups. The firm has a particularly strong presence in Western Canada, but frequently advises on matters in Ontario and Quebec.

Strengths
“Blakes have done a lot of work on Aboriginal law across Canada so they have a strong knowledge base and experience. The law is changing all the time and they are good at keeping up in a challenging environment.”

“Blakes was able to provide succinct and clear guidance in understanding the legal parameters and implications for the First Nations and our relationships with them.”

“The group I have been working with are highly capable, with a sophisticated understanding of Aboriginal law litigation.”

Work highlights
A Blakes team led by Roy Millen advised Seabridge on negotiating agreements with affected First Nations concerning the creation of a gold-copper mine.

Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based Sam Adkins (see p.11) acts on environmental assessments and has experience advising on the Aboriginal law aspects of major projects, including those in the energy and natural resources sector. “Sam is an excellent lawyer who is very adept at negotiating with First Nations.” “He is easy to work with, client-oriented, gives thoughtful and strategic advice and is very efficient.” “His experience and knowledge has been instrumental to our team. He has a vast understanding of the changing landscape and how external factors are influencing current situations.” Roy Millen (see p.12) is a well-regarded Aboriginal law practitioner who frequently advises significant natural resource and energy clients. Based in Vancouver, he provides experience in the negotiation and execution of agreements with Aboriginal groups. “Understanding Aboriginal law and knowledge of its nuances are important, and Roy has a wealth of experience in that.” “He has always provided unprecedented business wisdom, insight and patience in assisting us with navigating and resolving complex and sensitive issues.”

Aboriginal Law

Representation of Indigenous Peoples

Leading Firms
Band 1
JFK LAW LLP
Olthuis Kleer Townshend
Band 2
DGW Law Corporation
First Peoples Law
Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
Mandell Pinder LLP
Miller Titerle + Company LLP
Pape Salter Teillet Barristers and Solicitors
Woodward & Company
Band 3
MLT Aikins LLP
Nahwegahbo Corbiere Genoogamejig Barristers

Senior Statespeople

Aboriginal Law

Leading Individuals
Band 1
Fafie Maxime Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
Jones Robert JFK LAW LLP
Kyle Roxanne Mandell Pinder LLP
Madden Jason Pape Salter Teillet Barristers and Solicitors
Miller Robert Miller Titerle + Company LLP
Band 2
Deavin Christopher DGW Law Corporation
Freedman Robert Olthuis Kleer Townshend
Gaertner Brenda Mandell Pinder LLP
McDade Gregory Ratcliffe & Company LLP
Band 3
Alexander Merle C Miller Titerle + Company LLP
Browne Murray Woodward & Company
Hutchins Peter W Hutchins Legal Inc (ORL) *
Innes Larry Olthuis Kleer Townshend
Kleer Nancy Olthuis Kleer Townshend
McIvor Bruce First Peoples Law
Pelletier Renée Olthuis Kleer Townshend
Robbins David Woodward & Company
Schulze David Dionne Schulze (ORL) *
Smith Scott Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Up-and-coming individuals
Brooks Karyn JFK LAW LLP
Dickson Tim JFK LAW LLP
Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken is a premier law firm, known for a long history in the Aboriginal law field. It enjoys a notable profile in Vancouver, from where the team is well placed to advise on matters arising in British Columbia and throughout Northern Canada.

The Indigenous law group advises on a wide array of litigation and consultation matters, as well as acting for business clients on commercial agreements and joint ventures with Indigenous groups. The team is known for its extensive experience negotiating and drafting impact and benefit agreements on behalf of major industry players, regularly representing significant clients from the mining and energy sectors. The firm also acts for clients in other industries including real estate and transportation, as well as representing municipalities and Crown corporations.

Strengths “Fasken is among the best in terms of technical expertise, and also in terms of working collaboratively with a large project team.”

“The people I deal with at Fasken all have a deep level of experience.”

Work highlights A Fasken team led by Kevin O’Calaghan acted for Coastal Gaslink Pipeline Limited in negotiating agreements with several Aboriginal groups relating to the construction of a pipeline across British Columbia.

Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based Charles Willms (see p.13) has a wealth of experience in the field of Aboriginal law, including with regard to petroleum and natural gas rights. He is very well versed in dispute resolution, including mediation and arbitration, and garners considerable respect from the market. Kevin O’Calaghan (see p.12) leads Fasken’s Indigenous law group from Vancouver. He advises clients on mining projects and pipeline proposals, providing experience in both strategic and contentious Aboriginal engagement mandates. “Kevin is an expert in Indigenous relations regarding infrastructure or natural resources.”

Pierre-Christian Labeau (see p.12) has particular experience representing governmental entities and mining companies out of Fasken’s Quebec City office, providing notable experience in Aboriginal and constitutional law. Kai Alderson (see p.11) is an adept lawyer based in Vancouver who has established a strong reputation for representing clients in the energy, mining and natural resource industries in their negotiations with Aboriginal groups. “Kai is brilliant, an excellent negotiator with a depth of experience in the Indigenous field.”

Lawson Lundell LLP
What the team is known for Lawson Lundell is a Vancouver-based regional law firm with a significant Aboriginal law practice across Western and Northern Canada. With a strong resources-focused practice, the team offers substantial experience of LNG, oil sands, mining and pipelines work. It represents industry clients in their negotiations with Aboriginal stakeholders, as well as advising on regulatory and court proceedings. The firm is regularly engaged by forestry industry participants to provide advice on dispute resolution with Indigenous communities, as well as representing major national clients in other sectors such as transportation and shipping. Its clients benefit from the firm’s additional offices in Calgary and Yellowknife.

Strengths “The firm’s main strengths are their deep knowledge and incredible responsiveness.”

Work highlights A Lawson Lundell team led by John Olwyny advised Canadian Natural on objections by Indigenous groups to its Kirby South Integration Application.

Notable practitioners
Keith Bergner (see p.11) has experience representing clients in the Aboriginal law elements of major energy projects. He represents clients including corporations and government bodies outside the team’s Vancouver office. “Keith Bergner has been an invaluable resource for our community relations efforts.” He knows how to be flexible and provide advice without spending a lot of time on extraneous issues.”

Calgary-based John Olynky (see p.12) advises on the Indigenous law aspects of mining and oil and gas operations. He is noted for his regulatory work and market commentators highlight his presence on significant disputes in the Aboriginal law space. John is especially skilled at looking outside the box to develop innovative solutions to problems when we are stuck at the negotiating table. He is very good at developing relationships with the client organisation and also helped us build trust across the table.”

Brad Armstrong KC (see p.183) is recognised by market sources for his considerable experience in Indigenous law. Based in Vancouver, he acts on mining and port projects, with a notable focus on environmental issues. He routinely acts for mining and natural resource companies. Lana Shipley (see p.12) is a Vancouver-based lawyer who provides Aboriginal law advice on corporate and commercial transactions, as well as operations. She acts for clients in a variety of industry sectors, including mining and manufacturing. “Lana has considerable practical and strategic knowledge and advice, which is invaluable.”

Band 2 Aboriginal Law

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for Bennett Jones advises energy industry clients on their Aboriginal law interests, primarily in relation to large project development. The firm’s experience encompasses provincial and federal pipeline projects, LNG and mining work and transportation infrastructure. Its Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto lawyers also offer considerable strength in litigation relating to Aboriginal rights. In addition, the team often represents government clients, as well as advising on commercial joint ventures with First Nations groups. The firm also possesses complementary expertise in environmental law.

Strengths “Bennett Jones demonstrates an impressive expertise on the subject, combined with etiquette and diplomacy.”

Work highlights A Bennett Jones team led by David Bursey advised Pacific Traverse Energy on its agreements with eight First Nations affected by the development of a liquid propane export project.

Notable practitioners
David Bursey has a strong reputation in Aboriginal law matters, frequently representing natural resource clients before administrative tribunals and provincial and federal courts. Based in Vancouver, he offers expertise in the handling of negotiations for various agreements in connection with major project development. “David has a lot of experience. He is very pragmatic and makes the law intelligible and plain.”

Vancouver-based Sharon Singh is reputed for her activity at the intersection of Aboriginal and environmental law, providing regulatory advice to her roster of natural resources clients. She also excels in advising the same clients on the Indigenous aspects of mergers and acquisitions. “We are absolutely satisfied with her assistance. She is new to us and provides more context than we ever knew existed.”

She is a bright, thoughtful and strategic thinker.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais operates a strong national practice with a significant focus on Aboriginal law and litigation. The Indigenous law team offers notable experience of title and rights and oil and gas exploration issues, as well as economic and community development, tax and employment law. The firm represents both First Nations and industry proponents in connection with major energy projects. It also advises provincial and federal governments and their agencies on a number of issues, including land claims. It is particularly active in BC and also well placed to advise on matters throughout the North as well as in Ontario and Quebec.

Strengths “The lawyers I work with are responsive, pleasant and focused on the best outcome for their client.”

Work highlights A BLG team represented Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation on its acquisition of the Gorge Harbour Marina Resort.

Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based Patrick Foy (see p.11) remains one of the most pre-eminent lawyers in the Aboriginal law space, operating a high-profile disputes practice. Vancouver-based David Camp (see p.11) is a respected lawyer in the Aboriginal law space, acting for the likes of resource companies, developers and railway companies. His experience includes advising on leasing issues on reserve lands. “David is excellent at strategy and easy to work with. He has lots of experience of working with both commercial organisations and government.” “He understands our business very well and is able to align legal recommendations with business direction.”

Chris Roine (see p.12) is an adept lawyer based in Vancouver who has established himself as a go-to for representing clients in the forestry, mining and energy sectors in their negotiations with Indigenous groups. “Chris has strong commercial aptitude. He knows how to negotiate with the Nations and his experience is extremely valuable.”

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell is a well-established Canadian law firm with offices in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver. Its Aboriginal law group has a notable reputation for the representation of mining and energy industry clients, with its expertise extending to advising on impact and benefit agreements and business transactions. The practice is sought out by provincial governments and Indigenous bodies for its assistance with negotiations on various Aboriginal-related matters, including provincial regulations and treaties.

Strengths “Cassels’ work on our Indigenous files has been outstanding. They listen to their clients and look for practical solutions to very complex and challenging files. They are able to balance the strict legal interpretations with the realistic business needs of their clients.”

“They are always able to provide clear and concise information and answer all inquiries.”

Work highlights A Cassels team led by Thomas Isaac is currently representing the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs on the Gottfriedson class action.
Notable practitioners

Thomas Isaiah Jr. (see p.12) is a highly esteemed litigator with considerable experience acting for governmental and corporate clients on contentious and constitutional matters, in addition to providing advice on a raft of regulatory matters. He chairs the firm’s Aboriginal law group from its Vancouver office. “Tom is one of the most talented lawyers I know. He is great to work with, responsive, and provides excellent practical advice on complex matters.” “Tom provides excellent counsel and is an excellent negotiator and provides real value to our work.” – Sandra Gogal (see p.11) is a Toronto-based lawyer who is held in high regard for her work in the Aboriginal law space. Her practice includes advising on impact and benefit agreements, as well as other commercial agreements, in relation to the development of mining and hydroelectric projects. Jeremy Barretto (see p.11) is an increasingly prominent lawyer based in Calgary. He demonstrates significant capabilities in acting for clients in the energy, oil and gas and mining sectors on their negotiations and agreements with Indigenous communities. “Jeremy is a very talented lawyer. He is practical, responsive, and listens to the client.” – Arend Hoekstra (see p.11) is an adept associate based in Vancouver. He demonstrates a prolific practice in advising clients on liaisons and negotiations with Indigenous communities relating to major infrastructure projects. His clients include companies from the energy and mining sectors as well as government entities. “Arend is excellent to work with. He is approachable, thorough and an excellent communicator who provides high-quality advice.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP is a well-reputed national law firm that provides assistance to a number of large energy and oil companies in connection with Aboriginal, environmental and regulatory matters; clients also include electricity transmission companies and utilities, provincial governments and their entities. The firm offers notable experience of major project development in multiple jurisdictions, advising on an array of matters relating to the duty to consult, impact and benefit and economic participation agreements. It is also active on the litigation front, representing clients before courts and regulatory boards across the country. Work also includes mandates in the forestry and offshore drilling industries.

Strengths “The lawyers we work with understand our business, which is extremely helpful. They also understand risks and are pretty creative in terms of risk mitigation; they are excellent problem solvers.” “Their most significant quality is pragmatism. The business element is key and they advise on a solution-based approach.”

Work highlights
An Osler team led by Sander Duncanson and Maureen Rempel acted for Trans Mountain Corporation and Kinder Morgan Canada on a series of discussions with the Nlaka’pamux Nation Tribal Council relating to the Trans Mountain Expansion Project.

Notable practitioners
Sander Duncanson (see p.10) provides counsel to resource developers navigating Aboriginal law obligations, in addition to providing advice on negotiating impact and benefit agreements. He is based in Calgary. “Sander is excellent counsel and extremely knowledgeable. While he provides detailed and legally accurate advice, he also ensures it is reasonable and actionable.” – Mau- reen Killoran KC (see p.290) is a highly regarded litigator who currently acts as Osler’s national co-chair. Practising out of the firm’s Calgary and Vancouver offices, she is especially skilled at representing clients from the energy sector as well as governmental entities on cases relating to Indigenous land title infringements. “Maureen was a pleasure to work with and very smart. She’s a very good courtroom lawyer and a good strategist.” – Sean Sutherland (see p.13) is an esteemed associate based in Calgary who has amassed a notable reputation for litigation. In particular, he is experienced in representing oil and gas clients in cases brought by Aboriginal groups concerning injunctive applications and consultations. “Sean is very helpful, knowledgeable and responsive. I really enjoy working with him.”

Band 3 Aboriginal Law

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for
Dentons Canada provides advice to companies from the energy, forestry, transportation, mining and real estate sectors on a wide range of issues relating to Aboriginal project development. Its Aboriginal law group leverages the firm’s national and international presence to provide an integrated Aboriginal, environmental and regulatory law perspective, with areas of expertise including land claims, treaty rights, benefits and access agreements, and related litigation. The group is well known for its expertise in relation to large-scale pipeline and LNG matters, and well placed to advise on related disputes. The department has a particularly strong presence in Montréal, with additional capacity in Calgary and Vancouver.

Strengths “A Dentons team is continuing to advise Hydro-Québec on five litigation matters brought by the Innu of Pessamit regarding land rights affected by hydroelectric projects.”

Notable practitioners
Ann Bigué, Ad E is a highly regarded lawyer with a longstanding reputation for her work negotiating with Aboriginal groups in relation to energy and natural resources projects. She is based in the firm’s Montréal office. Vancouver-based Mai Rempel is sought out by corporates for her indigenous and regulatory expertise. She is particularly well versed on issues relating to land and governance, and previously worked as in-house counsel at BC Hydro.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault offers notable expertise in Aboriginal law across Canada, advising on infrastructure development on reserve lands, as well as issues relating to consultation and accommodation. The firm acts for large business clients, as well as all levels of government, with a focus on the mining and energy sectors. It has significant expertise in litigation, including before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Strengths “They offer concise, timely and objective analysis and clear presentation in stepping out complex and sophisticated matters.”

Work highlights
A McCarthy team acted for Newcrest Red Chris Mining on its consultation with Nisga’a Nation relating to the development of the Red Chris Mine.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Bryn Gray (see p.11) advises clients from a range of sectors including energy and natural resources, handling consultation and disputes with Aboriginal groups. “I would highlight Bryn Gray for his deep expertise in Aboriginal law and huge commercial experience.” “Has a rare combination of insight and skill in litigation.”

Norton Rose Fullbright

What the team is known for
Norton Rose Fullbright is a prominent international firm with strength across Canada and a notable presence in Alberta and British Columbia. It provides advice on a broad range of Aboriginal law matters, including duty to consult and regulatory advice, land claim negotiations, impact and benefit negotiations, and significant litigation. The team offers additional expertise in matters relating to joint ventures and partnerships with Aboriginal communities to promote economic development, as well as advising on project finance mandates involving First Nations. Its lawyers are regularly engaged by government agencies in addition to private sector clients in the energy, mining, financial, forestry and real estate industries.

Strengths “They are excellent lawyers with top-shelf, thorough analysis.” “Their greatest strength is delivering value tailored to the specific needs of each file.”

Work highlights
A Norton Rose team continues to represent the Government of Canada in a variety of litigation brought by First Nations in Alberta relating to the development of oil and gas projects on Indigenous land.

Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based Max Collett is a key contact.

Torys LLP

What the team is known for
Torys fields a highly regarded Aboriginal law practice from its office in Toronto. The firm’s lawyers are well versed in corporate transactions involving Indigenous-owned entities. Furthermore, the team excels in advising its clients on consultations with Aboriginal groups. Its clients include both government entities and private clients in the energy, mining and oil and gas sectors.

Strengths “Torys goes above and beyond in responsiveness. They have depth and breadth in all areas in which I have worked with them.”

Work highlights
A Torys team led by Valerie Helbroner acted for Nation Rise Wind Farm on the sale of a 50.01% interest to Chi-Nôdin Limited Partnership, which is owned by the Algonquins of Pikwàkanag First Nation.

Notable practitioners
Former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada Frank Iacobucci (see p.12) is an esteemed senior figure in the market. He is based in Toronto and has a wealth of experience advising the government on Indigenous matters, including major energy projects. Toronto-based Valerie Helbroner (see p.171) is sought after for her engagement with Indigenous groups on behalf of infrastructure project developers, with a significant emphasis on power projects. “Valerie has handled some tricky matters exceptionally well.”
Band 1 Aboriginal Law – Representation of Indigenous Peoples

JFK Law LLP
What the team is known for JFK Law Corporation is a top-tier Aboriginal and constitutional law firm with a sterling reputation in BC, as well as in Alberta, Ontario and the Yukon. The firm provides a full range of legal services to First Nations, Indian bands and individuals, offering notable expertise in relation to modern treaty negotiations and the duty to consult during energy and natural resources projects, as well as Charter litigation, and is highly regarded for its experience before the Supreme Court. The team also advises on First Nations economic development and governance structures.

Strengths “They have a positive image in the community. JFK’s lawyers respect customs and beliefs, and they are sincere and committed.”

Work highlights A JFK team led by Tim Dickson advised on the creation of the Indigenous Adviser and Monitoring Committee for the Trans Mountain Pipelines and Marine Shipping.

Notable practitioners
Robert Janes KC is regarded as a leading figure in the representation of Aboriginal groups. Operating out of the firm’s Victoria and Vancouver offices, his expertise encompasses Aboriginal title and rights, cases and environmental law. He is further noted for his activity in regulatory and litigation matters. Carey Brooks is an increasingly prominent lawyer based in Vancouver who is particularly adept in representing First Nations. Her work often includes treaty infringement cases and negotiations relating to the construction and development of infrastructure projects. “Karey is down to earth and thoughtful. She understands the Indigenous side of the issues and helps leadership make informed decisions.”

Othliths Kleer Townsend
What the team is known for Othliths Kleer Townsend is a standout Toronto law firm with an impressive reputation and significant national reach in the area of Aboriginal law. It regularly represents First Nations clients in business law matters, including economic development and natural resources projects. The firm also advises on employment law, constitutional law, administrative legal procedures and self-governance, with a notable track record for handling Aboriginal and treaty rights litigation before all levels of court and regulatory tribunals.

Notable practitioners
Robert Freedman is a Vancouver-based lawyer with a wealth of experience in Aboriginal law, including the negotiation of treaties and environmental agreements. He frequently advises clients from the area of energy and natural resources through First Nation consultation processes. Larry Innes is experienced in acting for First Nations on mining, energy and forest matters. Based in Yellowknife, he possesses extensive experience advising on impact and benefit agreements. Nancy Kleer represents Indigenous clients in mining and mineral exploration matters. Based in Toronto, her work includes litigation support and negotiations, with further expertise in environmental protection and assessment. Renée Pelletier is based in Toronto and is currently acting as managing partner of Othliths Kleer Townsend. She has a strong track record in representing Indigenous clients on environmental law and treaty rights litigation.

Ratcliffe & Company LLP
What the team is known for Ratcliffe & Company offers a broad range of services to Aboriginal clients. The firm regularly provides assistance with constitutional law, economic development, and Aboriginal rights and land claims, offering expertise in treaty negotiation, closing and implementation, particularly in British Columbia. It also has significant experience representing First Nations clients and First Nations-owned companies in civil litigation involving a range of issues from contracts to property and governance, as well as advising on business planning, structuring and acquisitions.

Notable practitioners
Gregory McDade KC focuses his practice on First Nation disputes across Canada, with particular emphasis on resource projects. Based in Vancouver, he is well versed handling impact benefit agreements and consultations on behalf of First Nation-led organizations.

Band 2 Aboriginal Law – Representation of Indigenous Peoples

DGW Law Corporation
What the team is known for DGW Law Corporation is a Victoria-based law firm with a strong presence in Western and Northern Canada, offering First Nations, Inuit and Métis clients a wide range of services within the areas of litigation, economic development and negotiations with government. The team also provides advice in relation to band management, reorganisation and governance. It offers further expertise in a range of on-reserve economic development matters, including land claim disputes, as well as in negotiating government-to-government agreements.

Notable practitioners
Victoria-based Christopher Devlin acts for a variety of Indigenous groups on negotiations and litigation. He has experience representing his clients in multi-party agreements, and is highlighted by market commentators for the strength of his business sense.

First Peoples Law
What the team is known for First Peoples Law is a strong Vancouver law firm with deep experience acting for Indigenous peoples across Canada. Its experience encompasses matters such as Aboriginal rights and title, as well as treaty rights, with further experience advising on impact and benefit agreements. The team also handles environmental assessments and acts on water and hydroelectric developments. First Peoples Law has benefited from its recent merger with Donovan & Company Barristers and Solicitors.

Notable practitioners
Scott is super-knowledgeable and is clearly an expert in negotiations with government and in shaping First Nations legislation.”

Allan Donovan has a broad practice in the representation of Indigenous peoples, encompassing Aboriginal law, litigation and rights and title. A respected practitioner in this space, he has extensive experience before the courts and the Indian Claims Commission. He has recently become part of First Peoples Law after its merger with his original firm Donovan & Company Barristers and Solicitors.

Bruce McIvor is an adept lawyer based in Vancouver. He regularly provides counsel to Indigenous clients on matters relating to Aboriginal title claims and treaty violations.

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for Gowling WLG houses an impressive Aboriginal law team that offers assistance to clients including several First Nations from its offices across Canada, most notably from Ottawa and Vancouver. The group’s counsel spans a range of areas including treaty and inherent rights, duty to consult and impact benefit agreements, self-governance and economic development. Working collaboratively with colleagues in the energy, infrastructure and mining fields, the group also has substantial experience representing private industry and project proponents in their dealings with Aboriginal communities. The firm’s work has also involved matters concerning Aboriginal rights and title in Newfoundland and Labrador. The team is active assisting First Nations organisations as project proponents in the renewable energy space.

Strengths “Gowling has a lot of depth so they can always get answers to our questions. They have some first-class.”

Work highlights A Gowling team led by Brian Crane and Graham Ragan represented the Nunatsiavut Government in an appellate case relating to revenue shares from a mining project in Labrador.

Notable practitioners
Brian Crane KC is a seasoned and highly regarded Aboriginal law lawyer who is well known for his representation of Indigenous clients in disputes, as well as advising on arbitration and mediation. Based in Ottawa, his practice also includes the negotiation of native land claims. Vancouver-based Maxime Faille operates a reputed Aboriginal law practice experienced in the representation of Indigenous clients in litigation, including class actions, as well as in treaty negotiations. Scott Smith has accrued a strong reputation for representing First Nations in disputes with provincial and federal government. He is a Vancouver-based lawyer who also assists Indigenous clients with mergers and acquisitions as well as drafting legislation. “Scott’s breadth of knowledge is clearly an expert in negotiations with government and in shaping First Nations legislation.”

Mandell Pinder LLP
What the team is known for Mandell Pinder is a stellar Vancouver law firm with a long history of representing Aboriginal peoples in a broad variety of matters relating to title and treaty rights, land and natural resources and business development. The team offers advice on consultation and accommodation as well as reconciliation agreements, as well as providing counsel to Aboriginal governments on finance, taxation and employment. The group is experienced in handling joint ventures between First Nations and investors in the real estate sector, in addition to possessing significant experience before various trial and appellate courts across the country.
as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. Its disputes experience also includes a strong emphasis on ADR, including advising on inter-tribal disputes.

**Notable practitioners**

Rosanne Kyle is a highly respected lawyer in the Aboriginal law space who is based in Vancouver and has substantial regulatory and litigation experience. She represents First Nations clients before environmental assessment panels and regulatory bodies. Vancouver-based Brenda Gaertner acts for clients such as First Nations governments, providing counsel on economic development and Aboriginal title and rights. She is further experienced in natural resource management.

**Miller Titerle + Company LLP**

What the team is known for Miller Titerle + Company LLP is a dynamic Vancouver-based business law firm with a strong focus on the economic development of First Nations. The team offers support across the full range of Aboriginal issues, including project development, governance, rights and title, tax, employment, real estate and environmental law. It demonstrates considerable aptitude for leveraging the multidisciplinary strengths of its team to offer sound commercial support, including joint venture mandates. The firm is also involved in advising on government-to-government agreements, including resource revenue sharing agreements and reconciliation actions.

**Notable practitioners**

Robert Miller provides strategic advice on a suite of Aboriginal law matters on behalf of First Nations clients including governments, economic development corporations and businesses. He is well versed in matters involving resources and infrastructure and is based in Vancouver. Merle Alexander is a respected name in Indigenous resource law, acting on numerous projects. Based in Vancouver, he is well versed in a range of matters concerning Aboriginal law including regulatory engagement and impact benefit agreements.

**Pape Salter Teillet Barristers and Solicitors**

What the team is known for Pape Salter Teillet Barristers and Solicitors has an established reputation for its representation of Aboriginal clients. The group maintains a strong focus on self-government and economic development, as well as providing further advice on the negotiation of impact and benefit agreements. With offices in Toronto and Vancouver, the firm is active across Canada and is particularly well known for its work on behalf of the Métis. Its lawyers are well regarded for their experience in advancing Indigenous treaty rights through litigation, regulatory proceedings and environmental assessment processes, and the team has a strong track record before the Supreme Court. It is also active in the negotiation of modern treaties.

**Notable practitioners**

Murray Browne is well regarded for his Aboriginal law practice and is sought after for his expertise in the representation of First Nations engaged in treaty negotiations. He holds further experience in land code implementation. David Robbins acts for Indigenous clients on lands and resources issues, adeptly representing First Nations before all levels of court. He is based in Victoria.

**Band 3 Aboriginal Law – Representation of Indigenous Peoples**

**MLT Aikins LLP**

What the team is known for MLT Aikins fields a broad team focusing on Aboriginal law, with expertise based in each of its offices across Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. The firm regularly acts for First Nations and Indigenous-owned corporations on a variety of corporate and commercial matters. These include mergers and acquisitions, as well as housing development projects. Its lawyers also represent clients on disputes relating to land ownership.

**Work highlights**

An MLT team led by Grant Stenson advised Chief Peguis Investment Corporation on its joint venture with The Clinic Network Canada for the operation of pain management clinics.

**Notable practitioners**

Josh Morrison and Michael Clark are co-heads of the firm’s Indigenous practice and are based in Regina and Calgary respectively.

**Nahwegahbow Corbiere Genoodmægjig Barristers & Solicitors**

What the team is known for Nahwegahbow Corbiere Genoodmægjig Barristers & Solicitors is a highly respected Ontario-based law firm with decades of experience in Aboriginal law. The team exclusively represents First Nation clients; it is active on governance matters, and in particular in treaty rights litigation and negotiation. The firm notably prioritises the hiring of First Nation lawyers and other members of staff.

**Notable practitioners**

David Nahwegahbow and Dianne Corbiere are key contacts.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Peter Hutchins is a Montréal-based lawyer at Hutchins Legal. He is a highly experienced and respected negotiator and litigator who represents Inuit and First Nations clients. Appearing before numerous courts including the Supreme Court of Canada, he has further experience in treaty drafting. Based in Vancouver, Robin Junger (see p.12) advises on the Aboriginal law elements of acquisition transactions. He also has notable and complementary environmental law expertise.

James O’Reilly possesses outstanding experience in Aboriginal law, including land claims and treaty rights matters. Based in Montréal, he is well known for litigious work on behalf of Indigenous groups.

David Schulze is based at Dionne Schulze in Montréal. He provides advice on Aboriginal treaty rights and is active in Québec and Labrador. His experience in the Aboriginal law space is frequently sought out by public and private clients including Aboriginal governments.

Calgary-based Heather Treacy KC represents clients in the energy sector in contentious and non-contentious matters relating to Aboriginal law. “Heather really spends time to understand our business needs. I very much appreciate her ability to get right to the core of an issue.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Aboriginal Law

ADKINS, Sam
Blake Cassels & Greydan LLP, Vancouver
(604) 631-3393
sam.adkins@blakes.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Sam is a corporate commercial lawyer primarily serving clients in the resource sector, with a strong focus on aboriginal and project development matters. His practice is national in scope, acting for clients across Canada on a wide range of aboriginal law issues, including consultation, negotiation and the regulatory process. Sam has significant industry expertise in the energy and mining sectors, and has represented clients on commercial and transactional matters across all project phases. Previously, Sam held a senior position with an international energy company overseeing all aboriginal-related matters on a proposed liquefied natural gas project in Kitimat, BC.

Personal: Sam is a frequent speaker and commentator on aboriginal law issues in Canada.

ALDERSON, Kai
Fasken, Vancouver
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Kai Alderson is an energy and natural resources lawyer in Vancouver. Utilities, energy companies and other natural resource clients seek out his practical advice on complex asset acquisitions and dispositions, project development and other challenging commercial matters. Kai is a trusted advisor, providing strategic advice to project proponents on environmental, regulatory and Indigenous law matters. Energy and natural resource companies rely on Kai’s practical approach, whether he is assisting them on a challenging regulatory matter or a complex transaction. Kai is a problem-solver who helps clients achieve successful commercial outcomes while building constructive, long-term relationships.

ARMSTRONG, Brad
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 9126
barmstrong@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide - Canada), Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)
See under Environment for profile.

BARRETO, Jeremy
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Calgary
403 260 7005
jbarreto@cassels.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Offers extensive regulatory, environmental, and Aboriginal law experience in obtaining approvals and negotiating agreements for resource development projects. Expertise in renewable energy, oil and gas, mining, and infrastructure development. Frequently represents project proponents in hearings before courts and regulators across Canada. Has presented at national conferences and published articles, including in the Alberta Law Review, Globe and Mail, and CBC.

Career: Called to the Bar in Alberta and British Columbia. Previously worked in environmental engineering, earning his Professional Engineer designation. Serves as Chair of the firm’s Regulatory Law Group.

BERGNER, Keith
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
(604) 631-9119
kbergner@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Administrative, Constitutional and Public Law, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Energy, Environmental & Regulatory, Indigenous Law, Litigation, and in respect of potential adverse effects to Indigenous rights or title by major industrial projects. He advises on the development of consultation programs and has negotiated several dozen impact-benefit agreements with First Nations. Keith acts as hearing counsel for proponents seeking regulatory permits and approvals. He also represents project proponents and governments in appeals and judicial reviews challenging project approvals. In the area of regulatory/energy law, Keith acts as counsel for proponents and users of energy, mining and other natural resource projects. He appears regularly before administrative tribunals, including the Canada Energy Regulator and the British Columbia Utilities Commission. He also appears as counsel on appeals or applications seeking judicial review of decisions by administrative boards and tribunals. Keith is a member of the bars of British Columbia (1997), Northwest Territories (2000), Nunavut (2000), and Yukon (2010).

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association - Member of Aboriginal, Administrative and Civil Litigation Sections; Law Society of the Northwest Territories - Member of Admissions and Discipline Committees.

CAMP, David K
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver
604-640-4104
dcamp@blg.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association.

DUNCANSON, Sander
Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 7078
sduncanson@osler.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide - Canada)
See under Energy & Natural Resources for profile.

FOY, Patrick G
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 4193
pfoy@blg.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Patrick has a robust and varied disputes practice. He focuses his work primarily in the areas of appellate and judicial review, Indigenous law and investor/state arbitration. He is recognized as one of the country’s leading Indigenous law lawyers.


Professional Memberships: Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers

Publications: Authored numerous articles and regularly speaks at conferences on Aboriginal law and policy issues.

GRAY, Bryn
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416-601-7522
bgray@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner specializing in Aboriginal law with experience working on a broad range of Aboriginal law and policy issues across Canada, both in private practice and in the federal government. Advises clients on Aboriginal law issues and engagement strategies relating to resource development, energy, and infrastructure projects and the negotiation of various agreements with Indigenous groups. Has acted as a Ministerial Special Representative for the federal government on consultation and accommodation and as counsel in Aboriginal rights and duty to consult litigation and in disputes relating to revenue sharing arrangements.


Publications: Authored numerous articles and regularly speaks at conferences on Aboriginal law and policy issues.

HELBRONNER, Bryn
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 (416) 865-7516
vheilbronner@torys.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide - Canada)
See under Energy & Natural Resources for profile.

HOEKSTRA, Arend
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Vancouver
ahoeekstra@cassels.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Focused on resource and project development – and related economic opportunities – for corporate, Indigenous, and government clients. Provides advice on resource and project development; commercial negotiations and agreements; duty to consult; treaty negotiations; project-related environment & regulatory matters; impact benefit agreements; legislative drafting; litigation, including judicial review proceedings; and use of reserve lands. Previously employed as Senior Advisor to a major international mining company.

Career: Called in British Columbia, North-West Territories, and Ontario. Arend is also a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA, CA).

GOGAL, Sandra
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 869 5750
sgogal@cassels.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Recognized as a leading lawyer in Canada for Aboriginal and Environmental Law. Has worked both in house and in the private sector on natural resource development projects across Canada. Provides strategic business and legal advice to clients in developing projects on treaty and Aboriginal claimed lands. Has negotiated several agreements with Aboriginal peoples to facilitate development, including impact and benefit agreements and commercial partnerships between industry and aboriginal peoples across North America, as well as several settlements with First Nations in excess of $100 million.


Professional Memberships: Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador; Law Society of Ontario; Canadian Bar Association; Past Chair, Canadian Bar Association, Aboriginal Law Section; Advisory Board, Counsel on Corporate Aboriginal Relations; Conference Board of Canada; Ontario Mining Association; Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada; Executive Member, Canadian Bar Association, Aboriginal and Environmental, Energy and Resource Law Section; Canadian Electricity Association.

GRAY, Bryn
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416-601-7522
bgray@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner specializing in Aboriginal law with experience working on a broad range of Aboriginal law and policy issues across Canada, both in private practice and in the federal government. Advises clients on Aboriginal law issues and engagement strategies relating to resource development, energy, and infrastructure projects and the negotiation of various agreements with Indigenous groups. Has acted as a Ministerial Special Representative for the federal government on consultation and accommodation and as counsel in Aboriginal rights and duty to consult litigation and in disputes relating to revenue sharing arrangements.


Publications: Authored numerous articles and regularly speaks at conferences on Aboriginal law and policy issues.

HELBRONNER, Valerie
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 (416) 865-7516
vheilbronner@torys.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide - Canada)
See under Energy & Natural Resources for profile.

HOEKSTRA, Arend
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Vancouver
ahoeekstra@cassels.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Focused on resource and project development – and related economic opportunities – for corporate, Indigenous, and government clients. Provides advice on resource and project development; commercial negotiations and agreements; duty to consult; treaty negotiations; project-related environment & regulatory matters; impact benefit agreements; legislative drafting; litigation, including judicial review proceedings; and use of reserve lands. Previously employed as Senior Advisor to a major international mining company.

Career: Called in British Columbia, North-West Territories, and Ontario. Arend is also a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA, CA).
MILLEN, Roy
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 4220
roy.millen@blakes.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Roy has particular experience in Indigenous rights and title, and litigation involving commercial and administrative matters. Clients appreciate Roy’s ability to provide prompt, straightforward and business-savvy advice in areas of the law that are complex and continually evolving. In the area of Aboriginal law, Roy advises private-sector clients across Canada on the development of energy, mining and other major projects, and relationships with Indigenous peoples. He negotiates commercial agreements, impact benefit agreements, consultation protocols and other arrangements with First Nations, Métis and other Indigenous groups. He also assists clients in navigating the regulatory processes necessary to secure project approval, including the implications of UNDRIP, and defends proponents from litigation challenges brought by Indigenous communities and individuals.

KING, Richard
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 6626
rking@osler.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Richard King is a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, B.C. Court of Appeal, Ontario Energy Board among others.

Career:

Publications:

JUNGER, Robin
McMillan LLP, Vancouver
778.329.7523
 robin.junger@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Environmental (National – Canada), Aboriginal Law (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Robin’s practice focuses on environmental, administrative and Aboriginal law. He acts for a broad range of mining, energy, infrastructure, forestry and industrial companies, as well as property developers, governments and First Nations. In addition to more than 20 years of legal practice, Robin has served as British Columbia’s Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources; Deputy Minister of Energy and Clean Technology; Head of the Environmental Assessment Office; Chair of the Oil & Gas Commission and Chief Provincial Treaty Negotiator. He has also acted as legal counsel to numerous statutory decision-makers, administrative tribunals and independent Officers of the Legislature, and was integrally involved in the development of some of British Columbia’s most significant legislation including the Environmental Management Act, the Clean Energy Act and the Public Health Act. Robin is a Harvard Law School graduate and a former law clerk to the BC Court of Appeal. He has taught both private and public international law as a sessional instructor at the University of Victoria faculty of Law.

KILLORAN, Maureen
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 7003
mkilloran@osler.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada), Litigation (Alberta)
See under Litigation for profile.

KING, Richard
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 6626
rking@osler.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Richard King is a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, B.C. Court of Appeal, Ontario Energy Board among others.

Career:

Publications:

JUNGER, Robin
McMillan LLP, Vancouver
778.329.7523
 robin.junger@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Environmental (National – Canada), Aboriginal Law (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Robin’s practice focuses on environmental, administrative and Aboriginal law. He acts for a broad range of mining, energy, infrastructure, forestry and industrial companies, as well as property developers, governments and First Nations. In addition to more than 20 years of legal practice, Robin has served as British Columbia’s Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources; Deputy Minister of Energy and Clean Technology; Head of the Environmental Assessment Office; Chair of the Oil & Gas Commission and Chief Provincial Treaty Negotiator. He has also acted as legal counsel to numerous statutory decision-makers, administrative tribunals and independent Officers of the Legislature, and was integrally involved in the development of some of British Columbia’s most significant legislation including the Environmental Management Act, the Clean Energy Act and the Public Health Act. Robin is a Harvard Law School graduate and a former law clerk to the BC Court of Appeal. He has taught both private and public international law as a sessional instructor at the University of Victoria faculty of Law.

KILLORAN, Maureen
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Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada), Litigation (Alberta)
See under Litigation for profile.

KING, Richard
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 6626
rking@osler.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Richard King is a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, B.C. Court of Appeal, Ontario Energy Board among others.

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Publications:

JUNGER, Robin
McMillan LLP, Vancouver
778.329.7523
 robin.junger@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Environmental (National – Canada), Aboriginal Law (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Robin’s practice focuses on environmental, administrative and Aboriginal law. He acts for a broad range of mining, energy, infrastructure, forestry and industrial companies, as well as property developers, governments and First Nations. In addition to more than 20 years of legal practice, Robin has served as British Columbia’s Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources; Deputy Minister of Energy and Clean Technology; Head of the Environmental Assessment Office; Chair of the Oil & Gas Commission and Chief Provincial Treaty Negotiator. He has also acted as legal counsel to numerous statutory decision-makers, administrative tribunals and independent Officers of the Legislature, and was integrally involved in the development of some of British Columbia’s most significant legislation including the Environmental Management Act, the Clean Energy Act and the Public Health Act. Robin is a Harvard Law School graduate and a former law clerk to the BC Court of Appeal. He has taught both private and public international law as a sessional instructor at the University of Victoria faculty of Law.

KILLORAN, Maureen
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Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada), Litigation (Alberta)
See under Litigation for profile.

KING, Richard
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 6626
rking@osler.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (National – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (National – Canada)
Practice Areas: Richard King is a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, B.C. Court of Appeal, Ontario Energy Board among others.

Career:

Publications:

JUNGER, Robin
McMillan LLP, Vancouver
778.329.7523
 robin.junger@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Environmental (National – Canada), Aboriginal Law (National – Canada)
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other agreements with Indigenous groups in relation to proposed developments in the energy and mining industries and other sectors, as well as permitting and regulatory matters that arise throughout the development of both large and small projects. She also provides assistance in obtaining, amending and transferring environmental and other authorizations issued by federal and provincial regulatory authorities. Within her corporate and commercial energy law practice, Lana negotiates and structures complex commercial arrangements for hydroelectric utilities and energy companies, including tariff arrangements, power purchase and sale agreements, and renewable energy credits. She also conducts a variety of transactions, including asset and share acquisitions and dispositions, reorganizations and various other corporate proceedings, and advises public companies on regulatory matters, continuous disclosure and corporate governance practices. Lana is a member of the bar of British Columbia (2006).

**Professional Memberships:** Canadian Bar Association - Member

**SUTHERLAND, Sean**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary

**Practice Areas:** Sean’s national litigation practice focuses on business-critical disputes. He acts for corporate clients in complex oil and gas litigation, environmental matters, regulatory investigations, class action defence and product liability actions. Additionally, Sean has considerable experience representing major resource project proponents, corporate taxpayers, regulated industries and government in constitutional challenges, appeals and judicial review of ministerial and tribunal decisions. These cases often involve stay or injunction applications, the duty to consult Indigenous peoples, and novel legal issues. Sean regularly appears in courts across Canada, including the Supreme Court of Canada, the Alberta Court of Appeal, the Federal Court of Appeal, the British Columbia Court of Appeal, the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench, the British Columbia Supreme Court and the Manitoba Court of Queen’s Bench.

**Personal:** University of Victoria, J.D. University of Calgary, B.A. (Political Science) (with Distinction) Alberta Bar, 2014 British Columbia Bar, 2017

**WILLMS, Charles F**
Fasken, Vancouver
+1 604 631 4789
cwillms@fasken.com

**Practice Areas:** Charles F. (Chuck) Willms has considerable experience in Indigenous, corporate social responsibility (CSR), commercial and constitutional matters. Chuck’s industry knowledge encompasses the construction, energy, forestry, and mining sectors. Having represented clients at both levels of federal court, Chuck has also appeared before the supreme courts of BC and the Yukon; Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench, and BC, Alberta; and Yukon courts of appeal. He has appeared numerous times in the Supreme Court of Canada.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Advertising & Marketing
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Advertising & Marketing Nationwide

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Notable practitioners

Daniel Cole is applauded by sources for his commerciality and high level of responsiveness. He provides a broad range of advertising advice, with a particular emphasis on work arising within the automotive sector. Based in Toronto, he is the head of the firm’s advertising practice group. “He has an astonishingly quick and practical nature, he gets to the root of the matter.” “He’s terrific, he’s responsive, creative, practical, and he has a pleasant personality and good people skills. He’s an expert in the area and he’s a great lawyer for non-lawyers as he’s down to earth.” Ottawa-based Lewis Retik advises an impressive variety of consumer products companies, particularly those in the food and beverage sector, on both advertising and product regulatory issues. “He’s knowledgeable and has deep contacts with regulators. He has a cross-section of experience and a good sense of judgement – he knows what can be done and where the lines are so he’s good at distinguishing what is more important, and that’s invaluable.” René Bissonnette has wide-ranging experience in advertising, marketing and entertainment. Based in Toronto, he advises clients on product promotion campaigns as well as packaging and labelling reviews and a variety of other matters. “He’s very good at both telling you what the law is, and then how to apply it to the situation. He provides pragmatic answers, and is very responsive and easy to work with.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt maintains a well-established marketing and advertising law group, which advises a broad client base on multi-level advertising issues. The team has a strong presence in the digital space, including in regard to intellectual property and privacy matters. It advises on all aspects of online advertising, serving an impressive suite of international retail, consumer goods and tech clients. The lawyers also regularly assist with advertising regulatory compliance, including in regard to anti-spam laws and direct-to-consumer advertising and sales.

Strengths “They are phenomenal. For anything that is super important, they are a great choice.”

Work highlights Osler advised Microsoft in connection with licensing and advertising agreements...
related to its MSN.ca platform.

Kelly Moffatt (see p.17) has an impressive client list featuring a number of well-known retail brands as well as automotive and technology sector names. She is highly rated for her skill set relating to marketing, promotions and consumer protection. Based in Toronto, she heads the firm’s marketing and distribution practice group. “She is practical, responsive, creative, clear and concise.” “She’s experienced and a real leader in this area.” Toronto-based John Sal-loum (see p.313) is well placed to advise on matters relating to both advertising and privacy, representing an impressive client portfolio comprising major retail, e-commerce and hospitality names. “He’s really responsive, earnest and diligent.”

Band 3

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault offers clients a full suite of services in the advertising and marketing space, drawing from a strong pool of expert attorneys with robust strengths in commercial matters and regulatory issues. It offers particularly impressive capabilities in cross-border issues with international trade law implications, alongside broader expertise in the retail, hospitality and food and beverage sectors.

Strengths “They’re quick and responsive, and very commercially savvy.”

“They provide historical knowledge and great service; their expertise and bench strength are excellent.” “The firm had insights and knowledge of how the regulators speak to each other, which was really helpful, and they’re knowledgeable in this space across jurisdictions.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault defended Uber Canada in a CAD22 million class action alleging it overstated the value of its promotional discounts by invoicing its consumers in a misleading and deceptive manner and by overcharging sales tax to its consumers.

Notable practitioners

Martha Harrison (see p.243) enjoys a particularly strong reputation for her expertise at the intersection of international trade and advertising law, acting for a broad array of national and international clients looking to enter the Canadian market. “She’s responsive and very knowledgeable, and an expert in regulatory law.”

McMillan LLP

What the team is known for McMillan maintains a broad advertising practice offering substantial industry expertise in the automotive, consumer products, financial services and telecoms sectors in Canada. The firm is especially known for its strength acting on advertising review matters as well as assisting with advertising disputes. Bolstered by its complementary and well-resourced competition group, the team has deep experience advising on regulatory investigations and cases involving allegations of misleading advertising.

Strengths “They provide detailed and sophisticated assessments, alongside a good mix of experience and excellent responsiveness.”

Work highlights McMillan defended Western Union following proposed class actions alleging it misrepresented or falsely advertised the nature of its money transfer services.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Dan Edmondstone (see p.17) offers clients a strong understanding of Canada’s regulatory regime, including as it relates to advertising and marketing. He provides non-contentious compliance guidance as well as advising on a wealth of advertising-related internal investigations and disputes. Janine MacNeil (see p.17) advises on a broad array of work from her base in Toronto. This includes providing guidance on packaging and labelling concerns as well as advising on promotional campaigns and privacy matters. “Janine is an excellent source for practical advice regarding regulatory matters.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Arlan Gates advises on a range of business concerns in the advertising and marketing space, including product licensing, online and commercial advertising and consumer protection. He is based in the firm’s Toronto office. “He provides excellent client service and his advice is very business-focused.” “He has excellent experience in this area.”

Kelly Harris is an acknowledged expert in the food, beverage and consumer products sectors, where she frequently advises on regulatory, packaging, pricing and distribution issues. “She delivers excellent advice.”

Toronto-based regulatory lawyer Bill Hearn has experience encompassing a broad range of industries, including agriculture, consumer products and the retail sector. He possesses significant expertise in a raft of consumer protection areas, including deceptive marketing, pricing and anti-spam compliance.

Jennifer McKenzie (see p.17) is considered a leading expert in regulatory matters in the advertising and marketing sectors. She operates an impressive practice servicing many prestigious names in the food production sector. “Jennifer McKenzie stands out as an expert in the field. She has a great deal of experience and a nuanced approach to her analyses.”

Shelley Samel is a well-known advertising and marketing lawyer who operates an independent practice out of Vaughan, Ontario. She has an impressive client portfolio which includes prominent brands in the entertainment, aviation and food sectors. “Shelley is a great lawyer who exemplifies professionalism. She is extremely knowledgeable and always provides the right solution and service for the specific circumstance.” “She’s incredibly knowledgeable in the marketing and advertising space. She can get to the heart of the matter quickly and explain it to me, or my colleagues, in a clear and understandable way.”

Pierre Savoie is a deeply experienced advertising attorney who enjoys a robust reputation for his expertise in regulatory and compliance issues affecting advertisers.

David Young is a well-known Toronto-based lawyer with deep-seated experience in the advertising and marketing space. He regularly counsels clients on their interactions with regulators and government bodies as well as advising on marketing and privacy compliance cases. “He’s a well-known, well-respected lawyer in the privacy space, and I always know I will get top service when I deal with him.”
CONSTANTIN, Marie-Hélène
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Montréal
00 514 982 4031
mariehelene.constantin@blakes.com
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Marie-Hélène regularly provides advice in relation to marketing and advertising and has developed expertise on issues relating to e-commerce, including consumer protection issues arising in online sales, as well as electronic documents, privacy, anti-spam, and intellectual property matters, and the drafting of consumer-facing privacy policies and terms of use. Helps clients in relation to promotions including loyalty programs and contest design. Also offers extensive experience in the management of trademark portfolios and trademark enforcement.

HARRISON, Martha
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
416-601-8864
mharrison@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)
See under International Trade/NTO for profile.

LI, Pei
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416-863-4265
pei.li@blakes.com
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Pei Li is a partner in the Advertising and Regulatory Law Group at Blakes. She focuses on advertising and marketing law, including advertising campaigns, and the drafting of consumer-facing privacy policies and terms of use. Helps clients in relation to promotions including loyalty programs and contest design. Also offers extensive experience in the management of trademark portfolios and trademark enforcement.

MACNEIL, Janine
McMillan LLP, Toronto
416.307.4124
janine.macneil@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Janine’s practice includes advising on leading consumer products and services brands as well as advertising and marketing agencies on all aspects of marketing, advertising and consumer product compliance and regulatory matters. Includes legal compliance reviews of advertising campaigns for brands and agencies; packaging and labelling review/compliance; compliance review for new product launches; consumer protection compliance; advising on promotional marketing programs; negotiating and drafting industry-related agreements; including sponsorship and talent agreements; counselling on sweepstakes, games and contests; advising on the legal risks associated with privacy, telemarketing and anti-spam compliance.

MCKENZIE, Jennifer
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
(416) 957-1029
jmckenzie@cassels.com
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jennifer McKenzie is a partner at Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, where she practices in advertising, marketing, and intellectual property law. She focuses on advertising and marketing law, including advertising and marketing agreements, drafting claims and agreements, and providing advice on regulatory, advertising, and marketing issues.

Moffatt, Kelly
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
(416) 862-6903
kmoffatt@osler.com
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Kelly Moffatt is a partner at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, where she focuses on advertising and marketing law. She provides advice on regulatory, advertising, and marketing issues, including advertising and marketing agreements, drafting claims and agreements, and providing advice on regulatory, advertising, and marketing issues.

Salloum, John
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
(416) 862-6185
jsalloum@osler.com
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
Privacy & Data Protection (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: John Salloum is a partner at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, where he focuses on advertising and marketing law. He provides advice on regulatory, advertising, and marketing issues, including advertising and marketing agreements, drafting claims and agreements, and providing advice on regulatory, advertising, and marketing issues.

Weinrib, Laura
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416-863-2765
lauraweinrib@blakes.com
Featured in Advertising (Nationwide – Canada)
Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Laura Weinrib is a partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, where she focuses on advertising and marketing law. She provides advice on regulatory, advertising, and marketing issues, including advertising and marketing agreements, drafting claims and agreements, and providing advice on regulatory, advertising, and marketing issues.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Agribusiness
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Agribusiness Nationwide

Agribusiness: Forestry

Leading Firms
Band 1
DLA Piper (Canada) LLP
Band 2
Dentons Canada LLP
Hunter Litigation Chambers
Lawson Lundell LLP
Band 3
Norton Rose Fullbright
Sangra Moller LLP

Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Mancell Garry, DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

Leading Individuals
Band 1
Giffpillan Brian, Lawson Lundell LLP*
Douton Mark, Hunter Litigation Chambers*

Band 2
Allard David, Lawson Lundell LLP*
Hiebert Brian, DLA Piper (Canada) LLP
Lloyd Stephen, Dentons Canada LLP

Longe Robin, Dentons Canada LLP
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Up-and-coming individuals
Sheftord Jeremy, Ratcliff & Company LLP (ORL) 6

Star associates
Wautainen Jeff, DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

Indicates individual with profile.
(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for
Bennett Jones is a full-service Calgary-headquartered law firm that draws upon the strength of its corporate, trade, environmental, IP and broader firm experience to provide comprehensive support to its agribusiness clients. Its agribusiness, food and beverage lawyers also offer specialist expertise in the cannabis and pesticide sectors, advising on regulatory questions and other issues in both spaces.

Strengths “Every team member on our project was capable and experienced, and had the capacity to deal with issues as and when they arose.”

“It seems like there is never a matter that Bennett Jones does not have someone with the insight and experience to put forward, following our request for services.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones assisted a number of non-profit entities, including AgriFood IMPACT, with the establishment and structuring of their corporate

Agribusiness: Agriculture & Food Products

Leading Firms
Band 1
Miller Thomson LLP
Norton Rose Fullbright
Band 2
Blake, Cassels & Grydon LLP
Dentons Canada LLP
Fasken
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Leading Individuals
Band 3
Bennett Jones LLP
Fillmore Riley LLP
Pitblado LLP
Stikeman Elliott LLP
Torys LLP

status.

Notable practitioners
Murray Coleman in Calgary and Julia Schatz in Toronto are key contacts for the firm’s agribusiness team.

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a highly regarded law firm that is sought out by a wide range of industry players, including biotech companies, food producers, processors, distributors, agricultural equipment manufacturers and pet supply retailers. The firm, beverage and agribusiness department is particularly well regarded for its strong M&A practice, as well as providing counsel on banking, regulatory compliance, IP matters and commercial disputes. The practice also draws praise for its valuable supporting strength in tax, employment, environmental, real estate and competition law.

Strengths “Blakes has a strong understanding of the issues facing our industry and our business in particular.”

Experience and talent is what makes Blakes our go-to counsel on all complex transactions: a strong talented team, sophisticated commercial negotiators and problem-solvers.

Work highlights Blakes assisted DW Healthcare Partners with its acquisition of Bio Agri Mix.

Notable practitioners
Calgary-based Peter Keohane and Frank Guarascio in Toronto are key contacts for the firm’s food, beverage and agribusiness practice.

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for
Dentons is an international firm with a prominent focus on the Canadian agriculture, food and forestry industries. The agribusiness group acts for a significant portfolio of clients on a wide variety of matters, spanning corporate/M&A, financing, restructuring, operations, labour relations, regulatory compliance and litigation. The team’s experience includes representing clients working in the forest products, farming, fertilizer, and food and beverage sectors. The firm often acts for global clients on the Canadian aspects of multi-jurisdictional deals.

Work highlights Dentons assisted Millar Western with the sale of its wood product assets to Canfor for CAD420 million.

Notable practitioners
Stephen Lloyd is based in Montréal and is well respected for his capabilities in forestry matters ranging from regulatory advice to corporate transactions and disputes. “Stephen Lloyd has a very strong background related to the forest products sector and developing products within.” Vancouver-based Robin Longe is highly regarded for his strengths in corporate matters within the forestry sector, most significantly in acquisitions, attribution agreements and harvesting contracts.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for
DLA Piper is a prominent international law firm that is highly regarded for its ability to handle a multitude of forestry mandates for an impressive client base. The forestry group routinely advises major Canadian forest products companies on M&A and joint venture transactions, fibre supply contracts and various commercial matters. It also assists with forestry-related regulatory compliance, land use, environmental and Aboriginal issues. The practice benefits from the experience of several lawyers with longstanding experience in the industry and has a strong footprint across British Columbia and Alberta. The firm’s clients also benefit from its cross-border capabilities and global office network.

Strengths “DLA demonstrates excellent knowledge of the subject matter and the legislation that applies.”

Work highlights DLA Piper advised Canfor on its CAD420 million acquisition of Millar Western Forest Products.

Notable practitioners
Garry Mancell is a longstanding Vancouver-based lawyer who is widely revered for his forensic practice, holding notable expertise in timber supply agreements, regulatory matters and M&A transactions within the forestry sector. “Garry Mancell is an amazing forestry lawyer in British Columbia – a go-to guy.” Brian Hiebert operates a highly regarded and widespread practice out of the firm’s Vancouver office, with a significant focus on transactions and M&A in the forestry industry. Vancouver-based Jeff
Waaatinein is an associate who has become increas- ingly prominent in the field of forestry law. His strength lies in cross-coun-try transactions, regulatory matters and disputes before administrative tribunals. “Jeff is careful and diligent in assessing court and administrative tribunal decisions and in reviewing forestry services contracts.”

**Fasken**

**What the team is known for**
Fasken is a distin- guished law firm with accomplished expertise across a variety of food and agribusiness concerns. The agribusiness, food and beverage team handles notable work on behalf of agricultural cooperatives, as well as being trusted advisers to retailers, pro-
ducers, manufacturers and institutional agri-food investors. The practice is well positioned to advise on general commercial matters as well as providing industry-specific counsel on supply management, marketing and distribution, and manufacturing. The firm’s clients benefit from its complementary prac-
tice in international trade as well as its specialists in the areas of product labelling and product liability, agricultural land protection and food regulation.

**Strengths**
“Fasken has not only dealt with our immediate needs, but also protected us from decisions we would make in the near future.”

“Fasken knows our business inside and out and provides amazing service.”

**Work highlights**
Fasken acted as legal counsel to McCain Foods on its sale of a majority stake in Wong Wing Food.

**Notable practitioners**
Vancouver-based Ally Bharmal and Anne-Marie Naud, based in Quebec City, are key contacts for the department.

**Fillmore Riley LLP**

**What the team is known for**
Fillmore Riley is a standout firm in Manitoba known for its longstanding work on behalf of the grain industry, acting for both handlers and processors. The practice also represents a range of players in the farming, specialty crop and equipment manufacturing spheres. The group provides advice on acquisitions and divesti-
tures, financings, restructurings, securities transactions and related litigation. The team also advises on compliance and regulatory issues and is increasingly involved in cross-border transactions.

**Work highlights**
A Fillmore Riley team represented James Richardson & Sons in its acquisition of the Bison Transport group of companies.

**Notable practitioners**
Jody Langhan is based in Manitoba and is a primary contact for the firm.

**Hunter Litigation Chambers**

**What the team is known for**
Hunter Litigation Cham-
biers is a well-respected litigation boutique firm oper-
ating out of Vancouver, with acknowledged expertise in the forestry space. The forestry practice is par-
ticularly commended for its experience handling foresty litigation and regulatory proceedings, fre-
quently handling cases concerning First Nations and stum- page appeals. Its lawyers are increasingly active on cases concerning wildfires. The team also repre-
sents clients in tort cases and administrative, con-
tractual and commercial disputes. It has appeared before all levels of court in British Columbia and offers complementary arbitration expertise.

**Notable practitioners**
Mark Oulton (see p.22) is a highly experienced li-
tigation lawyer with a particular focus on forestry and environmental law. Based in Vancouver, he has acted before all levels of the BC courts, the Supreme Court and the Forest Appeals Commission. “Mark Oulton is the workhorse of our outside litigation sup-
port and always provides excellent representation.”

**Lawson Lundell LLP**

**What the team is known for**
Lawson Lundell is a well-established firm in Western Canada, admired for its stron-
gth in Australian law. The firm emphasizes a range of services for its forestry clients. The team expertly advises forestry products companies on a variety of matters including M&A, joint ventures, timber contracts, fibre supply agreements and commercial litigation. The practice is also recognized for its work on regulatory com-
pliance, project development, environmental issues and First Nations matters, frequently representing clients in related disputes. The group offers comple-
mentary industry-specific expertise in employee health and safety and pensions matters.

**Strengths**
“The firm invests time to truly understand its clients’ commercial and business objectives and is able to meet those needs on a wide range of complex matters.”

“The forestry group is high-calibre and service-ori-
tented.”

**Work highlights**
Lawson Lundell advised Canfor on a broad range of commercial, pensions and regulatory matters, including the sale of its First Nation Wood-
land assets to Peak Fort Nelson Properties.

**Notable practitioners**
Brian Gilfillan (see p.22) is a highly experienced lawyer in the forestry sector with extensive expertise in timber agreements, regulatory advice and dispute proceedings. “Brian is very attentive to the client’s needs and is known as a top subject-matter expert in forestry in BC.”

“Throughout decades of practising for-
ery law in BC, Brian Gilfillan has built an extensive network of connections, as well as an intimate knowl-
edge of legislation, politics, emerging science, and trends in changing public values.” Based in Vancouver, David Allard (see p.109) leads the firm’s forestry industry group and frequently represents clients in corporate transactions as well as providing gov-
ernance and regulatory advice in the forest sector.

“David Allard is an exceptional lawyer in the corporate and commercial side of forestry.”

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

**What the team is known for**
McCarthy Tétrault is a national law firm with immense transnational aptitude across the agribusiness space. The food, beverage and agribusiness group offers consider-
able experience of high-value M&A matters, as well as corporate finance and restructuring mandates. The team also advises on regulatory law and food safety, as well as providing related services in areas including international trade, tax and IP. The prac-
tice maintains an impressive roster of clients from a variety of sectors. They also act for a variety of lenders and investors.

**Work highlights**
McCarthy Tétrault represented Nestlé in its acquisition of the core brands of The Bountiful Company.

**Notable practitioners**
Montreal-based Matthieu Rheault and Toronto-based Lara Nathans are key members of the firm’s agribusiness practice.

**Miller Thomson LLP**

**What the team is known for**
Miller Thomson operates as a prominent Canadian agribusiness practice fielding a team of experts across the country to deliver sec-
tor-specific counsel. The agribusiness and food production team advises on a wide range of commer-
cial transactions and litigation, as well as offering notable expertise in the regulation of food and agri-
culture, from animal health and welfare to product labelling and environmental advice on growing and processing. The practice services a strong stable of industry clients including primary processors, food and beverage manufacturers, cooperatives and grain companies, as well as acting for those involved in the emerging ag-tech space. The group maintains presences in Canada’s key agricultural hubs, with offices in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec and south-western Ontario.

**Strengths**
“We rely on Miller Thomson for a broad range of legal matters; the firm is clearly invested in supporting our organisation and the service level is exemplary.”

“Miller Thomson operates a large, diversified practice that provides thorough and articulate advice.”

**Work highlights**
Miller Thomson advised Ontario Broiler Hatching Egg and Chick Commission on reg-
ulatory amendments and compliance.

**Notable practitioners**
Saskatchewan-based Eric Johnson is a key contact for the firm.

**MLT Aikins LLP**

**What the team is known for**
MLT Aikins is a promi-
nent regional law firm providing full-service support to agribusiness clients in Western Canada’s key busi-
ness centres. A popular choice for clients operating in the grain, agricultural and ag-tech spheres, the firm is frequently sought out for counsel on regula-
ory compliance, intellectual property and licensing and the full range of commercial issues.

**Strengths**
“MLT Aikins has provided excellent service to our organisation: it has a deep understanding of licence agreements and the agriculture industry.”

**Notable practitioners**
Key lawyers in the firm’s agribusiness practice include Calgary-based Scott Exner and Kristal Allen.

**Norton Rose Fulbright**

**What the team is known for**
Norton Rose Fulbright is a global law firm with outstanding practices in agribusiness and forest products, serving clients across Canada and internationally. The firm’s agri-
food practice is a top choice for regional, national and multinational clients in a wide range of sectors, with a core focus on ag-tech and the production, pro-
cessing, transportation and distribution of food. Its forestry team is well equipped to advise key industry players on the full scope of their business needs, from tenure transfers, logging and timber harvesting to taxation, litigation and First Nations relations. Cli-
ents benefit from the firm’s offices across Canada as well as the USA, Europe and Asia-Pacific.

**Strengths**
“Norton Rose provides pragmatic and insightful advice, and marshals resources appropriately.”

“The team provides an exceptional and efficient ser-
vice and works very hard to satisfy clients.”

**Work highlights**
Norton Rose advised Stern Partners on the CAD103.6 million sale of its stake in Greenstar Plant Products.

**Notable practitioners**
Vancouver-based Daniel Bennett is a key contact for the firm’s forestry practice. Mario Lacombe in Québec City is a key contact for agriculture and food products.

**Pitblado LLP**

*What the team is known for* Pitblado is a Winnipeg-based law firm with particular expertise in the grain business. Acting predominantly on behalf of private sector clients, the team is regularly mandated by corporate and family farms, grain companies, crop input distributors, food processors, agricultural equipment manufacturers and hog genetics companies. Its lawyers support clients on commercial transactions, including M&A and financing, as well as on related tax, litigation, real estate and securities issues.

*Notable practitioners*

Bruce King KC is a key contact for the firm.

**Sangra Moller LLP**

*What the team is known for* Sangra Moller is a well-established British Columbia boutique with in-depth knowledge of the forestry space. The team is commended for its representation of regional and international pulp and paper manufacturers in acquisitions and dispositions, financing matters, corporate governance, proxy contests and related litigation. The lawyers are further noted for their advice on environmental compliance and regulatory matters. The group frequently provides counsel on timber tenures and access to resources on private or government-owned lands.

*Work highlights* Sangra Moller advised Mercer International on its acquisition of a cross-laminated timber facility in Washington, USA.

*Notable practitioners*

Harjit Sangra, Gary Gill and Rod Talaifar are key contacts for the firm.

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

*What the team is known for* Stikeman Elliott is valued for its longstanding experience in the agribusiness space in Canada, often assisting investors, producers, manufacturers and distributors with large M&A transactions and various commercial and contentious matters. The firm is well positioned to advise on various regulatory issues arising in the sector, including environmental and food and drug compliance, marketing, advertising and labelling, and competition issues. Its lawyers also provide advice on IP, tax and securities issues, and offer particular expertise in the agricultural-biotech and emerging cannabis industries.

*Work highlights* Stikeman Elliott assisted Hearthside Food Solutions with its acquisition of the ambient bakery business of Weston Foods.

*Notable practitioners*

Pierre-Yves Leduc is a primary contact for the firm’s agribusiness practice.

**Torys LLP**

*What the team is known for* Torys is valued for its longstanding experience in the agribusiness space, offering full-service business support to notable industry players. Its Toronto and Calgary-based lawyers often assist with M&A transactions and are noted for their aptitude in agricultural-biotech and agribusiness innovations, providing commercial and specialist regulatory counsel to clients working in plant and animal genetics, novel foods and the emerging cannabis market. The firm also acts for traditional agrifood players including producers of food and crop protection products and livestock feed and seed companies across the supply chain.

*Work highlights* Torys advised George Weston on the sale of the fresh and frozen bakery arms of Weston Foods to FGF Brands.

*Notable practitioners*

Eileen McMahon and Janan Paskaran are key contacts for the firm’s agribusiness team.

Jeremy Shelford at Ratcliff & Company is most experienced in advising forestry clients on corporate transactions. Based in Vancouver, his background as a forest engineer is sought after by clients including First Nations groups. “Jeremy has significant experience in transactions involving forest tenures.”

Tom Theodorakis (see p.22) of McMillan LLP is a corporate lawyer with significant forestry-related expertise. In addition to leading the firm’s forest products group out of its Vancouver office, he advises on M&A and corporate finance.
**Leaders’ Profiles in Agribusiness**

**ALLARD, David**  
LCB LLP, Vancouver  
604.631.9108  
dallard@lawsonlundell.com  
Featured in Agriculture & Rural Affairs  
(Nationwide – Canada, Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia))

See under Corporate/M&A for profile.

**GILFILLAN, Brian**  
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver  
604 631-9130  
BGilfillan@lawsonlundell.com  
Featured in Agriculture & Rural Affairs  
(Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Forestry 

**Councillor** Brian D. Gilfillan, RFF, is a lawyer and a registered professional forester in the Vancouver office. With more than 35 years' experience serving British Columbia's forestry sector, Brian represents both large and small, publicly-traded and privately-held, Coast and Interior Forest Act tenure holders and their trade associations, forestry professionals and other organizations and individuals engaged in BC's forest sector. He assists his clients on all aspects of forestry law and policy, including: agreements related to timber harvesting, road use and construction, inventory, silviculture, rights of way, log and chip sales and purchases, and market logging; assessing and providing advice and training on legislation affecting forest operations; tenure transfers, consolidations and subdivisions; forest stewardship plans; information sharing and management agreements between forest companies and First Nations; assisting licence holders subject to enforcement proceedings under forestry legislation; assignments and disputes related to “Bill 13” contracts; assisting forest professionals subject to discipline by their professional association; compensation claims for takings of harvesting rights and related improvements; and obtaining exemptions from legislative requirements. Prior to joining Lawson Lundell, Brian was an in-house legal counsel and Assistant Corporate Secretary for a major forest products company in BC. He also spent 15 years with the Council of Forest Industries, both in their Prince George and Vancouver locations, where he rose to the position of Senior Vice President, representing the BC forest industry on all forest policy matters of provincial significance. He has also practiced in a major law firm in the province. In 2003, Brian established Gilfillan Forestry Counsel in Vancouver. Brian is a co-editor of DLA Piper’s British Columbia Forestry Law and a co-author of Halsbury’s Laws of Canada – Forestry (2019). He was awarded Forester of the Year by the Association of BC Forest Professionals for his work on forestry legislation enhancing reliance on British Columbia’s forest professionals. Brian is a member of the British Columbia Bar (1982)

**Professional Memberships:**  
Law Society of British Columbia Association of BC Forest Professionals

**OULTON, Mark**  
Hunter Litigation Chambers, Vancouver  
(604) 891-2408  
moulton@litigationchambers.com  
Featured in Agriculture & Rural Affairs  
(Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Mark Oulton is senior litigation counsel practicing general civil and administrative litigation with a focus on forestry and commercial disputes. Mark heads the forestry law practice at Hunter Litigation Chambers. Mark appears regularly as counsel before the Forest Appeals Commission, all levels of the British Columbia and Federal Courts and the Supreme Court of Canada, including as co-counsel for Teal Cedar Products Ltd. in commercial arbitration appeals in the taking and compensation context (Teal Cedar Products Ltd. v. British Columbia, 2017 SCC 32). Mark also has an active commercial arbitration and mediation practice, representing clients in all manner of disputes. Mark’s practice includes a wide range of commercial matters, including negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, shareholder and partnership disputes, breach of contract and real estate disputes. Mark also acts in forestry related matters, including stumpage appeals, contractor disputes, including proceedings under Timber Harvesting Contract and Subcontract Regulation, professional discipline, compensation claims and arbitrations. Mark is a regular contributor to the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia and the Advocates Society, writing and speaking on forestry and practice related matters. Mark is also one of two expert annotators for the Quickscribe online service in the area of forestry law. Mark has also spoken at conferences for Insight. Mark is also a long time member of the Natural Resource Law Section of the CBA - BC Branch, and is currently serving as the Secretary for the section.

**Publications:**  
“Civil Procedure – Court Rules” in the Continuing Legal Education Society of BC’s Annual Review of Law & Practice (2019), by Mark Oulton, Rebecca J. Robb and Nicole C. Gilewicz  
“Civil Procedure – Court Rules” in the Continuing Legal Education Society of BC’s Annual Review of Law & Practice (2017), by Mark Oulton, Rebecca J. Robb and Nicole C. Gilewicz  
“Civil Procedure – Court Rules” in the Continuing Legal Education Society of BC’s Annual Review of Law & Practice (2016) by Mark Oulton, Rebecca J. Robb and Nicole C. Gilewicz  

**THEODORAKIS, Tom**  
McMillan LLP, Vancouver  
604.691.7492  
tom.theodorakis@mcmillan.ca  
Featured in Agriculture & Rural Affairs  
(Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Tom is a business and transaction lawyer who works with clients in a team based approach to assist clients achieve their business goals in the best possible manner. With his extensive experience in the industry, Tom has been recognized by many legal directories as a highly recommended and leading lawyer in the area of Forestry Law. Tom practices corporate, commercial and natural resources law. He has significant experience working with public and private companies in mergers and acquisitions, commercial arrangements, corporate finance, and forest products and mining industry projects, and has acted as lead counsel on numerous transactions in these industries. He also provides ongoing advice on corporate governance, regulatory and compliance matters.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Arbitration & Mediation
* Dispute Resolution is based in Montréal and is **www.chambers.com** - operates from the Vancouver -

Based in Vancouver, he is skilled in both domestic and international proceedings. His work frequently sees him active in banking, insurance and construction cases. "He is certainly knowledgeable on arbitration matters."

**George Adams KC** maintains his own well-established mediation practice – renowned as Adams ADR – and is a popular choice for complex dispute resolution. Based in Toronto, he is renowned as one of the best mediators in Canada, handling a wide range of alternative dispute resolution matters, ranging from labour and employment cases to contractual disputes.

**Henri Alvarez KC** is known for his broad expertise of mining disputes involving multiple jurisdictions. Based in Vancouver, he is skilled in both domestic and international arbitral proceedings and is often cited as a first choice to act as arbitrator in a wide array of high-stakes proceedings. "He is a consistent star performer and very well deserved."

Bob Armstrong KC has expertise stretching across a wide range of international and domestic disputes, including projects and infrastructure cases, as well as sports law. A Toronto-based arbitrator with Arbitration Place, he is also well known for his former role as an appellate judge at the Ontario Court of Appeal.

Louise Barrington is a Toronto-based arbitrator at Arbitration Place who presides over a wide variety of international and domestic proceedings. Her work frequently sees her active in banking, insurance and construction cases. "She is certainly knowledgeable on arbitration matters."

Pierre Bienvenu, Ad E is based in Montréal and is a former Justice of the Supreme Court who now holds an of counsel role with Lenczner Slaght in Toronto. He maintains his position as a sought-after neutral and frequently presides over high-stakes international and domestic arbitrations, with additional strength across a full range of commercial disputes. "He is very respected."

**Ian Binnie CC KC** (see p.27) is a former Justice of the Supreme Court who now holds an of counsel role with Lenczner Slaght in Toronto. He maintains his position as a sought-after neutral and frequently presides over high-stakes international and domestic arbitrations, with additional strength across a full range of commercial disputes. "He is very respected."

Robert Blair KC of Arbitration Place in Toronto enjoys a strong reputation within the Canadian arbitration arena. He is known for his deep arbitration expertise and presides over an impressive range of contentious commercial proceedings.

James Bunting is a skilled sports arbitrator who also acts on a wide array of contractual disputes, drawing upon his considerable litigation experience. He is a founding member of Toronto-based Tyr LLP. "He is one of the best advocates I have seen."

Brian Casey is a leading figure across the Canadian arbitration market who presides over a broad range of commercial cases, as well as IP and energy-related disputes. Operating from Bay Street Chambers in Toronto, he is held in high esteem by fellow lawyers. "He is reputable and very deserving."

Earl Cherniak KC offers substantial experience in international arbitration, with noted expertise in multi-jurisdictional disputes and insurance law. Based in the Toronto office of Lerners LLP, he is also a member of 3 Verulam Buildings in London, UK.

Craig Chiasson (see p.27) is a highly experienced lawyer who maintains a respected arbitration practice from his base in BLG's Vancouver office. He consistently wins praise for his skilled handling of international arbitration and investment treaty disputes.

Murray Clements KC operates from the Vancouver law firm Nathanson, Schachter & Thompson. He is experienced at handling arbitration both as counsel and as an arbitrator, acting on a wide array of disputes involving employment and insurance law.

**Thomas Cromwell** is a former Supreme Court judge with extensive experience in arbitration proceedings and is increasingly viewed as a go-to arbitrator for cases across an extensive range of sectors, including energy and telecoms. “He has tremendous experience and is very well respected.” “Pierre is highly recognised as a very capable, strong individual.”

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**Leading Individuals p.27**
taking on a wide range of arbitral appointments through his membership of Arbitration Place in Toronto. He is well known for presiding over significant labour disputes and is a former vice-chair of the Nova Scotia Labour Relations Board.

Laura Cundari (see p.27) is particularly noted for her expertise in complex arbitrations, including those in the energy, mining and construction sectors. “Laura is careful but not risk-averse. She provides steady, precise advice and I have faith in her to lead the team.”

Douglas Cunningham has deep experience across domestic commercial ADR and is particularly noted for his skilled mediation expertise. A Toronto-based arbitrator with Arbitration Place, he is well known within Ontario due to his longstanding former position as a judge with the Ontario Superior Court. “He is very well thought of and we have very strong views on his skills.”

Pierre Dauphond (see p.27) is a senior counsel in Stikeman Elliott’s Montréal office who regularly acts as both neutral and mediator. He is active across domestic and international disputes, often representing clients in the energy and construction industries.

Robert Deane (see p.27) heads the international trade and arbitration team at Borden Ladner Gervais. Based in Vancouver, he operates a robust arbitration practice with experience acting on commercial disputes and investor-state proceedings. “Rob Deane is an excellent lawyer.”

Stephen Drymer (see p.27) heads the international arbitration group at Montréal-based Woods LLP. He is highly regarded for his expertise across both domestic and international arbitration conducted under ad hoc and institutional rules. He frequently acts on investor-state disputes, with skills acting as either a neutral or arbitration counsel. “He is very, very good at sports arbitration and is very active and very qualified.” “He has first-class abilities.”

Tim Ellam (see p.27) offers expert representation of clients in technology and energy sectors and has notable experience advising on joint venture and shareholder disputes. “He is very knowledgeable, very smart, and handles complex issues.”

Yves Fortier CC QQC is widely acknowledged as a market-leading arbitrator in Canada and is one of the best-known lawyers in the arbitration field globally. His expertise extends to a variety of complex domestic arbitration and investor-state proceedings, as well as international disputes. He is based principally in Montréal, where he is the principal of Cabinet Yves Fortier. “He is really one of the greatest stars in arbitration.”

Gerald Ghikas KC (see p.27) is a well-known sole practitioner based in Vancouver who is a popular choice for complex proceedings, presiding over cases under ad hoc and institutional rules. “I would highly endorse Gerald Ghikas as an arbitrator not only in Canada, but internationally. He is an experienced arbitrator that can command a room and still be approachable. He is extremely intelligent in his grasp of complicated matters.” “He has significant arbitration and litigation experience, and provides the depth and breadth a senior commercial arbitration requires.”

Duncan Ghiholt is a founding partner of Ghiholt Bowles in Toronto. He is esteemed for his experienced representation of clients from the energy and infrastructure industries in high-value disputes. “He is one of the top construction arbitrators in the country.”

Stephen Goudge KC (see p.28) is a skilled ADR practitioner who regularly sits in commercial proceedings. He is noted for his previous experience serving on the Ontario Court of Appeal and now practices from the Toronto law firm Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein.

Angus Gunn KC is a respected lawyer practising with Eyrford Partners in Vancouver. He operates a robust commercial arbitration practice, being familiar with ad hoc and ICC proceedings. “He is a very strong, well-qualified lawyer and is held in high regard.”

David Ricketts KC (see p.28) is a top-rated arbitrator based at the respected Calgary law firm Burnett Duckworth & Palmer LLP. He is highly regarded for his expertise in cross-border arbitration and is frequently appointed to handle investor-state cases in addition to complex disputes arising within the energy sector.

Stuart Hankinson KC joined the Vancouver office of Singleton Urquhart Reynolds Vogel in January 2021 after leaving Bennett Jones. His arbitration practice has a strong focus on construction, infrastructure and insurance disputes. “He is very knowledgeable and good to deal with.”

William Horton is a sole practitioner who presides over a wide array of commercial arbitration matters arising in the aviation and construction sectors, among others, and conducted under both ad hoc and institutional rules. “Bill Horton is a leader in the field.” “He is well respected and a very experienced commercial arbitrator, who has contributed greatly to the development and acceptance of commercial arbitration across Canada through his teaching and writings on the subject and his strong performance as a commercial arbitrator.”

Based in Calgary, Rachel Howie co-heads the national-wide ADR and arbitration team at Dentons Canada. Her practice has a strong emphasis on representing oil and gas and mining clients, with her recent experience encompassing joint venture and breach of contract disputes within these sectors, as well as investor-state arbitrations. “She is wonderful, attentive to detail and a real thought leader in international arbitration for energy. She is well positioned to deal with domestic and international matters and in my experience she is savvy on cross-border issues.”

Frank Iacobucci (see p.12) is a former Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada and receives accolades for his high-quality mediation practice. “He is most well known and involved in arbitration and mediation. He is very skilled, knowledgeable and very high profile.”

John Judge is a skilled neutral with experience handling both international and domestic disputes. He acts for both corporate and private clients, as well as appearing as an arbitrator and as a mediator. “He is a first-rate lawyer.”

Ari Kaplan is the principal of Kaplan Law in Toronto. He draws upon his expertise in pensions and benefits law to represent clients in mediation proceedings. He acts for both corporate and private clients, as well as appearing as an arbitrator and as a mediator. “He is really one of the greatest stars in arbitration.”

Jack Marshall KC is a founding partner of Marshall & Peacock in Calgary. He is a respected arbitrator based at the respected Calgary law firm Burnett Duckworth & Palmer LLP. He is highly regarded for his expertise in cross-border arbitration and is frequently appointed to handle investor-state cases in addition to complex disputes arising within the energy sector.

Duncan Marshall KC attracts praise for the breadth of his arbitration practice, with sources highlighting his strength in energy law. He is one of the most seasoned arbitrators in Canada, being able to draw upon more than five decades’ experience of major commercial disputes. “He is a first-rate lawyer.”

Joseph McArthur (see p.28) is a respected arbitrator lawyer based in the Vancouver office of Blake, Cassels & Graydon. He has substantial experience representing clients in commercial disputes and appearing as an advocate in cases relating to construction, mining and energy. “Joe brings clarity, strategy, leadership and a deep knowledge of the law. He is engaging to work with and leads a responsive, high-performing team.”

John Lorn McDougall KC is a prominent Toronto-based arbitrator with Arbitration Place who acts on a broad array of cases arising from the natural resources and energy sectors. His arbitration experience also covers high-stakes commercial cases, with further noted strengths in insurance and antitrust.

Sarah McEachern (see p.28) has experience in commercial litigation and arbitration with particular focus on the commercial, construction and mining sectors. “She is excellent.”

Beverley McLachlin is the former Chief Justice of Canada and is highly skilled as an arbitrator. She is highly adept in domestic and international proceedings with expertise in a wide range of business and public law disputes. “She is a force of nature. She has made the transition to international and domestic arbitration like no other judge I have seen.” “She is a superstar.”

Cameron Movatt is a senior counsel with Ottawa-based law firm Tereposky & DeRose. He is noted as a highly knowledgeable arbitration lawyer with a long history of involvement in high-stakes proceedings conducted under both institutional and ad hoc rules. He is also highly experienced in investor-state arbitration.

Christopher O’Connor KC is an esteemed arbitrator who operates from his own practice, O’Connor Dispute Resolution, and represents clients across a wide range of commercial arbitration. He has noted strengths in commercial disputes arising from the construction, projects and infrastructure industries and is based in Vancouver. “He is a very well-known and experienced arbitrator and a go-to person.”

Dennis O’Connor KC (see p.28) attracts plaudits for his expertise across a wide array of commercial arbitrations. “Barry, with particular strength in securities and insurance proceedings. He is a former Chief Justice of Ontario who now occupies the position of senior counsel in the Toronto office of Borden Ladner Gervais.”

Vasilis Pappas heads the international arbitration practice group at Bennett Jones, dividing his time between Vancouver and Calgary. He is widely esteemed for his skilled handling of disputes arising from the natural resources and energy industries. “He is very smart and a good lawyer all round. His ser-
Bruce Reynolds’s practice focuses on providing representation in arbitration proceedings including construction disputes. “He is extremely knowledgeable about our clients and industry.” “Bruce is a known entity in our industry.”

Toronto-based Joel Richler of Bay Street Chambers is lauded for his deep knowledge of arbitration proceedings arising from the energy, maritime, manufacturing and projects sectors. He is well versed in the demands of acting as sole, presiding and party-appointed arbitrator. “Joel is extremely good and active.”

Luís Sarabia (see p.28) operates from the Toronto office of Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg. Known for his strength in the energy industry, he acts on an impressive array of international and domestic arbitrations within the sector. He is also particularly known for his longstanding involvement in arbitration cases relating to Latin America. “He's very active in the mining space and a good lawyer.”

Toronto-based Michael Schafler of Dentons Canada acts for a number of multinational companies in sectors such as tech and automotive, appearing in both litigation and arbitration proceedings. “Mike is a very rare seasoned litigator who crafts sophisticated strategies and understands every detail of a case.”

Myriam Seers has a growing presence in international arbitration, acting on a broad range of investment treaty disputes in the mining and energy sectors. She recently joined international arbitration boutique Savoie Laporte LLP, and is based in Toronto. “She is very impressive, quick thinking, practical, business-oriented and gives value-added advice. Myriam is always doing a risk assessment to provide the most practical advice with business interests in mind.”

Junior Sirivar (see p.28) co-chairs the international arbitration team at McCarthy Tétrault from his base in Toronto. He handles an impressive array of international arbitral proceedings arising in the natural resources and energy sectors, as well as domestic commercial disputes. “I have found Junior’s advice to be pragmatic and his arbitration insights to be spot-on. He has been a pleasure to work with and clearly demonstrates a keen knowledge of the arbitration world in Canada.”

Gordon Tarnowsky KC of Dentons Canada offers clients deep knowledge of construction and energy matters and has additional experience handling international arbitration. He is based in Dentons’ Calgary office. “He is a strong leader with good technical knowledge of the subject matter.”

John Terry (see p.28) is highly regarded for his practice emphasis on alternative dispute resolution, playing a prominent role in a range of investor-state arbitration proceedings. He is based in Torys’ Toronto office. “John Terry is a masterful practitioner and is very skilled.”

Lawrence Thacker (see p.28) impresses with his wide-ranging expertise across commercial arbitration. Based at Lenczner Slaght in Toronto, he possesses deep knowledge of arbitration issues concerning clients in the natural resources and power sectors. “He has a grasp of the entirety of the case, from complicated international legal issues to factual matters and damages.”

Christopher Thomas KC is a skilled arbitrator renowned for his handling of investor-state proceedings and international trade disputes. Based in Vancouver, he has experience representing both private clients and governmental bodies.

Martin Valasek (see p.29) is renowned for his handling of major international disputes, with significant experience overseeing arbitration matters on behalf of companies in the natural resources, energy and manufacturing industries. He represents such clients in proceedings conducted under ad hoc, ICC, LCIA and ICSID rules and is based in Norton Rose’s Montréal office. “He is very high quality.”

Jeffrey Vallis KC (see p.340) is renowned for his longstanding experience in domestic and international construction disputes. Based in the Calgary office of Borden Ladner Gervais, he is widely regarded as one of Canada’s leading construction arbitration lawyers. His wide-ranging practice also sees him handle commercial arbitration cases conducted under ad hoc and ICC rules.

Sharon Vogel has substantial experience representing clients in construction-related arbitrations. “She has excellent depth of legal knowledge and is highly attentive and an excellent communicator and presenter.” “Sharon is extremely knowledgeable and sophisticated.”

David Wahl is an impressive associate with particular expertise in construction disputes. “He is very well organised, competent and agile.”

Janet Walker regularly acts as arbitrator in cases originating in the financial services and construction sectors. Based in Toronto, she offers deep expertise in commercial arbitration under institutional and ad hoc rules. In January 2021 she joined Toronto Arbitration Chambers after leaving Arbitration Place.

Warren Winkler is a highly experienced lawyer who operates from Arbitration Place in Toronto. He is active across a broad array of mediation and arbitration proceedings, including class action and labour cases. “He has mediated very, very complicated and high-profile disputes, particularly in bankruptcy and insolvency.” “He is a very effective mediator. He is charming, result-oriented and upholds a good reputation.”

Toronto-based Robert Wisner (see p.29) of McMillan is regularly mandated on high-stakes arbitration proceedings involving international trade issues in addition to a wealth of commercial disputes, including joint venture, shareholder and partnership cases. “Robert is very experienced, has very good instincts and articulates legal arguments well. He is very dynamic and very good at dealing with litigation and turning it into a positive for the client. He is very efficient and has a good balance of advocacy.”

James Woods, Ad E (see p.29) is the founder of Montreal disputes boutique Woods LLP. He is a robust arbitrator and arbitration counsel with experience acting under ad hoc and ICC rules. He frequently represents clients in high-stakes domestic and international arbitrations. “He is terrific.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Arbitration & Mediation

**Binnie CC**, Ian
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** One of Canada’s most respected counsel and arbitrators, the Honorable Ian Binnie served for nearly 14 years as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada. Ian carries on a wide-ranging international and domestic arbitration practice, drawing on his wealth of arbitration and courtroom experience acquired over 30 years as one of Canada’s top litigators prior to his direct appointment to the Supreme Court. Since returning to private practice, Ian is regularly consulted by clients on private and public law issues, advises the law profession as well as the general public through columns in The Globe and Mail as well as the Canadian Bar Review, and sits on the boards of the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC) and CanArbWeek.

**Specialisations:** Craig is a member of the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), the American Arbitration Association (AAA), the International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR), the London Commercial Arbitration Society (LCAS), CPR’s International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC), the Canada Advisory Board and co-head of the North American Group of the Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center.

**Professional Memberships:** Craig is a member of the Arbitration Society; Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society; the Advocates’ Society (British Columbia Regional Advisory Committee); Singapore International Arbitration Centre Users Council; Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America; Roster Member; IDR Canada; VANIAC, CIILRC.

**Personal:** Craig is married to the Honorable Beverley McLachlin, Chief Justice of Canada. Ian carries on a wide-ranging international and domestic arbitration practice, drawing on his wealth of arbitration and courtroom experience acquired over 30 years as one of Canada’s top litigators prior to his direct appointment to the Supreme Court. Since returning to private practice, Ian is regularly consulted by clients on private and public law issues, advises the law profession as well as the general public through columns in The Globe and Mail as well as the Canadian Bar Review, and sits on the boards of the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC) and CanArbWeek.

**Education:** Craig began his career as a student and then associate at BLG in its Vancouver office. He has extensive experience in international and domestic arbitration, including investor-state disputes, as counsel and arbitrator. Craig’s arbitration experience includes cases seated in and governed by substantive laws of many jurisdictions, and in a vast array of industries. Craig is recognized by Chambers Global and Canada, GAR’s Who’s Who, Lexert and Benchmark Canada, among others, and is Trentinale-Hubbell® AnV Preeminence rated.

**Career:** Craig began his career as a student and then associate at BLG in its Dispute Resolution Group. In December 2005, he moved to Paris, France where he practiced at Freshfields in its International Arbitration Group until November 2011, when he returned to BLG in Vancouver.

**Professional Memberships:** Craig is an active member of numerous arbitral institutions and associations, including on Roster of Arbitrators, International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR), the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA), the ICC Canada Arbitration Committee, including as a listed arbitrator, the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA) and an advisory member of the Institute of Transnational Arbitration (ITA). Craig is also a member of the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC) as a rostered arbitrator and is on its Rules Committee.

**Cundari, Laura**
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada, British Columbia)

**Practice Areas:** Laura is an experienced advocate, appearing as lead counsel at all levels of court in Canada, as well as before arbitral and administrative tribunals. She has extensive experience litigating and arbitrating disputes in the food, beverage and agribusiness, energy, mining, construction, cannabis, hospitality, retail, technology and infrastructure sectors. Laura has particular expertise in the arbitration of complex disputes and regularly advises clients on all aspects of international and domestic arbitration proceedings, including drafting arbitration clauses, interim orders, hearing processes and the enforcement of arbitral awards.

**Professional Memberships:** Laura is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) and an Arbitration Practice Network Canada Arbitrator. She is a member of the ICC Canadian Arbitration Committee and sits on the boards of the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC) and CanArbWeek.

**Practice Areas:** Laura has particular expertise in the arbitration of complex disputes and regularly advises clients on all aspects of international and domestic arbitration proceedings, including drafting arbitration clauses, interim orders, hearing processes and the enforcement of arbitral awards.

**Professional Memberships:** Laura is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) and an Arbitration Practice Network Canada Arbitrator. She is a member of the ICC Canadian Arbitration Committee and sits on the boards of the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC) and CanArbWeek.

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**Professional Memberships:** Laura is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb) and an Arbitration Practice Network Canada Arbitrator. She is a member of the ICC Canadian Arbitration Committee and sits on the boards of the Vancouver International Arbitration Centre (VanIAC) and CanArbWeek.
GOUDGE, Stephen
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Career: The Honourable Stephen T. Gudge joined the firm as counsel after serving as Justice on the Court of Appeal for Ontario for 18 years. Since then, he may be best known for his work as Commissioner for the Public Inquiry into Pediatric Forensic Pathology, colloquially known as the Gudge Inquiry, which resulted in sweeping legislative changes. A member of the Order of Ontario, Stephen is the recipient of honorary doctorates from the Law School of the University of Alberta and Assumption University, as well as the Law Foundation of Ontario’s Guthrie Award, in recognition of his exceptional work improving access to justice.

HAIGH, David Ross
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: David’s practice is restricted to serving on international arbitration tribunals dealing with a broad range of subject matters, including energy, intellectual property, telecommunications, pharmaceutical issues and coal and other types of mining issues and other forms of complex commercial dealings. He serves in relation to both investor state and commercial disputes. These disputes frequently entail Energy Charter Treaty claims as well as arbitrations involving private, public, and state trading, transmitting, refinancing and marketing of energy products. David’s experience includes construction and contract disputes, pipeline procurement and construction disputes, farm agreements, royalty interpretation disputes, operating procedure disputes, lease interpretation and oil and gas evaluations and joint venture agreements.

Career: David was appointed Queen’s Counsel in 1984. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the Order of Ontario from 2001 until he retired after having been a Bencher, 1980-2018. He is a Fellow of the Inns of Court Society of Alberta, (served as Bencher, 1980-2018). He is a member of the Order of Ontario, Stephen is the recipient of honorary doctorates from the Law School of the University of Alberta and Assumption University, as well as the Law Foundation of Ontario’s Guthrie Award, in recognition of his exceptional work improving access to justice.

MCARTHUR, Joseph
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Joe practices commercial litigation and arbitration. As an experienced trial and arbitration counsel he has represented both public and private companies in various industries, including mining, infrastructure, utilities, financial services and technology. He regularly advises on domestic and international arbitrations as counsel and sits regularly as arbitrator.

Professional Memberships: Fellow and Chartered Arbitrator; Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; Member: American Arbitration Association’s ICDR Panel of Arbitrators and the Domestic and International Arbitration Panels of the BICACAC; Chair: Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Vancouver Chapter) and national Vice-Chair of the Canadian Branch.

MCEACHERN, Sarah
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sarah has extensive experience in all aspects of commercial litigation and arbitration disputes. She focuses her practice on helping clients resolve complex disputes in the construction, transportation, mining and energy sectors. She has expertise in both domestic and international disputes and has acted on or advised on proceedings under the rules of the ICC, ICDR, AAA, SCC, HKIAC and BCCIC (now VinAIC). Sarah is BGL’s regional manager of commercial and construction disputes. Sarah has experience negotiating commercial agreements with health authorities, as well as resolving related disputes through mediation and arbitration. She has acted for online pharmacies and pharmaceutical development companies dealing with financing and licensing disputes. Sarah, an experienced arbitrator, was selected as one of 12 arbitrators to sit on the inaugural roster of Arbitration Place’s NextGen Arbitrators. In 2021 the Government of British Columbia appointed Sarah to serve a five-year term as a roster member for BC’s Bid Protest Mechanism and Dispute Resolution panels, established under the New West Partnership Trade Agreement and the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.

Professional Memberships: Advisory Board Member, Young Canadian Arbitration Practitioners, Toronto; NextGen Arbitrators; Canadian Free Trade Agreement; International Arbitration Centre

Publications: Co-authored the guide Technology Resources for Arbitration Practitioners for the IBA.

O’CONNOR, Dennis
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Senior Counsel at BLG’s Toronto office. He sat on the Court of Appeal for Ontario from 1998 to 2012. He also served as the Associate Chief Justice of Ontario from 2001 until he retired after dealing with a wide variety of issues including commercial, securities and insolvency law. Since leaving the Court, he has developed a busy arbitration and mediation practice focusing on all types of commercial, insurance and estate disputes. He is a member of Arbitration Place.


SARABIA, Luis
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Luis has a broad practice focusing on dispute resolution in complex commercial, construction and contract disputes, mining and public international law. He has specific expertise in acting for leading mining companies in their large and complex litigation and arbitrations, both in Canada and internationally. He has appeared as lead counsel for public and private corporations before various courts and arbitrations, including the Supreme Court of Canada and the Ontario Securities Commission. Luis has also been lead counsel in international arbitrations, given expert evidence in the United States, and in Spanish-speaking countries, including Spain, Spain, and the Spanish-speaking world. Luis has also acted as lead counsel in international arbitrations, including in cases involving Spanish-speaking parties, including in Spain, Spain and the Spanish-speaking world.

Practice Areas: Luis has a broad general litigation and arbitration practice. He has specific expertise in acting for leading mining companies in their large and complex litigation and arbitrations, both in Canada and internationally. He has appeared as lead counsel for public and private corporations before various courts and arbitrations, including the Supreme Court of Canada and the Ontario Securities Commission. Luis has also been lead counsel in international arbitrations, given expert evidence in the United States, and in Spanish-speaking countries, including Spain, Spain and the Spanish-speaking world. Luis has also acted as lead counsel in international arbitrations, including in cases involving Spanish-speaking parties, including in Spain, Spain and the Spanish-speaking world.

TERRY, John A
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada), Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: A leading lawyer in his field and a strategic partner to clients on high-profile international matters, John is recognized for his long track record of work on trade disputes, arbitrations and Indigenous consultation. His arbitration practice focuses on public, business and international trade and investment law. He regularly advises corporations and federal, provincial and municipal governments on NAFTA and WTO matters and has represented major Canadian and multinational corporations in respect of investor-state arbitrations under Chapter 11 of the NAFTA. John also has a significant practice in Indigenous matters, with extensive experience advising project developers and lenders on issues respecting the duty to consult with Indigenous communities and representing parties negotiating in disputes regarding Indigenous issues, often on high-stakes or sensitive matters. He also routinely provides guidance to natural resource and energy companies on corporate social responsibility issues. John has appeared as counsel at all levels of court in Ontario, at the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal, before the Supreme Court of Canada, in commercial and investment arbitrations and before a variety of administrative tribunals.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: One of Canada’s leading trial and appellate lawyers, Lawrence has broad experience in mergers and acquisitions, shareholder disputes, complex class actions, infrastructure disputes, procurement matters, securities issues, tax litigation and commercial arbitration, as well as insolvency restructuring. Lawrence has particular expertise as lead counsel in several high-profile and complex international commercial arbitration matters, involving large energy infrastructure and power generation projects, patent license agreements, and long-term uranium supply agreements. He appears regularly at all levels of the Canadian courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada.

Tetrault’s International Arbitration and Mining Blogs.


The Guide to Canada’s Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys.

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Publications: Co-authored the guide Technology Resources for Arbitration Practitioners for the IBA.

See under Aboriginal Law for profile.

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

See under Aboriginal Law for profile.
VALASEK, Martin J
Norton Rose Fullbright, Montréal
514-847-4818
martin.valasek@nortonrosefulbright.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Martin Valasek is a leading practitioner in the area of international arbitration, with extensive experience in both investor-state and commercial contract disputes. He regularly acts as counsel, sits as an arbitrator and also heads our Canadian international arbitration team. His experience covers a wide range of legal systems and industries, including aerospace, banking, construction, mining, energy, environmental remediation, pharmaceuticals and manufacturing. He has provided winning guidance to clients, in both transactions and disputes, under all of the leading rules, including the ICC, LCIA, ICSID and UNCITRAL rules, and other institutional and ad hoc regimes. He has acted as arbitrator and tribunal secretary in several important arbitrations, including the multibillion dollar Yukos-Energy Charter Treaty arbitration.
Mr. Valasek is a frequent speaker, lecturer and contributor to various publications in his areas of practice.

VALLIS, Jeffrey
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Calgary
+1 403 232 9404
jvallis@blg.com
Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada), Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Projects & Construction for profile.

WISNER, Robert
McMillan LLP, Toronto
(416) 865-7127
robert.wisner@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Robert Wisner is a litigation partner at McMillan LLP and a national leader of its International Arbitration group. His practice focuses on international dispute resolution and corporate litigation. Robert has argued numerous cases before international arbitral tribunals seated in venues throughout Canada, the United States, Asia and Europe. He has also appeared at all levels of court in Ontario and other Canadian jurisdictions. Robert has also served as arbitrator in domestic and international commercial disputes. Many of Robert’s cases have involved matters of international law, including disputes relating to foreign investment protection, the jurisdiction of Canadian courts and the enforcement of arbitral awards and foreign judgments. He has also handled a wide range of disputes relating to corporate governance, shareholder remedies or complex commercial contracts, including M&A, joint venture, shareholder, supply and services agreements. Robert’s work in international arbitration, cross-border business litigation and mining disputes has been recognized in Chambers Global, Lexpert and Who’s Who Legal. Market sources have described him as “tenacious, smart and readily available” and an “outstanding counsel”. Many of Robert’s clients are involved in the mining, energy, aviation, infrastructure or telecomunications sectors.

WOODS, AD E, James A
Woods LLP, Montréal
+514 982 4503
jwoods@woods.qc.ca
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Québec)
Career: James A. Woods is considered to be one of the best lawyers in Canada. He practices in the fields of litigation and arbitration. He pleads before all instances of federal and provincial tribunals, as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. He acts as arbitrator, as president or member of a panel, in a large number of commercial and international files, both ad hoc and under the rules of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Banking & Finance
**Banking & Finance**

**Bennett Jones LLP**

**What the team is known for** Bennet Jones operates on a range of high-value credit facilities. Based in Toronto, its clients include prominent domestic banks, private equity houses and several major borrowers in the energy sector. “He is a very strong partner on refinancing.” “We are very happy with his overall service.”

**Acquisitions, syndicated and asset-based financing.** “He’s a relationship-oriented lawyer who’s very available and always helps wherever he can.” “Steven Lutz is one of the best to deal with.”

**Bennett Jones** assisted Canadian Pacific Railway with a USD$500 million term loan facility with the Bank of Montreal regarding its merger with Kansas City Southern.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based lawyer Steven Lutz is sought after by prominent international banks for his strength in acquisitions, syndicated and asset-based financing.

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**Banking & Finance**

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**Bennett Jones** is responsive, courteous and efficient, and represents a varied client base comprising borrowers, as well as pension funds, hedge funds and other institutional investors. The group is also noted for its activity representing non-traditional lenders and credit providers.

**Strengths** “The team is able to provide legal and commercial views and work together with other counsel and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The team is very attuned, responsive to questions and on top of things. The department is a very strong resource to lean on.”

**Work highlights**

Bennett Jones advised Bank of Montreal and a lending syndicate on a CAD1.425 billion credit facility to partly finance national reach. Furthermore, the firm is held in high esteem for its full-service regulatory group handling M&A transactions in the banking sector, insurance regulation, product roll-outs and anti-money laundering mandates. Clients also seek Blake’s advice on market expansions and branch set-ups in Canada. The team regularly acts as an adviser to financial institutions from the USA, Asia and Europe.

**Strengths** “Bennet Jones is responsive, courteous and efficient, and demonstrates deep capabilities across all required areas.”

**Work highlights** Bennett Jones assisted Canadian Pacific Railway with a USD$500 million term loan facility with the Bank of Montreal regarding its merger with Kansas City Southern.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based lawyer Steven Lutz is sought after by prominent international banks for his strength in acquisitions, syndicated and asset-based financing. “He’s a relationship-oriented lawyer who’s very available and always helps wherever he can.” “Steven Lutz is one of the best to deal with.”

**Mark Rasile** is an experienced banking and finance lawyer who has advised on a range of high-value credit facilities. Based in Toronto, his clients include prominent domestic banks, private equity houses and several major borrowers in the energy sector. “He is a very strong partner on refinancing.” “We are very happy with his overall service.”
Brookfield Infrastructure’s CADB billion strategic acquisition of Inter Pipeline.

Notable practitioners

Michael Harquail (see p.37) is a long-standing figure in the banking and finance space and a popular choice of counsel for an impressive range of leading domestic and global financial institutions. He has a wealth of financing experience across an array of sectors including aerospace, healthcare and agriculture. He is based in Toronto. “He is an outstanding lawyer in the finance area.” Toronto-based Paul Belanger (see p.36) remains highly rated for his regulatory expertise across all areas of Canadian financial services. His impressive client roster includes market-leading banks, credit unions and insurance companies. “He always knows what the underlying business concern is or should be and keeps the pulse of the ever-evolving regulatory environment.” “Paul Belanger is top of his field on regulatory insurance matters. His knowledge of the industry and the matters we deal with on a day to day basis is impressive.” “He is the industry standard in insurance regulation and also personable and a pleasure to deal with.” Michael Matheson (see p.38) is a noted leader in Canadian banking and finance law, with expertise cutting across a range of areas, including syndicated lending as well as project and leveraged finance. He operates out of the firm’s Toronto office. “He has a deep knowledge of market practice and is a strong negotiator.” “Michael Matheson has a strong practice and is a very good lawyer.” Simon Finch (see p.37) remains a trusted adviser for prominent banks and private equity funds due to his strength in debt refinancing and construction finance projects. He operates from the firm’s Toronto office. “He has a strong experience base and excellent commercial acumen. In addition to his technical skills, he is a pleasure to work with.”

Michael McIntosh KC (see p.38) has cultivated an excellent reputation in the Canadian banking sector. He handles a variety of impressive mandates, including prominent acquisition and project financing initiatives. Based in Calgary, he is particularly active in the energy and oil and gas sectors. “His level of knowledge is as good as it comes – no question stumps him and he’s very prompt in getting back to us and answering questions.” Based out of Toronto, Jacqueline Shinfield (see p.40) is the head of the financial services regulation department at Blakes. She has extensive expertise in card payments, fintech and anti-terrorism financing regulations. “She always provides practical solutions and risk-based advice.” “Jacqueline Shinfield has a very good reputation in the anti-money laundering area.” Nick Tropak (see p.41) is a significant figure in the Alberta energy market, handling notable finance matters relating to corporate acquisitions and projects. “Nick provided us with excellent work on the banking elements, helping to navigate through the governmental requirements of the transaction and obtain agreements to key terms.” Bonny Murray (see p.39) operates from the firm’s Toronto office and enjoys a growing presence in the financial services market. Her expertise ranges from business reorganisation to payment system overhauls and obtaining Bank Act regulatory approvals. “She is very purpose-driven and has great working relationships with the regulators.” Toronto-based practitioner Vladimir Shatiyran (see p.40) is noted for his burgeoning finance practice. He assists banks and other payment services providers with the regulatory aspects of high profile financing transactions. “He’s very strong technically.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais has a large banking and finance team operating from offices across Canada. The group acts on a wide variety of lender mandates in the real estate and natural resources sectors, as well as assisting with construction and project finance matters. The firm also represents clients in cross-border transactions and is regularly called upon by a number of major Canadian and international banks, as well as non-traditional lenders and sponsors. It is noted for its experience in syndicated acquisition financing, secured credit agreements and refinancing. The department additionally handles a wide range of regulatory matters, including the launch of new financial products, digitalisation projects and anti-money laundering mandates.

Strengths “The firm provides quick responses and great services.” “The firm offers complete depth and breadth of capabilities for banking regulatory topics.” “They are always available. We have no complicated forms or engagement letters to grind through.” Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais assisted the Bank of Nova Scotia with a USD350 million credit agreement for a two phase development in Burnaby, BC.

Notable practitioners

Stephen Redican (see p.39) advises on a range of financial products, most notably in the areas of fintech and payment cards. A Toronto-based lawyer, he is also regularly consulted on matters involving consumer protection and anti-money laundering compliance issues. “He offers comprehensive knowledge of the banking and finance space and is both solution-oriented and incredibly responsive.” Gus Karantzanos (see p.38) is based in Toronto and regularly advises well-known banking clients, as well as investment and asset management groups. He has significant experience in lending, structured finance and securitisation matters. “He’s a really good lawyer.” Montréal-based Olivier Tardif (see p.40) remains a respected practitioner in Quebec. He is visible in project and acquisition finance mandates, often acting for fintech companies. “His level of service is optimal when Olivier Tardif is involved and we appreciate his comments and options.”

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell is a Canadian law firm with a respected banking and finance practice. The firm has notable expertise in mining finance, as well as advising clients on matters across other industry sectors, including construction, real estate, energy and manufacturing, with further presence in the cannabis market. The group frequently assists with the restructuring and amendment of credit facilities, as well as advising on project financing and mortgage loans. It offers additional proficiency in distressed debt lending and consumer finance and often acts for foreign lenders on cross-border financing transactions. The department attracts further recognition for its non-traditional lender representation.

Strengths “We can depend on excellent service and response time from Cassels Brock & Blackwell.” “The team addresses all matters in a timely and concise manner.” Work highlights Cassels advised Blue Torch Capital on providing a USD100 million acquisition term loan facility to GreenFirst.

Notable practitioners

Alison Manzer (see p.38) is a well-established and respected corporate finance lawyer in Toronto. She is proficient in a range of finance-related mandates, including structured finance, as well as fintech and financial services regulation. “She is a knowledgeable and experienced lawyer who is highly responsive and connected.” “Alison is a towering intellect – she is sharp, knows the market very well and always gives us sound advice.” Marc Mercier (see p.39) is experienced in handling a variety of mandates ranging from refinancings to project and acquisition finance. He operates from the firm’s Toronto office. Charles Newman (see p.39) is skilled across a host of financing transactions, including syndicated and project financing as well as refinancing. He is well versed in cross-border matters involving the US and is located in the firm’s Toronto office. Charles Rich (see p.40) is a Toronto-based lawyer in possession of notable credit facility and refinancing experience. He often handles mandates on behalf of leading domestic and international banks. Suhuyini Abudalai (see p.38) is an emerging Toronto-based lawyer in the financial services regulation space. She provides valued counsel on legislation to her roster of clients, which features a number of fintech companies.

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg represents a variety of lenders and borrowers in cross-border financing and refinancing transactions. The Toronto-based firm offers further expertise in asset-based lending, acquisition and project finance, as well as large-scale COVID-19
related emergency finance transactions. Clients also benefit from the firm’s strength in IPO-related credit facilities and project finance. The group is well respected for its longstanding relationships with major Canadian banks, regularly acting for syndicates consisting of domestic and international financial institutions, as well as private equity funds and mining, energy and TMT businesses.

**Strengths** “We trust them to help us navigate transactions with complicated structures, multi-jurisdictional aspects and other challenging components.”

“The team is extremely efficient and has an ability to work quickly and dynamically without sacrificing the quality of the work.”

“Davies does a great job at explaining our options to us and what to consider based on what is on the market. The firm makes complex matters easy for us.”

“Davies delivers on what is most important to us—quality work, thoughtful guidance and protection against risk, delivered in a timely and efficient manner.”

“The department is very strong at taking complex issues and boiling them down to key points that are easily understood.”

**Work highlights** Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg advised the Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation on Air Canada’s CAD5.87 billion financing agreements with the Canadian government through the Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility programme due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Joel Scoler (see p.40) is held in extremely high regard for the strength of his banking and finance practice. His clientele includes major Canadian banks, and he is well versed acting for lending syndicates on financing transactions. “He has a laser focus on the end game, ensuring that deals are completed and all constituents are satisfied with the outcome.” “Joel Scoler is our top choice of a lawyer because we can rely on him to get the deal done. His ability to quickly draft and review documents and to distil complex legal drafting into digestible concepts is nothing short of remarkable.” “He is experienced, easy to work with, and provides great overall service.” “Joel Scoler is the first choice among the majority of lenders seeking sophisticated finance advice.”

Carol Pennycook (see p.338) is recognised as a leading project finance lawyer, and her customer service.”

**Dentons Canada LLP**

**What the team is known for** Dentons represents domestic banks in connection with Canadian and cross-border financing transactions. Additionally, the firm’s Canadian banking lawyers are also active advising capital funds and infrastructure operators on financing matters. The team’s expertise encompasses syndicated loans as well as acquisition, construction, ESG-linked and refinancing transactions. Cross-offer support allows the firm to offer a wide range of specialist expertise.

**Strengths** “The deal team is always responsive and works well with opposing counsel to resolve issues.”

“Dentons always takes a constructive approach, is very responsive and efficient and a pleasure to work with.”

“We receive strong advice, transparency and responsiveness as well as thoughtfulness from all Dentons lawyers.”

**Work highlights**

Dentons advised Bank of Montreal on the issuance of a CAD1.5 billion senior unsecured ESG-linked revolving credit facilities to Premium Brands Operating.

**Notable practitioners**

Michael Henriques is based in Toronto and is the head of Dentons banking and finance department. He regularly assists syndicated lenders with fund financing, loan programmes and leveraged finance facilities. “He is a great partner to work with and is knowledgeable.”

**Fasken**

**What the team is known for** Fasken is a strong choice for mining finance and wider project finance mandates, offering notable expertise in relation to debt, ESG-linked finance and refinancing. It also has a strong banking practice and in-depth expertise in acquisition and corporate finance. Clients benefit from the firm’s offices across Canada and internationally to advise on cross-border transactions. The team is well regarded for its representation of financial institutions in the establishment of revolving credit facilities and acts for a number of the country’s most high-profile banks. The group further demonstrates an impressive track record in matters relating to payment systems, credit and debit card programmes and digital product distributions as well as anti-money laundering and consumer protection. It is equally well placed to handle regulatory work relating to large-scale M&A transactions.

**Strengths** “The team has an excellent ability to navigate difficult and complex items.”

“The department is well connected and informed internally, and very prompt to respond to requests while delivering committed and thorough work.”

“Fasken houses a great team with excellent strength from partner to associate level.”

“We feel very comfortable with Fasken’s support.”

**Work highlights**


**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based John Torrey (see p.41) is widely appreciated for his breadth of expertise across the Canadian banking and finance world. He remains sought after by prominent banks for his ability to handle large-scale acquisition and debt finance transactions as well as refinancings. “He’s spectacular.”

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Fasken is based in Toronto and is the first choice among the majority of lenders including many of the country’s largest financial institutions, as well as major foreign banks.
The group has a strong presence in the structured finance and asset-based lending spaces, with further prowess in energy and infrastructure financing. The firm also acts on the borrower side, offering significant experience of project finance as well as construction and bridge financing. The team additionally has a strong track record advising on banking regulatory and compliance matters in relation to M&A as well as regulatory investigations and fintech mandates. The firm’s expansive sector experience includes its infrastructure to mining and energy. Notable for its impressive reach across Canada, the firm has offices in Québec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

Strengths “The lawyers at the firm are consistent in their ability to dive deep into complex matters and cover a wide variety of issues and topics.”
“McMillan is home to a Toronto-based lawyer who is particularly strong in the areas of acquisition and project finance. His skills are particularly strong in the areas of acquisition and project finance.

**McMillan LLP**

What the team is known for McMillan is home to a well-respected banking and finance team with a strong lender client base and wide-ranging experience encompassing construction, infrastructure, media and real estate finance transactions. The firm demonstrates additional strength in multi-creditor files and acquisition finance. The group acts for national and international financial institutions on cross-border transactions, including syndicated credit facilities and restructuring mandates. Its client list also comprises private equity sponsors, as well as manufacturing, gaming and technology companies.

Strengths “The team does a great job explaining complex situations.”

Work highlights McMillan represented Royal Bank of Canada as administrative agent and sustainability structuring agent for a syndicate of lenders in relation to a USD1 billion revolving term credit facility to Ontario Power Generation.

**Notable practitioners**

Jeffrey Rogers (see p.40) is a Toronto-based practitioner well-regarded in the Canadian banking and finance world. He is particularly visible in syndicated finance mandates, mostly acting for prominent lenders. “Jeff is an excellent lawyer with deep expertise. He’s strategic, clear and practical in his advice.”

**Norton Rose Fulbright**

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is held in high esteem for the strength of its dedicated asset-based lending practice, with an impressive track record advising chartered banks, as well as aviation, tourism and healthcare clients. The team is appreciated for its international capabilities and cross-office support, as well as its expansive presence across Canada, with offices in Alberta, Québec, Ontario and British Columbia. The firm has notable aptitude on emergency financing in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, construction finance and the negotiation of long-term credit facilities. It is recognised for its expertise in complex cross-border matters including debt and acquisition finance and refinancing as well as capital markets solutions.

Strengths “The work by Norton Rose Fulbright is consistently strong and the team is very responsive. Additionally, the multi-jurisdictional reach of the firm is helpful when dealing with foreign entities.”

“Norton Rose Fulbright is a trusted adviser and its knowledge and expertise are crucial in seeing transactions through to a successful closing.”

Work highlights Norton Rose advised Transat on a USD200 million revolving senior secured credit facility.

**Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt has a highly regarded banking and finance practice in Canada that is recognised for its representation of foreign financial institutions, including US banks and hedge funds. The group handles a wide variety of traditional banking work, including asset-based lending and acquisition and project finance, with further expertise in debt financing and leveraged finance transactions. The firm advises a number of Canadian lenders and borrowers in connection with domestic and multi-jurisdictional transactions, with offices in Montréal, Toronto, Calgary and New York playing key roles. Its clients include traditional and active lenders, such as private equity and hedge funds as well as borrowers in sectors such as gaming, energy and transportation. The department also acts for a significant market share of major Canadian banks on the regulatory aspects of cross-border M&A transactions, as well as advising on regulatory matters arising from capital markets issuances and securitisations. The team is also well equipped to advise on product launches, anti-money laundering and cryptocurrency.

Strengths “Osler’s financial services team features a deep bench of attorneys who can advise on every corner of the regulatory framework.”

“The team’s analysis is nuanced and targeted to the specific issues that need attention.”

“Osler’s knowledgeable and pragmatic approach is the key to handling complex and sophisticated matters.”

“The team is diverse and can operate across disciplinary boundaries in a coherent and productive way.”

“The department is proactive in advising on market changes and has a good read of the markets.”

Work highlights Osler advised DRI Capital on the negotiation with syndicated lenders to establish a USD200 million revolving senior secured credit facility.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Victoria Graham (see p.37) provides regulatory advice to a range of major financial institutions, particularly in relation to significant domestic and cross-border transactional mandates. She also has notable expertise in fintech and financial product development issues. “Victoria Graham is a personable and practical attorney who brings sharp...”

**Barry Ryan**

(see p.40) operates from the firm’s Toronto office and he has a wealth of experience advising major banks and state bodies. His expertise spans the gamut of transactional and regulatory finance matters. “He has a depth of knowledge in the banking industry that few have.” Toronto-based Richard Higa (see p.37) is a highly respected individual with a strong track record in real estate and acquisition finance. He has extensive experience assisting with cross-border financing structures. “Richard is our go-to lawyer in Canada.” Toronto-based lawyer Ana Badour (see p.38) is renowned for her deep expertise in fintech and cryptocurrency. She is also engaged by clients to assist with a range of other regulatory mandates, including product launches and business wind-downs. “Ana is very knowledgeable in her practice area. She is very responsive and a delight to deal with.”

**Ana is a wonderful lawyer to work with who brings her knowledge to the table and delivers excellence in her work and helps clients move through challenging matters.”**

Gordon Baird (see p.38) is a well-regarded, Toronto-based banking and finance lawyer. His skills encompass a broad range of areas, with a particular proficiency for lender-side mandates, including secured transactions. “He will do everything he can to find a solution and try to bridge the gap if parties on either side don’t see eye to eye.” “I trust him, especially when I see complexity in deals and more challenging negotiation areas as such servicing and refinancing.”

“McCarthy Tétrault has strong teams at all levels, which translates to efficient and level-appropriate client service.”

**Notable practitioners**

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insights and judgement to our matters.” “She helps us navigate through tricky transactions that encountered a number of different obstacles. Victoria Graham is also knowledgeable on the law, yet always proposes options that are business appropriate.” “At all times, we felt that we were in very good hands.” “She ably guides us through difficult transactions with thorough and practical legal and business advice.” Joyce Bernasek (see p.36) is a well-regarded lawyer in Toronto’s banking and finance market. She has experience representing a range of players, including borrowers and intermediaries, in matters ranging from acquisition finance to debt offerings. “She’s a good lawyer with a good practice.” Elizabeth Sale (see p.40) has a significant presence in Canada’s financial services regulation space. She has expertise in both federal and provincial consumer protection issues, and further experience concerning a broad range of compliance and product development matters. “She has a great working knowledge of the financial services marketplace and provides advice that is actionable.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott advises borrowers, lenders and sponsors on a full range of transactions, including acquisition finance, asset-based lending and aircraft finance. The firm is frequently involved in various deals across the banking and finance space, with notable experience in refinancing, restructuring and credit extensions and amendments, as well as ESG-linked and construction financing. The group regularly acts on financing matters for private equity firms, with notable experience acting on cross-border financings involving lenders and borrowers in the USA and Europe. It is well equipped to handle international transactions and frequently represents domestic and international banks. The team provides advice on the regulatory aspects of capital markets transactions including IPO-related mandates, with further experience in derivatives regulation. The firm rounds off its holistic offering with its strength in the regulatory space including cryptocurrencies and the introduction of new payment systems.

Strengths “The team is solution-oriented even during complex legal work and willing to work with all parties to get to an outcome that works for everyone.”

“The firm is incredibly committed and always available.”

“Stikeman Elliott has a high level of knowledge, legal expertise and business understanding.”

“The department is very flexible, especially when the other party is not based in Canada.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott assisted GFL Environmental with the amendment, restatement and increase of various syndicated credit facilities with Bank of Montreal in excess of CAD1.4 billion.

Notable practitioners

Based in Toronto, Peter Hamilton (see p.37) is a highly experienced banking and finance lawyer with expertise across a broad expanse of corporate finance matters, as well as in-depth knowledge of the regulatory landscape governing financial services. He is also proficient with bankruptcy and restructuring-related mandates, including debt-in-possession financings. Respected practitioner Craig Mitchell (see p.38) is experienced in handling acquisition finance and IPO-related financing mandates, acting for banks, corporates and shareholders. He represents his clients from the Stikeman Elliott’s Toronto office. “Craig Mitchell is an experienced lawyer who is able to help navigate complex issues and has good commercial awareness. We have a strong degree of confidence in his judgement.” Marie Garneau (see p.37) is an experienced financing lawyer with a broad range of expertise. This includes notable prowess in syndicated loan agreements. She is admitted in both Ontario and Quebec, and is based in Toronto. “She is very knowledgeable.” Jennifer Legge (see p.38) is the head of Stikeman Elliott’s banking and finance department and is based in Toronto. She regularly assists lenders and borrower with asset-based financing mandates, in addition to advising on construction finance projects. “Jennifer is a strong lawyer – she knows the market and is nice to deal with.”

Daphne Mackenzie (see p.38) is a Toronto-based lawyer whose expertise covers a range of issues including project and construction finance. Montréal-based lawyer Howard Rosenoff (see p.40) operates a practice which encompasses both borrower and lender-side work. He has notable experience handling cross-border acquisition finance matters. “He is very practical.”

Torys LLP

What the team is known for Torys rises to the top spot in the rankings due to its excellence in handling a broad spectrum of banking work across its Toronto and Calgary offices, advised by the firm’s office in New York. The group’s experience includes advising on high-end acquisition finance and project finance matters, with further strength in secured and unsecured credit facilities especially in relation to the energy, real estate and mining sectors. The team acts for a range of both lender and borrower-side clients, including leading domestic banks, insurance companies, international financial institutions and private equity funds. Furthermore, the firm’s esteemed regulatory practice is notable for its advice regarding financial services M&A, insurance regulation and credit card programmes as well as consumer protection work. The handling of digital payment systems and large-scale COVID-19 relief programmes complements the firm’s excellent holistic offering.

Strengths “The team’s knowledge is vast and the execution is recognisably top-notch. Dealing with Torys is personally a pleasure.”

“I trust the firm with our most sensitive and complex questions and Torys always delivers.”

“The depth of technical knowledge combined with a practical approach to complex matters makes Torys a very nimble and effective firm when handling sophisticated matters.”

“The team is excellent, and the firm has strong partners across North America that we are able to rely on when we need specialised advice.”

“The department is service-focused and very responsive.”

Work highlights Torys advised the Canada Development Investment Corporation on the development of the Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This included a CAD310 million loan to GoodLife Fitness Centre and a CAD250 million loan to Porter Airlines.

Notable practitioners

Co-head of the banking and debt finance practice, Adam Delean (see p.37) has an excellent track record advising high-end banking clients on a wide variety of issues. He works out of Toronto. “He is the first call for a number of financial institutions.” Excellent practitioner Blair Keefe (see p.38) is one of the most accomplished figures in the area of financial services regulation. Based in Toronto, he is frequently sought out by leading domestic and multinational institutions for his strength in the regulatory aspects of M&A transactions in the financial sector, as well as insurance regulation. “Blair Keefe is very highly regarded.” “He is an expert in his field with a strong bent to client service.” Amanda Balasubramanian (see p.36) co-leads the banking and debt finance practice from the firm’s Toronto office. She is regularly involved in major financing and refinancing initiatives in the mining sector. “Amanda Balasubramanian is well liked and regarded for a reason – she is a pleasure to work with.” Calgary-based lawyer Kevin Fougere (see p.37) is well-versed in acting for both lenders and borrowers, and is especially prominent in financing transactions in the energy sector. “Kevin Fougere has deep knowledge regarding banking matters and couples that with a keen commercial awareness of our goals, and is always quick to respond and assist when needed.” “He is one of the best banking lawyers in Calgary.” Toronto-based practitioner Tom Zverina (see p.41) holds expertise encompassing an impressive range of financing and investment banking work, with notable proficiency in acquisition finance. He also assists with project finance mandates. “Tom Zverina is a pleasure to work with: he’s bright and pragmatic.” Nina Mansoori (see p.38) is based in Toronto and is noted for noted for her strength in the banking sector. She advises lenders and borrowers on a variety of mandates, including refinancings, fund financing and syndicated lending transactions. “She’s down-to-earth and efficient behind the scenes. We can reach out to her with any issues.” Eli Monas (see p.39) regularly assists with the regulatory aspects of M&A transactions in the banking sector, as well as insurance-related mandates. His client roster includes prominent banks, private equity funds and insurance companies. “Eli is very knowledgeable about Canadian Insurance Companies Act matters and provides very good insight on how things might be viewed by a regulator.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Banking & Finance

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**Practice Areas:** Focuses on transactional and regulatory matters in financial services, with particular expertise in the area of consumer financial services compliance. Regularly provides strategic legal counsel to clients in the area of consumer finance including documentation, licensing, and disclosure requirements. Provides advice on compliance with regulatory requirements relating to, among other things, anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing laws, sanctions, anti-corruption, consumer credit reporting, financial products and services including credit cards and prepaid cards, debt collection, loyalty programs, and the regulation of financial institutions. Among other professional experience, member of the Department of Finance Canada’s Advisory Committee on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist. Recipient of Lexpert’s Rising Star award and Precedent Magazine’s Precedent Setter award.

AMATO, David M
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** David Amato focuses on corporate finance and is co-chair of our asset-based lending team. As counsel to various foreign and domestic financial institutions, insurance companies, private equity firms and other credit providers, he has significant experience in sophisticated debt financing transactions and has led numerous multi-jurisdictional, international and domestic debt financing mandates (including cash-flow, asset based, acquisition, leveraged buyout, debtor-in-possession, joint venture project financings). As a leading member of the asset based lending team (an area for which we are recognized as a leading firm), Mr. Amato is a trusted advisor to a number of Canadian and US banks who provide asset based financing. Mr. Amato also has extensive insolvency and restructuring experience acting on behalf of creditors.

ANDERSON, Jean
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Partner and a member of the Banking and Financial Services Group of Goodmans. Practice focuses on financing, corporate transactions and regulatory matters. With more than 35 years of legal experience, she has developed extensive expertise in the areas of project finance, structured finance, asset-based lending, P3 finance, debt restructuring and complex domestic and cross-border financings and regulatory matters relating to foreign and domestic financial institutions. Clients represented include Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Monroe Capital, Hitachi Capital, OMERS, Citizens Bank, US Bank, UBS, AB Private Credit, Carlyle Global Credit and Clearwater Seafoods.

**Career:** Recognized in The Legal 500 Canada, The Canadian Legal 500, Lexpert – Banking & Finance, Chambers Canada 2022 (Banking & Finance), The Canadian Legal 500 – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Advises clients on debt and equity financings and regulatory matters relating to foreign and domestic financial services, with particular expertise in fintech/SaaS secured lending transactions, private equity fund acquisition financing, and cross-border loan transactions.

**Professional Memberships:** Canadian Bar Association

**Practice Areas:** Advises on project financings in the energy sector, including oil sands projects, pipeline projects and LNG projects. His clients include major Canadian banks and project sponsors and he has strong relationships with the key project lending specialists at the major Canadian banks. He also has significant experience in joint venture arrangements in the energy sector and often advises on matters such as default and remedy provisions in joint venture agreements. Mr. Borden generally acts as the lead counsel on all transactions in which he is involved and is directly involved in structuring matters, due
diligence investigations, negotiating key business terms and drafting from the term sheet stage through to final documentation. In addition, he has been extensively involved in negotiating intercreditor agreements and third-party consents and acknowledgements with third-party project participants in various project financings. Whether acting for borrowers or lenders, Mr. Cohen has a unique ability to combine a high degree of technical expertise with a commercial approach that facilitates the successful completion of complex financings and projects.

CHRISTENSEN, Koker
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Koker’s reputation and experience is Co-Leader of the firm’s Financial Services Group. He advises businesses in the financial services sector, including insurers, banks, trust companies, credit unions, financial institutions, fintechs and insurtechs. His areas of expertise include M&A, reinsurance transactions, regulatory matters, anti-money laundering and corporate governance. He also advises financial institutions on incorporation and licensing. As part of his practice, Koker frequently deals with the Office of the Superintendant of Financial Institutions and other financial institutions regulators.

COHEN, Arnold
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Arnold Cohen’s practice includes financing and insolvency and re- structuring. His financing practice focuses on asset-based lending. Both Canadian and cross-border transactions, in which he represents leading US and Canadian asset-based lenders and factors. Mr. Cohen also regularly represents lenders and corporate clients in the financing of real estate, receivables and equipment, as well as acquisition, project, structured and traditional bank financings, all on both a syndicated and a non-syndicated basis. His restructuring practice involves representing secured lenders, trustees, receivers and corporate clients in all aspects of the insolvency and restructuring process, including reorganizations, acquisitions, assignments for the benefit of security and other creditors’ rights. He has appeared before various courts in these matters. Mr. Cohen is co-chair of our asset-based lending team.

DELEAN, Adam E
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Adam is one of Canada’s leading banking and finance lawyers, with decades of experience and market insight in corporate banking, leveraged finance and restructurings. Adam works closely with lenders and borrowers on transactions such as bank credit facilities, Canadian and U.S. bond financings, structured finance transactions, mezzanine financings and derivatives. He has particular experience in cross-border and international financings and is the chair of the firm’s India practice group. Adam also looks to Adam’s robust knowledge for guidance on compliance matters related to their financing arrangements.

DESCHAMPS, Michel McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practices banking and commercial law. Broad experience and market insight in relation to these matters. Mr. Cohen is co-chair of our practice area.

FOUGERE, Kevin A
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: A leading banking and finance lawyer, Kevin gives strategic and transaction-oriented counsel across the spectrum of corporate lending and project finance. Kevin has extensive experience advising corporate clients and financial institutions on a wide range of financing transactions, including project financing, syndicated bank transactions, bond financings, cross-border financings, acquisition financings and asset and reserve base lending, as well as advising on general corporate and commercial matters. Kevin works with clients in a wide range of industries, including on financings in the oil and gas, energy services and renewable power sectors.

GARNEAU, Marie Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
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Practice Areas: Marie Garneau is a partner in the Banking & Finance and Mergers & Acquisitions Groups. She has acted for numerous lenders and borrowers on a wide range of domestic and cross-border financing transactions including leveraged buyouts, asset-based loans, debt, mezzanine and structured financings. Marie has also acted for creditors, debtors and monitors in commercial insolvencies and restructurings. She is also a member of the Associates’ Committee in the Toronto office.

GRAHAM, Victoria Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Victoria’s practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, restructurings, corporate governance and complex commercial arrangements for financial institutions, REITs, and public and private corporations, with specialized expertise in the financial services and retirement homes sector. In addition to her transactional practice, Victoria routinely advises Canadian and cross-border financial institutions and other regulated and unregulated financial service providers on a variety of regulatory matters, including bank and insurance regulation, fintech, compliance, establishment of new financial institutions in Canada, corporate governance, credit cards, payment and settlement systems, compliance and outsourcing arrangements.

HAMILTON, Peter E Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Peter Hamilton is a partner in the Banking & Finance Group. He practises extensively in the area of banking and corporate finance with particular emphasis in the areas of corporate finance, project finance, the regulation of financial institutions, derivatives, structured financings and insolvency. Peter has been active on a variety of regulatory mandates in recent years, including advising international banks such as Barclays Bank, Royal Bank of Scotland, Allied Irish Bank, BNP Paribas, Société Générale, Deutsche Bank, Bank of New York, JP Morgan Chase, Morgan Stanley, UBS AG, Credit Suisse and Macquarie Bank and National Australia Bank on the acquisition of Canadian assets, the establishment of Canadian business, transactional matters and associated regulatory requirements. Domestically, he has advised a number of Canadian banks, insurance companies and trust companies with respect to regulatory matters and transactions, including potential mergers in the 1990s. He has represented a Canadian chartered bank in litigation relative to various corporate governance and board matters.

HARQUAIL, Michael R.
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael advises a variety of financial institutions and corporate clients on corporate lending, debt restructuring and related corporate matters, with special expertise in structuring and documenting domestic financing transactions, cross-border financing transactions, syndications, acquisition financings, asset-based financings, project financings, high-yield offerings, subordinated debt arrangements and structured finance. Michael has advised lenders and borrowers in financing transactions across a wide range of industries and sectors, including aerospace, agriculture, automotive, energy, financial services, general manufacturing, healthcare, mining, pulp and paper, retail, technology, telecommunications and transportation.

HIGA, Richard T
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on all aspects of domestic and cross-border financings, including acquisition, asset-based, cash flow and recurring revenue based lending, bilateral and syndicated financings, Term B, second lien and mezzanine financings, as well as debtor in possession financings and high-yield notes. Recently acted on behalf of a variety of Canadian and US financial institutions including banks, insurance companies and specialty debt funds on asset-based financing transactions. Richard has closed several high profile cash-flow financings and mezzanine financings provided to private equity funds in connection with acquisitions in the gaming, telecom, insurance, medical, technology and manufacturing sectors. Richard brings a pragmatic, solution oriented practical style to closing transactions. In addition to his finance practice, Richard is the Practice Group Leader for the firm’s business law group in Toronto.
Professional Memberships: Association for Corporate Growth
Publications: Frequent speaker on cross-border market issues in financing.

HYMAN, Scott R
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Scott’s practice is focused on Canadian and cross-border acquisitions, financings, leveraged buyouts, corporate restructurings, and private equity transactions. His focus is on providing advice to lenders and borrowers on complex financings and derivative investments, and his expertise in dealing with the regulations of Canadian financial institutions. Scott is frequently consulted for guidance on the regulatory aspects of acquisitions, investments and lending and on providing financial services in Canada. He is a former director of two Canadian Schedule II banks. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; IFLR1000; The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Canada; Expert Guides.

JOHNSON, David F
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: David Johnson is Co-Leader of Fasken’s Banking and Finance group. Dave routinely advises both lenders and borrowers on complex corporate and commercial debt financings in both Canada and abroad. Dave has substantial experience leading lending transactions across a wide range of industries including power and utilities, mining, telecommunications, real estate, food services, automotive, agriculture and retail. He is extensively involved in the area of leveraged finance with a particular focus on private equity sponsored transactions.

KARANTZOUS, Gus
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Gus Karantzoulos practises financial services with a focus on lending, securitization, debt-capital market and project finance. Gus focuses on infrastructure financing. Advises Canadian and foreign institutional and alternative lenders, as well as borrowers, on secured and unsecured lending transactions, including senior and subordinate debt and cross-border financing, cash flow financing and syndicated loans. Regularly advises trustees and collateral agents on a variety of debt-capital market issues. Represents participants in structured finance and securitization transactions on a wide variety of asset classes (with particular experience in commercial and residential mortgage securitizations, asset-based loans, government, sponsors and underwriters on the financing of power projects and public-private infrastructure projects.

KEEFE, Blair W
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: A preeminent figure in the financial services industry, Blair has decades of experience advising Canada’s leading financial institutions on regulatory matters and industry best practices, and has acted as counsel on some of the country’s most complex and novel issues in his field. Blair is co-head of the Firm’s Financial Services, Bank Regulatory and Insurance Regulatory practices, and is co-chair of the Payments and Cards Practice. His practice focuses on corporate and regulatory issues relating to financial institutions, advising also on mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance in the financial services industry. Blair is known for his in-depth understanding of all matters relating to the Bank Act. In addition, he has extensive experience in insurance and bank regulatory matters, banking and debt finance as well as payments and cards.

LAPEDUS, Justin
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Financial Services Group in the Toronto office, with a practice focused on bank and other secured-lending transactions. Acts for Canadian banks, US banks, as well as other Canadian, US and international financial institutions and non-bank lenders in connection with structuring and negotiating all types of debt financings, including acquisition financings, asset-backed loans, and other corporate and commercial loans.

Career: B.A. in Political Science from York University in 1995 and LL.B. from the University of Windsor in 1998.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association.

LEGGE, Jennifer G
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jennifer Legge is Head of the Banking & Finance Group. She is also a member of the Mergers & Acquisitions and Restructuring & Insolvency Groups, as well as a member of the Management Committee in the Toronto office. Jennifer advises clients on a diverse range of corporate and business law matters, having over 25 years’ experience in structuring, negotiating, documenting and administering a wide variety of lenders’ arrangements, including senior, mezzanine and subordinated secured syndicated financings, term loan and asset based loan facilities, bilateral credit facilities, acquisitions and leveraged buyout financings, project and P3 financings, margin loans, unitranche loans, amendments and extensions, intercreditor agreements, and dividend recapitalizations. Jennifer advises her clients in structuring, negotiating and documenting merger and acquisition transactions across a range of industries. She acts for strategic buyers of businesses, for entrepreneurs in dispositions of family-owned businesses and for private equity investors in acquisitions and disposals. Jennifer also regularly advises on project financings involving distressed debtors, including advising on workouts, restructurings, DIP financing, receiverships, distressed sales, realizations and insolvency proceedings and arrangements.

LEMIEUX, David
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: David Lemiex practises corporate finance and restructuring. He regularly represents lending syndicates, borrowers and investors in the areas of project financing, public and private take-overs, asset acquisitions, monetization, securitization, structured finance and debt restructuring, whether the financing is Canada, cross-border or foreign. In this capacity, he organizes and leads teams of lawyers to close these transactions. He is involved in negotiating, preparing and finalizing all aspects of these transactions, including corporate structuring, credit documentation agreements between creditors, security documents and the restructuring of debt.

MACKENZIE, Daphne
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Daphne MacKenzie is a partner in and former Head of the Banking & Finance Group and serves on the firm’s Partnership Board. Her practice focuses on banking, project finance, restructurings, insolvency and public debt securities. Daphne acts for financial institutions and borrowers in cross-border banking and project finance transactions, and for creditors, debtors, receivers and monitors in commercial insolvencies and restructurings. She acts for private equity funds in connection with leveraged acquisitions and acts as corporate counsel to numerous Canadian corporations. Daphne advises lenders, sponsors and borrowers in connection with project finance transactions in the mining sector. These transactions involve mining projects in Canada, the United States, South America, and Africa. Daphne has been recognized in numerous legal publications as a leading lawyer in many other practice areas, Banking & Finance, Project Finance and Asset-Based Lending.

MANSOORI, Nina
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Offering counsel tailored to clients’ business strategies, Nina has deep experience in Canadian and cross-border corporate banking, leveraged finance and structured finance. Nina’s lender and borrower clients benefit from the broad range of her working on a variety of Canadian and cross-border debt financings across many sectors and industries.

MANZER, Alison R
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Business law practice in financial services including financial institution regulation, investment, lending, securitization, business reorganization, and syndications. Expertise in the entry of financial institutions to Canada, structuring international transactions, fintech, and blockchain.

MATHESON, Michael
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael has more than 25 years of experience in banking and financial services law, with a particular specialization in corporate and commercial finance. His practice is focused on the areas of banking, syndicated lending, leveraged finance, project finance, and mergers and acquisitions. Michael regularly advises Canadian and foreign financial institutions and borrowers with respect to the structuring and negotiation of syndicated loan transactions, acquisition financings, takeover bid financings, leveraged buyouts, corporate reorganizations, workouts, and mergers and acquisitions.

Career: Michael is recognized as a leading lawyer in all major directories and publications.

MCINTOSH, J Michael
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael is a senior partner in the Financial Services Group in Calgary. His practice focuses on banking, corporate lending, acquisition finance, structured finance and project finance. He also has extensive experience in corporate and commercial acquisitions and regularly advises on cross-border financings.
recent transactions include major project financings, major acquisition financings and cross-border structured financings, as well as financings of pipelines, refineries, oil sands projects, conventional oil and gas reserves, petrochemicals, mining interests and power generating assets. Specifically, Michael is lead counsel to the borrower for the project financing of the Coastal GasLink Pipeline and is lead counsel to the lenders for the financing of North West Redwater's Sturgeon Refinery.

Career: Michael is recognized as a leading lawyer in all major legal directories and ranking publications.

Professional Memberships: Michael is a member of the Law Society of Alberta, the Law Society of Ontario, the Canadian Bar Association and the Calgary Bar Association.

MEAGHER, Thomas
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Thomas Meagher is Co-Leader of the firm’s Banking and Finance group. Thomas’ banking and finance practice is focused exclusively on structuring, documentation and negotiation of corporate and commercial private debt transactions, both secured and unsecured. Advising creditors and debtors both nationally and internationally, Thomas has expertise in all areas of corporate and commercial debt transactions, including acquisition and project financings, with a particular emphasis on the mining sector. Thomas has extensive experience representing clients financing and securing assets throughout North America, South America and Africa and is frequently involved in the negotiation and structuring of complex inter-creditor matters.

MERCER, Marc
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice is extensively international in nature with a focus on public and private, secured, unsecured and M&A financings, complex corporate reorganizations in the insolvency context, asset-backed securitization, treasury management and financial derivatives-related matters. Also handles extensive financing work in the subordinated/convertible debt, sports management, venture capital and private equity areas. Provides strategic corporate advice (such as multi-jurisdictional structuring and corporate governance) to leading domestic and foreign companies (public and private), including to home offices. Extremely well-regarded for his management of large-scale projects, providing seamless solutions to clients with multi-faceted needs across a wide-spectrum of areas of the law.


MITCHELL, Craig
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Craig Mitchell is a partner in the Banking and Finance Group. His practice focuses on banking, restructuring and workouts. He has expertise in private acquisition financings, take-over bid financings, debtor-in-possession financings, asset-based lending and mezzanine lending. Craig acts as counsel to both lenders and borrowers on domestic and cross-border financings in North America, Europe and Asia, and as counsel to creditors and debtors in commercial insolvencies and restructurings. He also acts as counsel to private equity funds in connection with leveraged mergers and acquisitions. Craig is a member of the Law Society of Ontario and the American Bar Association.

MONAS, Eli
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: With deep experience in financial services, Eli works with financial institutions and other clients in the sector on significant, high-profile M&A transactions — as well as advising them on the complex regulatory needs of their business. Eli’s practice focuses on corporate law and regulatory issues relating to financial institutions, advising both Canadian and international financial institution clients. With industry experience including a six-month secondment to the Legislation and Approvals Division at the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions in 2017-18, Eli brings particular knowledge of bank and insurance regulation, consumer protection and payments to his counsel.

MURRAY, Bonny
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Bonny’s practice is focused on the financial services industry. She provides regulatory advice to Canadian and foreign financial institutions and service providers on all aspects of their business. She specializes in insurance and banking, payments and payment technologies, merchant acquiring and consumer protection including auto and equipment financing and leasing. Bonny has significant experience working with federal and provincial regulators on behalf of clients on regulatory approval applications, compliance issues and questions of statutory interpretation. She advises on transactions involving financial services clients including corporate mergers and acquisitions, reinsurance transactions and pension de-risking, including longevity insurance transactions.

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dnader@goodmans.ca
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner and co-heads the Banking and Financial Services Group at Goodmans. Also a leading member of the firm’s Hospitality Group. Consistently represents Canadian and international financial institutions, non-bank lenders and public and private companies in connection with complex domestic and cross-border lending transactions. Has worked on several financings in the Security and coatings sector, both for lenders and operators. He has also been involved in several debt restructurings representing both creditors and debtors. Represents various clients in the hospitality industry, including hotel owners, brand management companies and franchisors. Has been involved in hospitality transactions in Canada and throughout the world, including in India, China, the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Japan, Morocco, Israel and Egypt.

Career: Recognized as a leading banking lawyer by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, Chambers Canada, Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Banking Lawyers. The Legal 500 Canada, Best Lawyers in Canada and IFLR 1000. He has also been recognized by Chambers Global.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Ontario Canadian Bar Association American Bar Association

Publications: Has co-authored a number of articles in the area of banking and finance, including, most recently, in The Canada chapter of The Acquisition and Leveraged Finance Review 8th Edition published November 2021.

NEWMAN, Charles
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
(416) 860 6603 (416) 869 5300
c newman@cassels.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on all types of secured and unsecured lending transactions, including cross-border transactions, project/infrastructure financings, syndicated loan transactions, asset-based and real estate-based lending matters. Extensive work in the subordinated and convertible debt areas (representing both borrowers and lenders) and in the areas of restructuring and treasury management. Also acts on behalf of numerous lenders, borrowers and receivers in connection with special accounts, work-out related, security enforcement and receivership files in an insolvency and restructuring context.

Professional Memberships: Member of INSOL International and the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships and the American Bar Association.

NOVELLO, Marc
Fasken, Montréal
+1 (416) 367 5404
mnovello@fasken.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Marc Novello specializes in the area of bank financing. Marc is recognized as a leading lawyer in this area of expertise and oversees the implementation of all types of bank financings in Quebec, Canada and cross-border. Marc represents primarily lending syndicates and investors in relations to every type of corporate financing. He also often acts on behalf of borrowers in relation to their financing transactions. He is responsible for negotiating, preparing and implementing every aspect of the financing transactions, including credit agreements, intercreditor agreements, investment contracts and security documents, as well as the debt refinancing and restructuring documentation.

PALIN, Joseph
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Calgary
+1 403-260-3503
jpalin@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Joe is a partner in the McCarthy Tétrault Financial Services Group. His practice is focused on structuring and completing domestic and international financing transactions, frequently advising both lenders and borrowers. He also advises on transactions involving complex financing structures.

Acting as a trusted advisor, Joe leverages his business acumen and legal expertise to achieve the best possible outcomes for clients. With over 30 years of experience in the practice of law, Joe has detailed industry knowledge and established relationships in the oil & gas, energy, technology and financial services. Through first-rate technical knowledge, strategic advice and understanding of clients’ business, he guides clients through even the most challenging situations.

Career: Called to Bar: 1980 (Ontario); 1996 (Alberta). Appointed Queen’s Counsel 2022


PENNYCOOK, Carol D
Davies Black & McVeigh LLP, Toronto
(416) 865 5546
cpennycook@davies.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada), Projects (Nationwide – Canada)

See under Projects & Construction for profile.

REDICAN, Stephen J
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
(416) 367 3424
sredican@blg.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Stephen is a leading financial services lawyer, and provides clients with practical legal advice in certain specialized areas including fintech, payments, financial institution regulation, banking, lending and securitization. He is recognized nationally and internationally for his expertise in these areas.

Career: Ontario Bar, 1986. LLB, Osgoode Hall Law School, 1994. BA (Hons.), McGill University, 1991. Partner at BLG, National Group Head of Specialized Business Law, comprised of Financial Services, Commercial Real Estate, Intellectual Property and Tax, and a member of the Firm’s National Management Committee. He is also the Co-Chair of the firm’s Innovation Thought Leadership Committee and he has extensive experience creating innovative and efficient solutions for clients, and using innovative tools and technologies. Previously elected member of BLG’s Partner Board, Regional Group Manager of Specialized Business Law, Regional
Business Department Leader, Regional Management Committee member and Financial Services Group Leader. Current member of the Board of Directors and a frequent convenor/attendee of committees of a Schedule II bank.

**Publications:** Frequent speaker and author. Regularly called upon as a chairman, panelist and moderator at high profile payments and fintech conferences.

**RHEA, Celia**
Goodmanc LLP, Toronto +1 416 597 4178 crhea@goodmans.ca
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Partner in a business law group at Goodmans. Practice encompasses corporate advice, financing, leveraged buyouts, private equity, mergers and acquisitions and restructuring. Works with companies, private equity funds and hedge funds in financing and corporate transactions, including in the restructuring context, to find creative solutions to unique challenges in collaboration with clients and other professionals.

**Career:** Recognized by IFLR1000 as Canadian Lawyer of the Year for Banking; and in their Women Leaders 2022 guide as one of the most prominent female lawyers working in Canada. Celia is also recognized as a leading lawyer by various legal publications including Lexpert, Chambers, IFLR 1000, The Legal 500. The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, Who’s Who in Canada, Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, Who’s Who and Best Lawyers in Canada, American Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers, The Best Lawyers in Canada, Distinguished Women of North America, The Chambers Global Guide and The Legal 500. She is regularly recognized in Canada’s Leading Lawyers and Financial Lawyers. She has extensive experience working in several industries including energy, oil and gas, technology, real estate, health care, and financial services. Celia has been involved in over 500 transactions in Canada and the United States. Celia is a frequent speaker and author on the role of women in the legal profession and the role of women in the energy industry. Celia is a member of the Women’s History Month Advisory Committee and the Women’s History Month Advisory Committee for the Canadian Women’s History Network.

**Ryan, Barry J**
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 7799 bryan@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Counsel in Financial Services Group. Focus on financial institutions regulation, debt financings and credit restructurings. Acts for various foreign and domestic financial institutions with respect to a range of financial services regulatory applications and advice. Leading expertise in financial institution regulatory capital offerings and public sector pension plan debt financing, having acted recently as counsel on capital offerings by Bank of Montreal, Royal Bank, National Bank, Canadian Western Bank, Sunlife, Manulife, Intact, Empire Life, Industrial Alliance, OMERS, CPPIB and Ontario Pension Board, among others. Specific illustrative retainers: acted for syndicate of dealers on a new capital offering structure by Royal Bank of $1.75 billion Limited Recourse Capital Notes; for OMERS and OMERS Finance Trust on more than $6 billion of debt financings in the global and domestic capital and bank markets; for lenders on a commercial emergency liquidity facility to Home Capital; for Bruce Power on its multibillion dollar debt program in the bond and bank markets; for Big 5 Canadian banks in the $52 billion ABD Recourse restructuring. Acting for ten years for industry group consisting of major Canadian and foreign banks as well as institutional investors on Canadian derivatives regulatory reform.

**Career:** Ontario Bar, 1983

**ROGERS, Jeffrey**
McMillan LLP, Toronto 416.865.7818 jeff.rogers@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Jeff Rogers is a partner in the firm’s Financial Services Group. He has extensive experience in all aspects of debt financing. Jeff acts for major Canadian and foreign financial institutions, pension funds, lending funds and borrowers on a broad cross-section of domestic and cross-border transactions and restructurings. His practice includes syndicated lending, leveraged acquisitions, asset backed lending, second lien loan offering financing, high yield, dip lending and subordinated debt. He is a regular speaker at conferences and client in-house training programs on financial transactions and secured lending, and has written on lending matters for major industry publications, including most recently, the International Comparative Legal Guide to Lending and Secured Finance.

**ROSENOFF, Howard**
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal (514) 387-3263 hrosenoff@stikeman.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Howard Rosenoff is a partner and Head of the Banking and Real Estate Groups. He is also a member of the Mergers & Acquisitions Group. Howard is a member of the Montréal Office Management Committee. With respect to real estate law, he has represented both lenders and borrowers in a variety of financing transactions, including syndicated loans, project financings and asset-based financings. Insofar as project financing is concerned, he has a particular expertise in the financing of films and television programs. His corporate and commercial law practice is focused on private mergers & acquisitions, equity financings, as well as corporate restructurings. In addition, he is experienced in production and distribution matters related to audio-visual works.

**RYAN, Barry J**
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 7799 bryan@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Counsel in Financial Services Group. Focus on financial institutions regulation, debt financings and credit restructurings. Acts for various foreign and domestic financial institutions with respect to a range of financial services regulatory applications and advice. Leading expertise in financial institution regulatory capital offerings and public sector pension plan debt financing, having acted recently as counsel on capital offerings by Bank of Montreal, Royal Bank, National Bank, Canadian Western Bank, Sunlife, Manulife, Intact, Empire Life, Industrial Alliance, OMERS, CPPIB and Ontario Pension Board, among others. Specific illustrative retainers: acted for syndicate of dealers on a new capital offering structure by Royal Bank of $1.75 billion Limited Recourse Capital Notes; for OMERS and OMERS Finance Trust on more than $6 billion of debt financings in the global and domestic capital and bank markets; for lenders on a commercial emergency liquidity facility to Home Capital; for Bruce Power on its multibillion dollar debt program in the bond and bank markets; for Big 5 Canadian banks in the $52 billion ABD Recourse restructuring. Acting for ten years for industry group consisting of major Canadian and foreign banks as well as institutional investors on Canadian derivatives regulatory reform.

**Career:** Ontario Bar, 1983

**SALE, Elizabeth**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto 416.862.6816 esale@osler.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Elizabeth specializes in the regulation of financial institutions and other financial service providers, including banks, foreign banks, captive finance companies, payday lenders, insurance companies, trust companies, loan companies, participants in the payment card industry and fintechs. She has expertise in federal and provincial consumer protection and cost of borrowing legislation, including the application of these laws in the online environment. Elizabeth assists clients with their retail product offerings. Elizabeth assists vehicle and equipment lessors and financers in developing and modernizing their customer-facing agreements and provides advice on motor vehicle dealer legislation. She also advises on debt collection, credit reporting, unclaimed property, anti-money laundering, anti-terrorism financing and sanctions laws.

**CARMICHAEL, Elizabeth**
Carmichael, Robinson, Minto, сhisholm, Mclain and Willi, Toronto +1 416 869 5953 ccrich@cassels.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Corporate, M&A, Leveraged Buyouts, Regulatory and Compliance, in the areas of Banking and Finance Law, Corporate, M&A, Leveraged Buyouts, Private Equity and Restructuring.

**RICH, Charles**
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto +1 416 869 5953 ccrich@cassels.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Practice focuses on secured and unsecured loan transactions and debt restructurings. Expertise in corporate & financial law matters including syndicated financings, asset-based lending, cannabis financing, seniors housing financing, subscription financings, cross-border transactions, receivables financing, acquisition and development financing, special project financings (including trusts, partnership and limited partnerships), and litigation finance. Acts for domestic and foreign banks, financial institutions, and other non-traditional lenders and as Canadian Counsel to numerous foreign law firms and corporations. Practice also includes security enforcement, workouts and insolvency/restructuring for financial institution and corporate clients.

**ROGERS, Jeffrey**
McMillan LLP, Toronto 416.865.7818 jeff.rogers@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Jeff Rogers is a partner in the firm’s Financial Services Group. He has extensive experience in all aspects of debt financing. Jeff acts for major Canadian and foreign financial institutions, pension funds, lending funds and borrowers

**SHATIRYAN, Vladimir**
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 3250 vshatiryan@blake.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Vladimir is a known expert in the regulation of financial institutions and other financial service providers in Canada. He advises on complex transactions involving regulated institutions, licensing and approvals, prudential and market conduct matters, compliance programs, resolution planning issues, regulatory capital and liquidity requirements, and other matters impacting the financial and payments industries. Vladimir is also an expert on Canada’s anti-money laundering and economic sanctions legislation.

**SHINFIELD, Jacqueline D**
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 3250 jshinfield@blake.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Jacqueline is co-head of Blake’s Financial Services Regulatory Group. Jacqueline’s practice focuses on all aspects of regulatory compliance in the retail financial services and payments industry both at the federal and provincial levels. She provides advice to regulated financial institutions, non-bank institutions, payday loan companies, money services businesses, foreign exchange dealers, mobile payments service providers, and digital currency exchanges. She has extensive experience providing advice in respect of Canada’s anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing legislation and Canadian sanctions legislation.

**Career:** Member of the Canada Advisory Board established by the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists; Finance Advisory Board for Practical Law – Canada; Advisory Board of Payments eXchange.

**TARDIF, Olivier**
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Montréal +1 (514) 954 2642 otardif@blg.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Olivier Tardif is a partner in the Financial Services Group of Borden Ladner Gervais LLP. His practice is focused on debt financings, structured financings and the regulation of financial institutions. Olivier represents financial institutions, including banks, and borrowers in connection with public and private financing, project financing, syndicated and cross-border loans and alternative financing through asset-based lending, leasing and structured finance. He also has extensive experience in advising clients on matters relating to banking law, consumer protection and anti-money laundering regulation.

**Career:** Quebec Bar, 2003, LLB, Université de Montréal, 2002 (Gold Medalist), Law clerk to the Honourable Marie Deschamps of the Supreme Court of Canada, 2003-2004.

**Professional Memberships:** Member, Securities Transactions Law Committee of the Quebec Bar.
TORREY, John W
Fasken, Toronto
+1 416 865 4394
jtorrey@fasken.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: One of Canada's most highly regarded lending lawyers, John Torrey has a practice focused exclusively on lending transactions. With experience in all areas of lending, John has particular expertise in project and acquisition financings and in all aspects of mine finance. John acts on behalf of both borrowers and lenders and has extensive experience with a broad range of financings in a broad range of industries. The mine finance practice of John and his colleagues is amongst the most active in Canada. John is supported by a team of talented and experienced colleagues allowing for consistently responsive and cost-effective representation. John regularly represents, or acts opposite, many, if not most, of the banks active in Canada. John is also very familiar with counsel active in this area. John’s familiarity with those active in Canadian lending consistently proves an asset in effective and efficient file management.

TROPAK, Nick
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary
403-260-9777
nick.tropak@blakes.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Nick’s practice focuses on banking, corporate lending, acquisition finance, project finance, transactional debt-related work and ongoing advisory services on completed transactions. He regularly acts on secured and unsecured debt financing transactions, syndicated loan transactions, cross-border financings, acquisition financings, project financings, note and bond deals, debt reorganizations, asset-based lending transactions, and intercreditor arrangements. Nick works primarily in the energy, oil and gas related service industries, power generation, renewable energy and on related construction and project development financing matters. He regularly acts on behalf of Canadian and foreign financial institutions and corporations in respect of their debt transactions.

VESEY, Derek
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6921
dvesey@dwpv.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Derek advises clients on a broad range of corporate matters, including banking, private equity, corporate finance, public-private partnership transactions, corporate reorganizations and general corporate matters. He works in close partnership with his clients, advising banks, private equity firms, manufacturing and service businesses of all sizes – in Canada, the United States, Europe and Asia. He has significant expertise advising on major syndicated credit facilities, acting for both borrowers and lenders. Derek regularly consults on public-private infrastructure projects and acts in diverse sectors, including real estate, manufacturing, consumer goods, mining, and renewable energy. Derek teaches the Advanced Business Law course at Osgoode Hall Law School and has also lectured at Western University and University of Toronto Faculty of Law. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; IFLR1000; Who’s Who Legal: Banking; Lexpert Special Edition: Energy, Finance and M&A and Infrastructure; The Best Lawyers in Canada.

ZVERINA, Tom
Torys LLP, Toronto
1 416 865 7674
tzverina@torys.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: With a broad background in debt financing, Tom’s significant experience in lending and financing matters is backed by a pragmatic approach that helps clients successfully execute high-stakes projects and complex domestic and international transactions. Tom’s diverse practice covers a wide range of debt financing work, including the financing of M&A transactions; wind, solar and hydro project financing; asset-backed loans; public and private debt securities; railcar financing; equipment leasing; reinsurance security arrangements and derivatives products. Tom is also regularly involved in creating and implementing innovative and unique tax-driven structured debt transactions, bringing deep market understanding and insight to his work.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Business & Human Rights Law
Nationwide Business & Human Rights Law

How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Business & Human Rights Law Nationwide

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BLG is a national law firm with a well-integrated international business and human rights team advising corporate clients on global supply chain management in accordance with various laws and standards, and the design and implementation of human rights policies and grievance mechanisms. The firm also provides risk advisory and dispute resolution services, and stands out for its thought leadership in Canada. The team works with state-owned entities, NGOs and domestic companies from sectors such as mining and food and beverages.

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken is a national law firm that is acknowledged for its representation of the resource and extractive sector in human rights issues in global supply chains. The Canada-based business and human rights team advises clients on the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles and also benefits from Fasken’s international presences in the UK and South Africa, with offices in London and Johannesburg. Its work further includes advising on frameworks and policies for responsible business, and assisting with dispute resolution.

Strengths "The firm’s strategic advice was always timely, very well researched and thorough."

Work highlights A Fasken team led by Brian Burkett and Chris Pigott continued to advise the Canadian Employers Council on various initiatives aiming to address human rights issues, such as the presence of forced labour in the global supply chain.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Michelle Henry is a key contact for clients.

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken is a national law firm that is acknowledged for its representation of the resource and extractive sector in human rights issues in global supply chains. The Canada-based business and human rights team advises clients on the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles and also benefits from Fasken’s international presences in the UK and South Africa, with offices in London and Johannesburg. Its work further includes advising on frameworks and policies for responsible business, and assisting with dispute resolution.

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Work highlights A Fasken team led by Brian Burkett and Chris Pigott continued to advise the Canadian Employers Council on various initiatives aiming to address human rights issues, such as the presence of forced labour in the global supply chain.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Michelle Henry is a key contact for clients.

Other Ranked Lawyers
Based in Toronto, Baker McKenzie partner Kevin Coon has a presence in human rights law that is international in scope. He provides clients with compliance advice relating to business and human rights as well as ESG, and has expertise in many areas including supply chains and forced labour.

Leaders’ Profiles in Business & Human Rights

BURKETT, Brian W
Fasken, Toronto
+1416-8856695
bburkett@fasken.com
Featured in Civil Liberties & Human Rights
(Nationwide – Canada, Employment (Ontario))
See under Employment & Labour for profile.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Cannabis Law
Cannabis Law

Leading Firms

Band 1
- Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
- Dentons Canada LLP
- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Band 2
- Aird & Berlis LLP
- Bennett Jones LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- McMillan LLP
- Torys LLP
- Band 3
- Fasken
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Weil, Deveell & LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1
- Dhillon Ranjeev McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Foster Eric Dentons Canada LLP
- Fraser Trina Biggar & Souris LLP (ORL)
- Sherman Jonathan Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
- Sonshine Aaron Bennett Jones LLP

Band 2
- Altshuler Sherri Aird & Berlis LLP
- Herger Jeff Weilbauer Delisle LLP
- Maurer Matt Tokin Manes LLP (ORL)
- McMahon Eileen M. Torys LLP
- Nyberg Corp. MTL Aikins LLP (ORL)
- Tseng Alice Smart & Biggar (ORL)

Band 3
- Balakrishnan Desmord McMillan LLP
- Chabai Rami McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Finkelstein Chad Dale & Lesman LLP (ORL)
- Forre Robert DLA Pilers Canada LLP (ORL)
- Simms Ben Gowlings WIG (Canadell) LLP (ORL)

Up-and-coming individuals
- Litchfield James Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
-

Practitioners to watch
- Sanders Matthew McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Leading Firms

Band 1
- Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

What the team is known for
Cassels Brock & Blackwell garner widespread market recognition as a pre-eminent firm operating in the cannabis industry in Canada. It offers a broad range of commercial advice to clients in the sector, with the group often identified for its skilful handling of financings and capital market matters for licensed producers. The firm is also active advising investors and investment firms on financings, as well as acting for underwriters.

Strengths
- "All team members share the same level of outstanding communication and commitment. The level of client service and knowledge on all subject matters is outstanding."
- "The Cassels team are problem solvers who are comfortable working on transactions for which there is no precedent."

Work highlights
- Assisted Canopy Growth with the CAD435 million acquisition of The Supreme Cannabis Company.

Notable practitioners
- Jonathan Sherman

Work highlights
- attracted praise for his extensive experience on M&A and securities mandates. Based in Toronto, he is the chair of the firm's cannabis group. "Jonathan is wonderful to work with — very collaborative, sensitive to commercial issues and a real problem solver." He is one of the best lawyers I've ever worked with. "Jamie Litchen (see p.47) is an up-and-coming lawyer in the cannabis space based in Toronto. She regularly advises companies on cross-border M&A transactions, as well as a variety of securities-related matters including public offerings and private placements.

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for
Dentons offers clients engaged in the cannabis sector in all manner of commercial advice, including in relation to M&A mandates, securities matters and licensing issues, among others. The team is particularly well regarded for its role in corporate financings. It frequently assists emerging companies with financings and IPOs, in addition to advising established companies on commercial and regulatory issues. The lawyers in Canada benefit from the firm's international network to advise clients on cross-border matters.

Strengths
- "The team provides a practical, thorough, responsive and business-minded service."
- "Dentons possesses expertise across a variety of industries and a strong bench strength to back up the senior partners."

Work highlights
- Advised the cannabis company on its US$545 million acquisition by TerrAscend.

Notable practitioners
- Head of Dentons' Canadian cannabis practice, Eric Foster frequently represents established cannabis companies in corporate financing and transactional matters. Based in Toronto, he also assists clients with regulatory and licensing matters. "He is a tremendously skilled lawyer with great instincts." "Eric Foster has extremely good client attentiveness. He is also flexible and has a seamless practice."

Band 2
- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a full-service law firm with a good reputation in the cannabis space in Canada. It regularly acts for emerging companies and larger organisations on both corporate transactions and regulatory work, including advertising and marketing matters. The team also advises established businesses on their involvement in the sector and the implications of legalisation.

Strengths
- "I view this firm as a one-stop shop that always has the expertise and bandwidth to assist with complex matters."
- "Blakes has a strong understanding of the Canadian cannabis regulatory framework and landscape."

Work highlights
- Advised Blakes team led by Richard Turner on its investment in RIV Capital by way of a USD150 million unsecured convertible note.

Notable practitioners
- Kathleen Keilty in Vancouver and Tricia Kuhl in Montreal are key contacts for clients.

Band 3
- Aird & Berlis LLP

What the team is known for
Aird & Berlis boasts a well-regarded Toronto-based team that frequently advises companies seeking to expand their footprint in the cannabis sector. The firm is adept at handling an array of corporate issues from tax to corporate governance, as well as capital markets mandates. Its clients include producers and distributors, among other stakeholders. The team's expertise covers a range of medicinal and recreational products, including edibles and beverages.

Strengths
- "Aird & Berlis has a strong team of subject matter experts who provide a high level of consistent and quality service."
- "Everyone I have worked with at Aird & Berlis has been thoroughly knowledgeable on a wide variety of subject matters."

Work highlights

Notable practitioners
- Toronto-based Sherri Altshuler offers expertise to cannabis sector clients across a wide array of transactional mandates. She is co-chair of Aird & Berlis' cannabis group. "Sherri is exceptional in every way and is an integral part of the legal support function for our company."

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for
Bennett Jones is a notable law firm with a longstanding reputation in the cannabis industry. It acts for companies and other stakeholders on mergers and acquisitions, financings and IPOs, with particular strength in its Toronto office. The team also assists clients in the space with their intellectual property.
**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for: McCarthy Tétrault regularly represents producers, distributors and lenders in a wide array of transactions in the cannabis sector, including M&A and corporate financing. The team is noted for its experienced handling of cross-border and international mandates, with its Canadian lawyers supported by the firm’s offices in the UK and USA. It also advises on regulatory matters and dispute resolution.

Strengths: “McCarthy Tétrault is my first call for complex Canadian cannabis regulatory and corporate questions.”

The firm is able to draw on its experience as an active participant in the market to provide strategic advice that adds significant value to our business.

Work highlights: McCarthy Tétrault represented Sundial Growers in its CAD131 million acquisition of Inner Spirit Holdings.

**Notable practitioners**

Ranjeev Dhillon (see p.47) is able to provide regulatory and transactional advice to an impressive array of established cannabis companies, as well as new entrants to the sector. He is based in Toronto. “Ranjeev delivers unparalleled client service and is an invaluable resource to our business. He has a deep understanding of the cannabis sector and great technical skills.” “He is an exceptional lawyer, unmatched in his understanding of all cannabis stakeholders.”

Toronto-based Rami Chalabi (see p.47) has a wealth of experience advising clients on M&A, joint ventures and securities matters within the cannabis sector. “Rami is my first call for any cross-border cannabis transactions in Canada.” “Rami is an excellent commercial lawyer with deep regulatory expertise. He provides us with great strategic counsel and we rely on him for our most critical mandates.”

Matthew Sanders (see p.47) stands out for his work across an impressive number of cannabis-related transactions. Based in Toronto, he provides assistance with M&A and joint venture agreements, as well as the licensing and marketing of new products. “Matthew Sanders goes above and beyond to meet the clients’ requirements and needs.”

**McMillan LLP**

What the team is known for: McMillan advises on both commercial and regulatory matters in the cannabis space. The firm is highlighted for its involvement in major corporate transactions within the industry in Canada. It also provides related licensing, branding and IP advice.

Strengths: “The team at McMillan is extremely responsive and attentive to our needs.”

Work highlights: A McMillan team advised Iragnic Brands on its acquisition of Californian cannabis company LEEF.

**Notable practitioners**

Desmond Balakrishnan (see p.47) offers significant expertise in M&A, corporate financing and securities matters in the cannabis sector. He is based in Vancouver.

**Torys LLP**

What the team is known for: Torys is highlighted for its strength in the life sciences sector and experience in medical marijuana, as well as offering notable expertise in food and drug regulatory matters. The firm assists companies of all sizes with commercial matters connected with their ventures in the cannabis sector, such as corporate transactions and intellectual property. The Toronto-based team also assists lenders with financings in the space.

Strengths: “They understand the industry landscape, and are thorough and easy to work with.”

Work highlights: A Torys team advised IM Cannabis on its acquisition of MYM Nutraceuticals.

**Notable practitioners**

Eileen McMahon (see p.259) draws upon her wealth of experience handling intellectual property and regulatory matters to provide support to cannabis sector clients. Based in Toronto, she is the chair of the firm’s food and drug regulatory practice. “Eileen shows a high level of sophistication in her approach to evaluating and proposing approaches to resolving a matter.” “She is a pleasure to deal with and has strong industry experience.”

**Fasken**

What the team is known for: The team at Fasken is noted for its transactional expertise in the cannabis sector, regularly advising on M&A and a range of securities-related deals. Clients also benefit from the regulatory and IP expertise at the firm.

Strengths: “The team at Fasken has a very practical approach and thinks outside the box.”

“I value the team’s ability to consider complex issues and provide practical solutions.”

Work highlights: Fasken advised Aphria on its CAD$5 billion merger with Tilray.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Barbara Miller is a key contact.

**Norton Rose Fullbright**

What the team is known for: Norton Rose Fullbright has a notable team offering strength across both domestic and cross-border mandates arising within the cannabis sector in Canada. It is frequently retained to act on regulatory compliance and M&A mandates, as well as advertising and marketing issues.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Andrea Brewer is a key contact.

**Wildeboer Dellelce LLP**

What the team is known for: Wildeboer Dellelce is a Toronto-based corporate finance and M&A boutique with a good reputation for its handling of commercial matters for clients in the cannabis industry. It is highlighted for its effectiveness in assisting smaller companies with their growth and initial listings. The team is also noted for its involvement in corporate financings in the space, where it often acts on behalf of independent banks and underwriters.

Strengths: Wildeboer Dellelce has proven to be a one-stop shop for our legal needs.” “The team possesses a diligent attention to detail and always provides practical, business-minded solutions.”

Work highlights: Wildeboer Dellelce acted for Terra Vida on its USD125 million acquisition by Verano Holdings.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Toronto-based Chad Finkielstein of Dale & Lessmann LLP is an accomplished franchising lawyer who regularly acts for retailers active in the cannabis industry. Robert Fonn of DLA Piper (Canada) LLP acts on a broad array of corporate mandates in the cannabis industry, including cross-border and international M&A transactions. Based in the firm’s Toronto office, he also advises on capital raising and debt financings. “Robert really understands complex and sophisticated matters.”

Trina Fraser of Braceau Seller LLP enjoys a strong reputation for her market-leading understanding of cannabis regulatory law. She is based in Ottawa. “She is extremely knowledgeable about both the medical and recreational frameworks, and she actively engages with the cannabis community online.”

Matt Maurer of Torkin Manes LLP regularly acts for retailers in the cannabis sector on licensing and transactional matters. He also provides regulatory advice and is co-chair of the firm’s cannabis practice. “Matt has a keen eye on how the sector is evolving and is able to blend in his legal skill with a lens to the commercial elements of the sector.” “He is pragmatic, proactive and a great lawyer.”

Chris Nyberg is lauded for his deep knowledge of cannabis regulations and their impact on transactions. He moved to MTL Aikins in June 2022. “He has a deep knowledge of Canadian cannabis regulations and is in tune with the latest trends and developments in the regulatory landscape.” “Chris is very commercially aware and able to distil regulatory matters into business sound principles.”

Peter Simeon of Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP assists clients from the cannabis industry with transactional mandates, including M&A, joint venture agreements and public offerings. He also advises on intellectual property matters. “Peter consistently provides solutions to complex matters.”

Alice Tseng (see p.260) of Smart & Biggar frequently provides regulatory counsel to clients in the cannabis sector. She draws praise for her intellectual property expertise. “Alice is an excellent cannabis lawyer. When I work with her, she is outstanding in every capacity.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Cannabis Law

BALAKRISHNAN, Desmond
McMillan LLP, Vancouver
607 691-7462
desmond.balakrishnan@mcmillan.com
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Des Balakrishnan is a partner in McMillan’s Corporate Finance/Securities practice and co-chair of McMillan’s Cannabis Practice Group. In addition to cannabis law, his areas of practice include investments, public offerings, new listings, mergers, acquisitions, listed company maintenance, gaming, entertainment and hospitality law. Des has also acted as counsel on new issues and listings on all Canadian stock exchanges and inter-listings with several international exchanges – for domestic and foreign entities alike. Des’ cannabis clients include public and private Canadian and foreign companies as well as financial services providers, such as asset management and investment funds. Des is highly sought after for his cannabis law expertise and has been advising on some of Canada’s largest and precedent-setting transactions to date.

CHALABI, Rami
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416-601-8125
rchalabi@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Rami Chalabi is a partner in the firm’s Business Law Group in Toronto and member of the firm’s national Cannabis Group. He has a dynamic practice focused on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, joint ventures and strategic alliances. Rami acts in both the Canadian and cross-border context. Rami advises a range of clients across the cannabis industry and is resolute in helping them identify and pursue strategic growth opportunities, and advising them on their capital markets needs. From emerging companies to large publicly traded issuers, Rami is trusted by clients to understand their business needs and defend their interests with pragmatic and strategic counsel.
Career: Ontario Bar, 2011 Adjunct professor at the University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law, teaching “Cannabis Law and Practice”.

DHILLON, Ranjeet
McCarty Tétrault LLP, Toronto
(416) 601-8527
rdhillon@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Ranjeet is a partner and Co-Head of McCarthy Tétrault’s national Cannabis Law Group. He helps clients successfully navigate the evolving dynamic cannabis market in Canada and abroad, advising in a broad range of corporate and commercial matters, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, debt and equity financings, public listings (ROPs and RTOs), private equity and venture capital transactions, corporate governance matters including acting for special committees, shareholders’ arrangements, corporate reconstructions, regulatory matters, public markets matters and distribution and supply agreements. He has worked on a number of the most significant mandates in the sector and has been featured in numerous articles and interviews at conferences across Canada and internationally in the US and the UK and is ranked by various rating services for his work in the cannabis sector. Ranjeet represents “plant touching” and “non-plant touching” public, private, domestic and international clients including new entrants into the cannabis sector, with international experience in the US, UK, continental Europe, South America, Africa and Australia.

HURGOTT, Jeff
Wildeboer Dellelce LLP, Toronto
416-361-4783
jhurgott@wildeo.ca
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jeff Hergott is a partner at Wildeboer Dellelce LLP practising in the areas of corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions and corporate commercial law. Jeff has experience representing issuers, investment dealers and other stakeholders in a wide variety of capital markets and M&A transactions. Jeff regularly advises clients on both public offerings and private placements of equity and debt securities. Jeff’s M&A experience includes advising clients in respect of public and private share and asset acquisitions, mergers, takeovers and joint ventures and also includes advising clients in connection with going-public transactions. Jeff also routinely works with start-up and growth companies through all segments of their life cycle from formation, through various rounds of financings and eventual exit via capital market transactions or private sales. Jeff takes a collaborative approach to working with entrepreneurs. Jeff represents a range of cannabis industry participants including licensed producers and applicants, retail participants, and a range of ancillary service providers. Jeff has acted as lead counsel in a variety of transactions, including advising Tokyo Smoke with its early stage financings, through its public listing and ultimately its sale to Canopy Growth Corporation. Firm mandates that Jeff has been involved with include: • Acted as Canadian legal counsel to each of Terra Vida and the licensee in its US$125 million acquisition. • Acted for Apothecanna in its acquisition by HempFusion Wellness Inc. for US$25 million. • Acted for Invu Naturals Inc., a leading herbal supplement company in the United States and a large distributor of CBD products in mass-market and health food chain stores, in its reverse takeover transaction by Datinvest International Ltd. • Acted for The Flowr Corporation, a Toronto headquartered cannabis company with operations in Canada and Portugal, in its $15.9 million bought deal financing, at-the-market financing and a private placement and various commercial agreements. • Acted for The Flowr Corporation in connection with its disposition of Helogen Holdings Inc., a cannabis producer with operations in Portugal. • Acting for a number of private federally licensed producers and provincially regulated cannabis retailers. • Acted for the underwriters in Harvest One Cannabis Inc., a uniquely positioned cannabis-infused CPG leader, in its $57.5 million bought deal public offering.

LITCHEN, Jamie
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 869 5328
jlitchen@cassels.com
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jamie Litchen is a partner at Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP with a focus on corporate and commercial matters. Jamie has experience advising both early-stage and large scale cannabis companies in connection with going-public transactions. Jamie has a broad range of corporate and commercial experience, including mergers and acquisitions, public listings (IPOs and RTOs), private placements, public listings, mergers, takeovers and joint ventures, and debt securities. Jeff’s M&A experience includes advising Tokyo Smoke with its early stage financings, through its public listing and ultimately its sale to Canopy Growth Corporation. Firm mandates that Jeff has been involved with include: • Acted as Canadian legal counsel to each of Terra Vida and the licensee in its US$125 million acquisition. • Acted for Apothecanna in its acquisition by HempFusion Wellness Inc. for US$25 million. • Acted for Invu Naturals Inc., a leading herbal supplement company in the United States and a large distributor of CBD products in mass-market and health food chain stores, in its reverse takeover transaction by Datinvest International Ltd. • Acted for The Flowr Corporation, a Toronto headquartered cannabis company with operations in Canada and Portugal, in its $15.9 million bought deal financing, at-the-market financing and a private placement and various commercial agreements. • Acted for The Flowr Corporation in connection with its disposition of Helogen Holdings Inc., a cannabis producer with operations in Portugal. • Acting for a number of private federally licensed producers and provincially regulated cannabis retailers. • Acted for the underwriters in Harvest One Cannabis Inc., a uniquely positioned cannabis-infused CPG leader, in its $57.5 million bought deal public offering.

SANDERS, Matthew
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Matthew Sanders is an associate in the firm’s Business Law Group in Toronto and is a key member of the firm’s national Cannabis Law Group. Matthew has experience advising both public and private clients in the global cannabis industry with a wide range of matters, including mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance transactions, joint ventures and strategic alliances, and other complex commercial arrangements. Additionally, he has significant experience advising cannabis industry participants in relation to Canadian federal, provincial and municipal regulatory compliance, both in the context of corporate/commercial transactions and general business strategy. Prior to practising law, and as early as 2015, Matthew worked in both business and legal capacities with multiple publicly traded licensed cannabis producers. Matthew leverages his institutional experience and knowledge, as well as his industry relationships, to provide the most practical and business-minded advice possible to the firm’s clients and to create new business opportunities.
Career: Ontario Bar, 2019 Adjunct professor at the University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law, teaching “Cannabis Law and Practice”.

TSENGL, Alice
Smart & Biggar, Ottawa
416-798-0005
atsen@smartbiggar.ca
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Alice Tseung advises public companies, private companies, and investment dealers. Regularly called upon as a thought leader by journalists, conferences, and academic institutions.

TSENG, Alice
Smart & Biggar, Ottawa
416-798-0005
atsen@smartbiggar.ca
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Alice Tseung advises public companies, private companies, and investment dealers. Regularly called upon as a thought leader by journalists, conferences, and academic institutions.

SHERMAN, Jonathan
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416-869-5409
jsherman@cassels.com
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Chair of the Cassels Cannabis Group and member of the firm’s Executive Committee. Valued by clients as a strategic legal and business advisor, Jonathan represents industry leaders as well as early-stage emerging companies. Trusted by clients to negotiate and implement complex and innovative cross-border transaction structures. Significant experience in mergers and acquisitions, go-public transactions, corporate finance, venture capital financing, joint ventures, and other commercial transactions. Advises public companies, private companies, and investment dealers. Regularly called upon as a thought leader by journalists, conferences, and academic institutions.

SANDERS, Matthew
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Matthew Sanders is an associate in the firm’s Business Law Group in Toronto and is a key member of the firm’s national Cannabis Law Group. Matthew has experience advising both public and private clients in the global cannabis industry with a wide range of matters, including mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance transactions, joint ventures and strategic alliances, and other complex commercial arrangements. Additionally, he has significant experience advising cannabis industry participants in relation to Canadian federal, provincial and municipal regulatory compliance, both in the context of corporate/commercial transactions and general business strategy. Prior to practising law, and as early as 2015, Matthew worked in both business and legal capacities with multiple publicly traded licensed cannabis producers. Matthew leverages his institutional experience and knowledge, as well as his industry relationships, to provide the most practical and business-minded advice possible to the firm’s clients and to create new business opportunities.
Career: Ontario Bar, 2019 Adjunct professor at the University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Law, teaching “Cannabis Law and Practice”.

SHERMAN, Jonathan
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416-869-5409
jsherman@cassels.com
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Chair of the Cassels Cannabis Group and member of the firm’s Executive Committee. Valued by clients as a strategic legal and business advisor, Jonathan represents industry leaders as well as early-stage emerging companies. Trusted by clients to negotiate and implement complex and innovative cross-border transaction structures. Significant experience in mergers and acquisitions, go-public transactions, corporate finance, venture capital financing, joint ventures, and other commercial transactions. Advises public companies, private companies, and investment dealers. Regularly called upon as a thought leader by journalists, conferences, and academic institutions.

TSENGL, Alice
Smart & Biggar, Ottawa
416-798-0005
atsen@smartbiggar.ca
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Alice Tseung advises public companies, private companies, and investment dealers. Regularly called upon as a thought leader by journalists, conferences, and academic institutions.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Capital Markets
## Capital Markets: Nationwide

### Leading Firms

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### Leading Individuals

#### Band 1

- **Marc MacMullin** (see p.53) maintains his standing as one of the most prominent securities lawyers in Toronto, serving as the head of the firm’s national financial services group. Alongside his knowledge of securitisation, he has significant experience in broader debt and equity matters such as high-value bond issuances. “He’s an excellent counsel one could count on.” “He’s one of the best lawyers. He’s very knowledgeable.” **Andrew Parker** (see p.54) is an esteemed Toronto-based capital markets practitioner. He is particularly valued by underwriter clients for his strong track record acting on high-value debt offerings. “He’s an excellent, experienced lawyer who has a great level of expertise. I rate him really highly.” “He’s really great. We see him routinely and he’s got a good reputation.” **Patrick Boucher** (see p.110) maintains a strong practice out of Montréal which sees him representing investment banks and underwriter syndicates in private offerings and placements. He co-leads the firm’s national capital markets practice. He’s one of the leaders in the equity and debt market in Montréal, I see him on the market.” Based in Toronto, **Jo-Anna Brimmer** (see p.52) focuses her practice on securitisation, with additional experience in covered bond transactions. Her securitisation work includes trade receivables, residential mortgages and auto and equipment loans and leases. “She’s efficient and effective in handling all dealings.” “I feel confident in a successful outcome whenever she is my counsel. She is a talented lawyer who brings a strong breadth of experience to each deal she works on.” **Dean Masse**

#### Band 2

- **Andison Tim Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**
- **Innes Michael Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
- **Lee Desmond Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
- **Nordick D’Arcy Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Parker Andrew McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

#### Band 3

- **Boucher Patrick McCarthy Tétrault LLP**
- **Carelli Robert Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Johnson Glen R. Torys LLP**
- **Murphy Robert Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**
- **Wilson David Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

### Leading Individuals: Up-and-coming individuals

- **Hunter Rosalind Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
- **Shea Dan Dentons Canada LLP**

### Capital Markets: Debt & Equity

#### Band 1

- **Andison Tim Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**
- **Innes Michael Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
- **Lee Desmond Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
- **Nordick D’Arcy Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Parker Andrew McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

#### Band 2

- **Boucher Patrick McCarthy Tétrault LLP**
- **Carelli Robert Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Johnson Glen R. Torys LLP**
- **Murphy Robert Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**
- **Wilson David Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

#### Band 3

- **Cochlan Scott Torys LLP**
- **Gingrich Sarah Fasken**
- **Gorman Bill Goodmans LLP**
- **Grewal Ramandeep Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Ramchandani Rima Torys LLP**
- **Seville David Torys LLP**
- **Up-and-coming individuals**
  - **Hunter Rosalind Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
  - **Shea Dan Dentons Canada LLP**

### Capital Markets: Securitisation

#### Band 1

- **Andison Tim Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**
- **Innes Michael Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
- **Lee Desmond Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
- **Nordick D’Arcy Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Parker Andrew McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

#### Band 2

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- **Grewal Ramandeep Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Ramchandani Rima Torys LLP**
- **Seville David Torys LLP**
- **Up-and-coming individuals**
  - **Hunter Rosalind Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**
  - **Shea Dan Dentons Canada LLP**

### Capital Markets: Securitisation

#### Senior Solicitors

- **Feldman Michael K. Torys LLP**

#### Leading Individuals

#### Band 1

- **MacMullin Marc J McCarthy Tétrault LLP**
- **Boucher Patrick McCarthy Tétrault LLP**
- **Carelli Robert Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Johnson Glen R. Torys LLP**
- **Murphy Robert Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**
- **Wilson David Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

#### Band 2

- **Boucher Patrick McCarthy Tétrault LLP**
- **Carelli Robert Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Johnson Glen R. Torys LLP**
- **Murphy Robert Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**
- **Wilson David Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

#### Band 3

- **Cochlan Scott Torys LLP**
- **Gingrich Sarah Fasken**
- **Gorman Bill Goodmans LLP**
- **Grewal Ramandeep Stikeman Elliott LLP**
- **Ramchandani Rima Torys LLP**
- **Seville David Torys LLP**
- **Up-and-coming individuals**
  - **Jackson Adam Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**
  - **Rumball James G. Bennett Jones LLP**

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#### How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine ranking)

include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.
Work highlights Olser advised the underwriters on Telus’ sustainability-linked bond offering valued at CAD750 million.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based co-chair of the firm’s capital markets group, Michael Innes (see p.53) routinely acts for leading Canadian underwriters and companies on high-value debt offerings. “He’s able to understand client needs and perspectives and also provide a depth of experience to make the process as efficient as possible.” He provides excellent, practical and timely advice. “He’s been a stalwart in the bond market for many years in Canada.” Desmond Lee (see p.53) maintains a strong reputation for representing market-leading underwriters in significant public offerings. Based out of Toronto, he has further experience working with REITs. “He is incredibly honest, hard-working and responsive. I always know that we will get top-quality advice and can work with Desmond.” Desmond has been on a lot of IPOs. He deserves that spot and is a marquee name. Toronto-based lawyer Richard Fullerton (see p.52) is a seasoned capital markets practitioner. He regularly acts for single and multi-seller securitisation conduits. “He provides directional guidance and solutions to issues and considerations.” He’s very commercial, picks out the important points and deals with those. “He’s very visible and very practical. He’s user-friendly to both sides.” Rosalind Hunter (see p.53) acts for REITs as well as a range of large corporates on public offerings and private placements. She continues to enhance her market standing, working from the firm’s Toronto office. “She is accessible, knowledgeable and well spoken. She’s great to work with.” “She’s a safe pair of hands.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott has an esteemed team of securities practitioners who are routinely involved in some of Canada’s largest debt and equity capital markets offerings. The group also provides complementary expertise in derivatives and securitisation matters, as well as significant experience of issuer-side IPO representation and debt issuances. The practice offers additional experience in sophisticated, complex REITs transactions, as well as cross-border offerings, routinely acting for leading Canadian underwriters, banks and corporations. The firm has broad national coverage, with a particularly substantial presence in Toronto and Montréal.

Strengths “It’s rare to find lawyers that can bridge the law and practical solutions in a way that Stikeman Elliott can.” “They’re pragmatic and take initiative.” “We can rely on and trust the advice they provide – they make us really comfortable in everything we work on with them. They’re very aware, very focused on all parties and always give the right advice.” “They are a very creative and commercial team that provides practical advice.”

Work highlights Stikeman represented Softchoice Corporation in its IPO valued at CAD1.2 billion.

Notable practitioners D’Arcy Nordick (see p.53) is a Toronto-based lawyer who comes highly recommended for his expertise across a range of debt-related issues, particularly in regard to complex and novel bond offerings. “He’s a top-notch lawyer. He’s practical, commercial and always explains the issues and risk in a simple way and proposes helpful solutions.” He’s very creative and commercial in his work. You can’t go wrong with him.” “He’s extremely experienced, personable and easy to get along with.” Robert Carelli (see p.111) wins recognition for his strong capital markets practice across Canada, operating from his base in Montréal. He is particularly well versed in transactions involving initial public offerings. “He can always be counted on as a pragmatic, strategic and client-friendly adviser.” “He’s the one who takes a practical approach.” Toronto-based Ramandeep Grewal (see p.52) provides counsel to a client base which includes leading investment banks and dealers in Canada. She has experience acting on both domestic and international securities offerings. Mark McElderry (see p.53) has a wide-ranging corporate practice which sees him engaged on issues of structured finance as well as public and private securitisation transactions. He is based in Stikeman Elliott’s Toronto office. “He’s capable and easy to work with.”

Band 2

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a respected law firm in the capital markets space in Canada, highly regarded for its representation of issuer and underwriter clients in big-ticket IPOs and secondary offerings. The firm also possesses deep expertise in DCM mandates and special-purpose acquisition corporation (SPAC) transactions. The team has notable proficiency in assisting with securitisation transactions, as well as matters involving novel security instruments. It demonstrates significant capabilities in corporate financings and securities compliance matters. The firm’s broad-ranging client base means its deal sheet includes offerings in the transportation, energy and hi-tech sectors, among others.

Strengths “They are able to deal with sophisticated matters from a legal perspective. They do it in a business-friendly way. They give practical, usable advice.” “I’m not looking for memos and ten opinions. I need efficient and quick advice, and they’ve been easy to work with. They’re an extension of me as general counsel.” “They are cognisant of tight timelines and client requests.”

Work highlights Blake’s represented Definity in its IPO on the Toronto Stock Exchange valued at CAD1.6 billion.

Notable practitioners Tim Andison (see p.52) is a seasoned capital markets lawyer based in Blake, Cassels & Graydon’s Toronto office. He has expertise in numerous debt and equity concerns, including IPOs, follow-on equity offerings and transactions involving high-yield bonds. “I always find that Tim’s practical nature and hard work ethic make for a fair and constructive negotiation as we collectively work in the best interest of all stakeholders.” Michael Burke (see p.52) is a high-yield debt specialist. “He’s a high-yield debt specialist.” Toronto-based lawyer Michael Burke (see p.52) is well regarded for his work on asset-backed lending and leasing, which forms part of his broader securitisation practice. His clientele includes sellers, purchasers, credit enhancers and liquidity lenders. “He’s always willing to talk through an issue.”

Davies WardPhillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg provides sophisticated guidance to underwriters, issuers and private equity investors involved in complex capital markets transactions and financings across various sectors including mining, telecommunications and retail. The team demonstrates notable aptitude for cross-border and multi-jurisdictional mandates, with areas of focus including cross-border IPOs, private offerings and issuances of public debt. The firm regularly acts for large institutional clients in Quebec, and clients further benefit from its well-reputed tax practice.

Strengths “The team is very responsive, thoughtful and practical in their consideration and advice to us.” “Davies generally has a very pragmatic approach which is commercially sensible. This is probably their greatest strength.” “They are always available and juggle several transactions very effectively.”

Work highlights Davies acted for the underwriters in Definity’s CAD1.6 billion IPO in Toronto.

Notable practitioners Robert Murphy (see p.53) is a highly regarded Toronto-based capital markets practitioner whose experience extends to a variety of domestic and cross-border capital markets transactions, including those involving MJDS concerns. He acts for a number of major Canadian financial institutions in their role as underwriters. “He’s a pleasure to work with and provides sound legal advice.” “His depth of knowledge in complex debt financings is really unparalleled. He’s very easy to work with and is always available.” David Wilson (see p.54) is particularly well known for his work on fixed-income offerings as part of a broader practice involving debt and equity issues. He operates out of Toronto. “David is our trusted counsel for securities law.” “He helped bridge the gap with our counterparty who thought much less commercially.”

Torys LLP

What the team is known for Torys is home to a leading capital markets team and is recognised as one of the pre-eminent advisers on Canadian securities offerings, with a client list that includes public and private companies, as well as investment banks. The team assists both issuers and underwriters across a range of sectors, including financial services, energy and technology, and is highly active on the equity side. The practice also possesses considerable debt capital markets expertise, covering debentures, note programmes and high-yield debt. Other areas of success include private placements and PIPEs. The firm’s clients benefit from the support of its New York office to advise on cross-border transactions.

Strengths “The Torys team are experts and we trust their judgement in complex situations.” “The team was always available on short notice to discuss matters and provide thoughtful input.” “Torys understand our commercial objectives and strive to deliver advice that will allow us to meet such objectives, while also taking into consideration legal and regulatory constraints.”

Work highlights Torys represented Sun Life Financial on two issuances of bonds valued at CAD1 billion and CAD2 billion.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based Michael Feldman (see p.52) is a...
Goodmans LLP
What the team is known for Goodmans is a Toronto law firm offering a distinguished practice valued for advising major REITs and financial institutions on innovative capital markets transactions. The group offers notable expertise in SPACs and IPOs, with additional recognition acting on DCM mandates, such as debenture issuances. The team demonstrates considerable experience in a range of sectors including media and telecommunications, and healthcare.

Strengths “They have a good team of very experienced lawyers who know the process. They have great business acumen and commercial awareness.”
“They’re very entrepreneurial in their culture.”
“They’re available at any time as needed and provide pragmatic advice on complex topics.”

Work highlights Goodmans acted for Subversive on its IPO on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Notable practitioners Well-established Toronto-based lawyer Bill Gorman (see p.52) represents companies from a variety of industry sectors in public offerings and private placements. His clientele includes issuers and underwriters. “He has a good reputation as a securities lawyer.”

Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright advises a diverse client base on a wide spectrum of capital markets transactions straddling a range of industry sectors including energy, mining, technology and aviation. The firm’s Canadian lawyers are well versed in debt and equity securities matters, with noteworthy experience assisting underwriters and issuers with complex financing mandates. The group is also noted for its strength in covered bonds, with supplementary proficiency in tax-related matters. The firm possesses a broad and deep pool of resources to call upon from its international network of offices.

Strengths “The firm’s reputation in the market is really strong and they provide us with a high degree of comfort. They take more of a practical approach.”
“They’re always responsive and went over and beyond the normal service levels expected.”

Work highlights Norton Rose advised a syndicate of underwriters on TC Energy Corporation’s CAD500 million bond offering.

Notable practitioners Andrea Brewer, Kirsty Sklar and Elliot Shapiro, based in Toronto, Calgary and Montréal respectively, are important contacts in the practice.

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for Bennett Jones operates a notable practice representing company and underwriter-side clients in a variety of capital markets transactions, arising out of sectors including mining, energy and life sciences. The firm has a strong track record in public offerings and private placements, with additional experience in equity distribution agreements. The practice is able to assist clients with both domestic and cross-border financial mandates. Its lawyers are based in Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver.

Strengths “They can staff matters really quickly, they know the technical law and can give you practical advice beyond the standard aspects.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones represented MEG Energy in its private bonds placement valued at USD600 million.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based lawyer James Rumball has notable experience in transactions involving asset-based and secured lending. His practice extends to derivatives, with a client roster featuring a number of financial institutions and borrowers. “Jim is a great lawyer and a pleasure to work with.”

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for Dentons Canada is well regarded for its work on behalf of dealers and underwriters across the spectrum of capital markets transactions, including IPOs, high-yield bond offerings and private placements. It enjoys a particularly strong reputation for assisting clients from the cannabis and energy industries. The team can draw upon the firm’s considerable international capabilities on a range of cross-border capital market deals.

Strengths “Denton’s team are problem solvers, not problem creators. When they uncover a potentially challenging issue, they always propose a potential solution.”
“They state the facts and work to get a solution. They’re very creative at coming up with options using commercial methods.”
“They’re very responsive and offer a great work product. They understand our business and their advice is tailored for what we’re after.”

Work highlights Dentons acted for the agents in Enbridge’s dual-tranche bond offering valued at CAD1.5 billion.

Notable practitioners Dan Shea is an emerging capital markets lawyer in Dentons’ Calgary office. His practice sees him engaged by underwriters and companies on high-yield and hybrid bond offerings. “He provides great service and is highly attentive to transactions. He’s a problem solver.”
“Dan is very commercial and results-oriented. He’s focused on achieving his client’s goals.”

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken is a highly respected law firm that is recognised as a strong player in the field of securities offerings in Canada. Its capital markets clients include underwriter syndicates, investment banks and agents. The group has significant experience in a range of capital markets concerns, including structured note programmes, as well as IPOs and secondary offerings.

Strengths “They are practical and have a good sense of the practical application of the law and how it works in the context of a business transaction.”

Work highlights Fasken acted for the placing agents in the private debt offering of Alimentation Couche-Tard consisting of two tranches valued at USD650 million and USD350 million.

Notable practitioners Sarah Gingrich (see p.52) is a capital markets lawyer who assists clients with a variety of securities matters. She is based in Calgary. “She’s practical, genuinely interested in what we do and gives us the best advice possible.”
“Shes took time to understand our business and culture.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Capital Markets

ANDISON, Tim
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 2654
tim.andison@blakes.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Tim’s practice focuses on a wide variety of M&A and debt and equity capital markets transactions, including initial public offerings (IPOs), high-yield and other debt offerings, restructurings, and liability-management transactions. He has acted for numerous underwriters, issuers, financial sponsors, lenders and borrowers based in Canada, the United States, South America, Europe and Asia.

Career: Tim is recognized as a leading lawyer in all major directories and publications.

BOUCHER, Patrick
McCarty Tetrault LLP, Montréal +1 514 397 4237
pboucher@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada, Corporate/Commercial (Quebec)) See under Corporate/M&A for profile.

BRIMMER, Jo-Anna
McCarty Tetrault LLP, Toronto +1 416-601-8102
jbrimmer@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Firm’s Business Law Group. She has a structured finance, restructuring, insolvency, and capital markets practice with a focus on securitization, covered bonds and debt capital markets transactions. Her recent cross-border transactional experience includes public and private securitization transactions covering a variety of asset classes, including auto and equipment loans and leases, dealer floorplan loans, HVAC and water heater rental contracts and trade receivables. She has also advised a number of Canadian financial institutions on the establishment of covered bond programmes and related international regulatory issues. Regularly acts for issuers and underwriters in connection with public securities offerings and private placements, including secured and unsecured bond and limited recourse capital notes offerings.


Professional Memberships: A member of the Structured Finance Association.

BURKE, Michael E
Torys LLP, Toronto +1 416-862-4604
mfeldman@torys.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael focuses on international matters in the securities and asset-based lending/leasing areas and on the development and modernization of wholesale and retail (consumer) lending/leasing programs for vehicle and equipment lessors, financiers and suppliers. Advises sellers, purchasers, issuers, conduits and other market participants in connection with domestic and cross-border securitization transactions covering a wide range of asset classes.

Career: Michael is recognized as a leading lawyer in the major legal directories and ranking publications.

Professional Memberships: Michael is the longest-serving chair of the Ontario Bar Association’s Personal Property Security Law Committee, a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Lenders Association, a former board member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Finance and Leasing Association (CFLA), a member of CFLA’s Legal Committee, a member of the Board of Regents of the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers, and a member of the U.S. Equipment Leasing and Finance Association’s (ELFA) International Subcommittee and other ELFA subcommittees. Michael is an adjunct professor at University of Toronto Faculty of Law, where he co-teaches the secured transactions course.

CARLETTI, Robert
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal (514) 379-2408
rcarletti@stikeman.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Quebec) See under Corporate/M&A for profile.

CHOCLAN, Scott
Torys LLP, Calgary +1 (403) 776-3784
scoclan@torys.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Scott Cochlan is a leading capital markets lawyer with experience across industries, including oil and gas, industrials and manufacturing, and life sciences. Scott is co-head of Torys’ Capital Markets Practice. His practice includes securities and corporate law, with an emphasis on corporate finance and M&A. Scott’s pragmatic approach and extensive experience help issuers and underwriters in various complex matters, including domestic and cross-border public/private equity and debt financings, M&A, and other business reorganizations and restructurings. Scott also represents senior and junior public issuers in numerous aspects of general corporate law and securities regulatory matters, including corporate governance, continuous disclosure, regulatory compliance and transaction implementation.

FELDMAN, Michael K
Torys LLP, Toronto 416 862-7513
mfeldman@torys.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: With rigorous counsel and broad experience, Michael is a leading lawyer in capital markets, asset and equipment finance/leasing and asset securitization. Michael guides clients on a wide range of specialized corporate finance matters, including structured asset-backed financing, securitization, private M&A, capital markets, secured lending, corporate financing and derivatives. Michael works with issuers and underwriters on public and private securitizations, and with sellers and conduit sponsors on asset-backed commercial paper transactions. He has particular experience in the financial services industry across numerous asset classes, including residential and commercial mortgages, auto loans and leases, personal lines of credit, direct cards and trade receivables.

FULLERTON, Richard J
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto 416 489-2204
rfullerton@osler.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Rick’s practice covers many areas of banking, finance and securities law, with an emphasis on securitization and structured finance, corporate finance and financial institutions work. He has acted for clients on a variety of securitization and structured finance transactions and has extensive experience in acting for single and multi-issuer securitization conduits, issuers, underwriters and investment banks covering a wide variety of asset classes, including covered bonds, residential mortgages, credit cards, automotive loan and lease receivables, equipment and automotive dealer floor plan receivables and trade receivables.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association Personal: University of Ottawa, LL.B., M.B.A. (summa cum laude) Carleton University, B.(Hons.)

GINGRICH, Sarah
Fasken, Calgary sgingrich@fasken.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Sarah’s practice is focused on securities and capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, shareholder activism and corporate governance. Canadian and international corporations, underwriters and investors rely on Sarah for her practical, results-oriented approach to complex legal issues across a wide range of industries, including oil and gas, mining, technology, life sciences and financial services. Sarah has extensive experience on domestic and cross-border corporate finance transactions and public and private mergers and acquisitions. Sarah frequently acts on going-public transactions, plans of arrangement, amalgamations, public offerings, private equity transactions, strategic investments and take-over bids.

GORMAN, Bill
Goodmans LLP, Toronto 416 597 4118
wgorman@goodmans.ca
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner. Extensive experience in all aspects of the Canadian capital markets and has played a leading role in many of Canada’s most innovative capital markets transactions. Led or played a significant role on over 30 domestic and cross-border IPOs and going public transactions. Regularly represents issuers and underwriters on follow-on offerings of equity (common and preferred) and debt (investment grade and convertible) and other public market transactions including mergers and acquisitions, rights offerings, ATM programs and issuer bids.

Extensively involved in the development of the Canadian REIT and SPAC sectors and regularly advises boards of directors and special committees on governance and compliance matters.


Publications: Editor and contributor to “Real Property’s Guide to the Canadian Real Estate Handbook.”

Personal: Prior to joining Goodmans, acted as legal counsel in the Corporate Finance Branch of the OSC.

GREWAL, Ramandeep
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal +1 416 869 5245
rgrewal@stikeman.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Raman Grewal is a partner in the Corporate Group and a member of the firm’s Partnership Board. She practises principally in corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions, having expertise on a wide range of matters including domestic and international securities offerings, corporate governance and securities regulatory compliance. She has counsels financial and institutional issuers and underwriters on a wide range of capital markets transactions and securities regulatory matters, including boards of directors, public and private issuers, dealers, advisers, investment funds and asset managers. She also advises on capital market infrastructure and compliance, including fintech and other capital markets developments. Raman has a leading role in training and education for practice group members about legal, regulatory and market developments through formal and informal education initiatives, including internal and external continuing legal education, publications and presentations. She is also responsible for developing and managing legal content and current awareness to ensure that both lawyers and clients have the benefit of the firm’s collective legal expertise and the latest in legal and industry developments.

HONG, Jim S
Torys LLP, Toronto +1 416 865 7369
jhong@torys.com
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Jim brings decades of banking and finance experience and an international perspective in private and public securities law, offering clients tailored solutions for structured finance and securitizations. Jim has broad market knowledge and experience advising on securitizations, public and private managed products, structured asset-backed financ-
well-regarded corporate and securities lawyers and has over 20 years’ experience advising both foreign and domestic clients in a variety of industries on business law matters including mergers and acquisitions (both public and private), corporate finance, corporate governance, structured financial products, licensing and joint ventures, project development, restructurings, and general corporate and commercial law. His diverse clientele includes banks, governmental and quasi-governmental entities, securities dealers, investment funds, private equity firms, technology companies, health care companies, industrial companies, retailers, infrastructure/ P3 participants, mining and resource companies, food services companies, transportation companies, and media and telecom companies. This breadth of experience and expertise contributes to, and is the result of, his practical, creative and business-focused approach to the needs of his clients.

PARKER, Andrew
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 7939
aparker@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Andrew is co-head of the firm’s National Capital Markets Practice and is a partner in the firm’s Business Law Group in Toronto. Recognized as a leader in his field, Andrew’s practice focuses on corporate and securities law in general, including corporate finance (both domestic and cross-border), mergers and acquisitions, collective investment vehicles and registration and licensing matters. Andrew’s expertise in equity and debt capital markets combined with his practical, thorough, and responsive approach consistently make him the top choice for clients with sophisticated corporate and securities matters. Highly regarded by a variety of key sources, Andrew is involved in both public and private offerings for issuers, investors and underwriters with extensive experience in debt capital markets transactions (including high yield offerings). Clients count on Andrew’s deep understanding of the technical aspects of securities law to help guide them through complex legal matters efficiently and effectively. Recently acted on: Manulife’s LRCN offering, BMO’s inaugural institutional preferred share offering and CPPIB’s inaugural Kangaroo bond. Career: Ontario Bar, 1996; NY Bar, 2004
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Association
Publications: CSA’s introduce blanket orders exempting “well-known seasoned issuers” from certain base shelf prospectus requirements – December 2021
Personal: Married. Enjoys spending time with family travelling and skiing

PINCUS, Stephen
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
+1 416.597.4104
spincus@goodmans.ca
- Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Ontario), REITs (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Investment Funds for profile

RAMCHANDANI, Rima
Torys LLP, Toronto
+63 (2) 422.1930
ramchandani@torys.com
- Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Rima advises on a wide range of clients’ strategic mandates, including financings, mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance, with a practical approach informed by a long history of corporate and capital markets experience. Co-head of the Capital Markets Practice, Rima focuses on corporate and securities law, including public and private financings, corporate governance and mergers and acquisitions. Rima has represented both issuers and underwriters on numerous public offerings and private placements, with particular experience in cross-border transactions. Rima also regularly advises public company clients, including many cross-listed issuers, in a variety of industries on ongoing corporate governance and securities law matters. In her M&A practice, Rima is counsel on related party transactions, public takeover bids, and private acquisitions and divestitures.

SEVILLE, David
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416 865 7821
dseville@torys.com
- Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: With broad experience leading capital markets transactions on both sides of the Canada-U.S. border and internationally, David brings legal acumen and market insights to help move clients’ goals and business strategy forward. David is co-head of the firm’s Capital Markets Practice and has extensive experience advising issuers and underwriters on domestic and cross-border equity and debt public offerings and private placements. He regularly advises clients on continuous disclosure, corporate governance and financial institution regulatory matters. David has deep experience with financial institution regulatory capital instruments, including limited recourse capital notes, the bank recapitalization (bail-in) regime by the Government of Canada, and non-viability contingent capital (NVCC) instruments. David also has substantial experience advising public companies, family offices, private equity and pension funds on acquisitions, dispositions, shareholder arrangements and reorganizations.

WILSON, David
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1 416.863.5517
dwilson@dwpv.com
- Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: David advises on Canadian and cross-border securities transactions with a focus on capital markets and is known for his practical and innovative solutions. He has extensive experience representing public and private companies, investment banks and institutional investors on a broad range of transactions both in and outside Canada. These transactions include debt and equity offerings (public and private), restructurings and illiquidity management transactions (such as debt tenders and exchange offers), PIPEs and other private investments, negotiated merger transactions and hostile and supported takeover bids. David is also a key contributor in shaping Canadian capital markets regulation, through his frequent commentary to Canadian securities regulators and as counsel to the investment banking committee of the Investment Industry Association of Canada. David’s vast experience advising on offerings from both Canadian and US perspectives allows him to effectively bridge differences in securities law and practice between Canada and the United States. David joined Davies as a partner in 2006 after eight years practising US securities laws at Shearman & Sterling LLP. He is admitted to both the Ontario and New York Bars. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; The Legal 500 Canada; IFLR1000.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Charities
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine ranking) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/stature, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Charities/Non-profits Nationwide

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**Band 1**

- **Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**
  - What the team is known for: Borden Ladner Gervais LLP is a well-known full-service law firm with an esteemed and multidisciplinary charities and not-for-profit law group. With substantial experience advising national and international charities and non-profits, the team handles a variety of matters, including integration transactions and governance issues. The firm is also highly regarded for its strength in charity tax and employment matters, and often acts for prominent clients in the healthcare, arts and culture, and education sectors. Its key lawyers in this area are based in Toronto and Ottawa.
  - **Strengths:** The firm knows our business and can quickly respond to provide input.
  - **Work highlights:** BLG assisted the Crescent School with a property purchase for CAD$42 million.

**Notable practitioners**

- **Victoria Prince** (see p.58) is a recognised leader in the charities market, rated highly for her support on corporate governance matters. Based in Toronto, she heads BLG’s national charities and not-for-profit practice group.
- **Nick Pasquino** (see p.203) adeptly advises charities and non-profit organisations on corporate commercial matters, with particular expertise in governance issues. Based in Toronto, he dedicates a significant portion of his practice to serving clients in the healthcare sector. Up-and-coming lawyer Ryma Nasrallah (see p.58) advises a range of charities and non-profit organisations, including education institutions and healthcare support groups.

**Carters Professional Corporation**

- **What the team is known for:** Carters Professional Corporation is a top-tier boutique law firm dedicated to the charities and not-for-profit sector. It is well versed in handling a wide range of matters including regulation, compliance, corporate governance, tax, privacy and risk management, as well as contentious mandates. Trusted advisers to non-profit clients throughout Central Ontario via its offices in Toronto, Ottawa and Orangeville, the firm also provides national and international services through its relationship with Fasken.
- **Strengths:** The firm provides practical advice and has excellent knowledge of the revenue authority’s administrative positions.
- **Work highlights:** Miller Thomson assisted Resilience Montreal with its registration as a charitable organisation and a property acquisition.

**Notable practitioners**

- **Firm managing partner Terrance Carter** is one of Canada’s foremost experts in charity and not-for-profit law. He maintains an impressively diverse client portfolio, ranging from healthcare foundations to support for indigenous communities and humanitarian causes. “He has a level of sophistication that is virtually unmatched in the charitable sector. He is highly respected by lawyers across the country and is a recognised authority in charity law.” “Terry provides sound legal advice and develops strong strategies.”
- **Theresa Man** is a respected lawyer who is noted for her ability to assist clients with a wide array of matters concerning the charity and non-profit sector.

**Miller Thomson LLP**

- **What the team is known for:** Miller Thomson maintains a pre-eminent, nationwide charities/non-profits practice, and is highly regarded for its novel and innovative approach to complex matters. With recognised lawyers in Toronto, Vancouver and Montréal, the firm provides advice to clients on establishing charitable status, governance issues, capital campaigns and integrations, and is also experienced in complex tax structuring and audits carried out by the Canada Revenue Agency. The firm also offers considerable depth of experience in handling government consultations on policy issues concerning the charitable and non-profit sector, as well as advising on social impact bonds. Its diverse array of clients includes healthcare institutions and religious organisations, as well as social and economic empowerment and support groups.
- **Strengths:** The team is experienced in all areas of charity and non-profit law and its service level is unparalleled.

- **Work highlights:** Miller Thomson assisted Resilience Montreal with its registration as a charitable organisation and a property acquisition.

- **Notable practitioners**
  - **Robert Hayhoe** is particularly well regarded for his understanding of governance, structuring and tax arrangements in the charities sector. He also advises...
clients on issues relating to property, covering purchases, leasing and developments. He is based in Toronto. “Robert is clearly well versed in his field and tackled our unique matter with strategic and practical advice.” Robert Hayhoe provides exceptional leadership, as well as outstanding support, guidance and recommendations.” Susan Manwaring acts for a broad array of charities and non-profit organisations, including prestigious domestic and international foundations dedicated to public health and educational programmes. Based in Toronto, she is the national head of the firm’s social impact group. “Susan is deeply involved in all aspects of charities in Canada and her legal advice is invariably delivered with observations on the broader context. In my view, she is the best charities lawyer in Canada.” She is a critical and strategic adviser on complicated business and legal issues. Susan brings a wealth of experience and wisdom to her clients’ issues.” Elena Hoffstein is a Toronto-based charities lawyer who is particularly well regarded for her expertise in tax and regulatory matters. She is also highly adept at handling both contentious and non-contentious estate litigation matters. Montréal-based Troy McEachern assists clients with a range of issues, including incorporation matters and tax structuring, as well as litigation and administrative challenges. His clients range from charities to private foundations and trusts. Amanda Stacey assists clients with an array of issues in the non-profit sector, covering regulation, governance, tax structuring and compliance, and dispute resolution. She divides her time between Vancouver and Toronto. Andrew Valentine is a respected lawyer with significant experience in not-for-profit and charity law. Based in Toronto, he assists clients with gift planning, registration and compliance matters. “Andrew is attuned to the realities of his clients and navigates sophisticated issues in a manner that considers his client’s business.”

**Band 2**

**Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP**

What the team is known for Gowling WLG maintains a solid charities and non-profits practice, with particular strength in its Ottawa and Toronto offices. The firm provides assistance with issues of governance, tax and structuring, among others. It represents a significant number of clients in the healthcare sector, covering research organisations and professional bodies, as well as education and religious foundations.

Strengths “Gowling houses a full-service team with varied expertise, providing novel and thoughtful approaches.”

“The team has a good ability to break down issues that need to be addressed and advise on a systematic approach.”

Work highlights Gowling advised the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research on its restructuring, as well as on tax, trust and non-profit corporation law.

Notable practitioners

David Stevens assists both charities and private foundations, from indigenous organisations to healthcare charities, with issues of trust/charity law, income tax and corporate organisation. He is based in Toronto. “David is very knowledgeable and pragmatic in dispensing his advice.”

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright possesses a solid team with strong capabilities advising a wide range of charities and non-profits straddling various industry sectors, including real estate, healthcare, education and professional associations. Its charities and tax-exempt organisations department is well known for assisting clients with registration, planning, donations, compliance, Canada Revenue Agency audits and general corporate and commercial issues. The firm also offers related IP, real estate and land use advice and has been involved with respect to the development of various affordable housing projects. The team is particularly strong in Western Canada but is supported by offices across the country.

Strengths “Norton Rose provides excellent legal advice and support to our organisation.”

“There was nothing that they weren’t on top of. The team provided terrific guidance.”

Work highlights Norton Rose advised Providence Health Care on the construction and financing of a CAD350 million clinical support and research facility.

Notable practitioners

Vancouver-based Margaret Mason KC (see p.58) provides advice in relation to a wide array of charitable matters, including corporate governance and regulation, among others. “Margaret Mason provides excellent support on complex files.” Michael Blatchford (see p.58) dedicates his practice to not-for-profit organisations, assisting clients with a broad range of matters covering structuring and regulation, as well as negotiating financing, property lease and commercial agreements. He is based in Vancouver. “Michael Blatchford is a valued asset to our organisation.”

Michael is excellent – he calmly and expertly guided our organisation through a difficult situation, and worked with our team until we had a full and complete solution to every issue.”

**Band 3**

**Blumberg Segal LLP**

What the team is known for Blumberg Segal is a Toronto-based boutique law firm specialising in non-profit and charity law. Its expertise covers the full gamut of the field, from initial establishment and registration to governance, commercial agreements, tax and managing donations.

Notable practitioners

Founding partners Mark Blumberg and Ronald Segal are key contacts.

**Drache Aptowitzer LLP**

What the team is known for Drache Aptowitzer specialises in charity law and servicing non-profit organisations. With a presence in both Ontario and Alberta, the firm provides a range of services to clients, including structuring and strategic planning, as well as a host of tax-related issues and courtroom advocacy.

Notable practitioners

Adam Aptowitzer regularly assists charities and not-for-profit organisations with governance and tax law matters. He also represents clients in litigation proceedings. Karen Cooper is experienced in handling a range of corporate and tax issues for charities and not-for-profit organisations. She displays additional strength in litigation and general business law.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Florence Carey is a Winnipeg-based lawyer who advises charities and not-for-profit organisations on a variety of issues, including corporate governance, tax law and regulatory law matters.

Linda Godel of Torkin Manes LLP is a respected lawyer who is noted for her ability to assist charities and not-for-profit organisations with governance, compliance and restructuring issues. She is based in Toronto.

Clifford Goldfarb of Gardiner Roberts LLP is an experienced Toronto-based lawyer who is known for his vast experience acting for not-for-profit organisations and charities. He regularly assists his clients with a broad range of matters, such as corporate governance and employment law, among others.

Laird Hunter KC of McGee Richard Toogood LLP is a seasoned lawyer who offers clients the benefit of his longstanding experience advising on the corporate and tax aspects of charitable matters. He is based in Edmonton.

Heather Keachie of Gardiner Roberts LLP regularly assists clients with corporate structuring and governance matters. Based in Toronto, she also assists with issues relating to regulatory compliance and property.

James Parks of Gardiner Roberts LLP remains a renowned figure due to his experience acting for charities and non-profit organisations on tax and estate planning matters. He is of counsel in the firm’s Toronto office.
BLATCHFORD, Michael
Norton Rose Fulbright, Vancouver
+1 604 641 4905
michael.blatchford@nortonrosefulbright.com

Featured in Charities (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Michael Blatchford works with charities, not-for-profit organizations, associations, clubs, social enterprises and other entities in the voluntary sector and advises on all aspects of their operations and governance, helping them to effectively carry out their programs while complying with regulatory obligations. Mr. Blatchford’s clients include registered charities and non-profit organizations in every area, from healthcare, education and social services to arts and culture, environmental and recreation and athletics. He also assists professional bodies, associations, clubs and religious and faith-based organizations. Mr. Blatchford advises these clients on governance, meetings, fundraising and tax matters, as well as legal compliance. He represents organizations in their dealings with regulators, including the Canada Revenue Agency. He advises on fundraising and receiving issues for charities and has helped numerous charities carry out their work abroad. He also provides advice to charities and not-for-profit organizations that carry on a social enterprise or other revenue-generating activities.

MASON, Margaret
Norton Rose Fulbright, Vancouver
604.641.4905
margaret.mason@nortonrosefulbright.com

Featured in Charities (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Margaret Mason is a charities lawyer with more than 30 years of experience advising donors, charities and other tax-exempt organizations and their boards, often on highly sensitive and complex matters. In addition to advising on gift plans, incorporations, charitable registration, governance, fundraising and Canada Revenue Agency audit matters, she helps clients consider operational structures that allow them to navigate complex legal and regulatory environments particularly regarding the creation of multi-use affordable housing projects, social enterprises and international development. She has worked extensively with healthcare, environmental, sport and housing organizations. She speaks and teaches widely in the areas of governance, regulatory compliance and board skill development.

NASRALLAH, Ryma
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Ottawa

Featured in Charities (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Ryma practices in the area of taxation and regularly advises tax-exempt organizations, including registered charities and non-profit organizations, on the income tax implications of their transactions and activities. She has been involved in numerous tax-driven transactions, including corporate reorganizations involving closely held private companies, high-net-worth individuals and estate planning transactions. She also works in the areas of tax dispute resolution and voluntary disclosures.

Professional Memberships:
- Member, Law Society of Upper Canada
- Member, Ontario Bar Association
- Canadian Bar Association
- County of Carleton Law Association

PASQUINO, Nick
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
416.367.6253
npasquino@blg.com

Featured in Charities (Nationwide – Canada), Healthcare (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Health Law for profile.

PRINCE, Victoria
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6648
vprince@blgcanada.com

Featured in Charities (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: National Leader of BLG’s Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Group. Victoria advises on a range of matters in the sector, including the establishment and structuring of organizations; legal and regulatory compliance; negotiation and drafting of agreements; governance and strategic initiatives; and board assistance. She does significant work in the education field including post-secondary institutions. In addition to her CBA and OBA roles, she is President of the BLG Foundation, which supports close to 100 charities related to children, medical research, poverty and BIPOC organizations. Victoria also serves as a director of a number of charity boards.

Professional Memberships:
- Executive Member, Ontario Bar Association
- Canadian Bar Association, Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Section.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Class Actions
How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Dispute Resolution Class Action (Defence) Nationwide

Dispute Resolution: Class Action (Defence)
Leading Firms

Band 1
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Stikeman Elliott LLP
Torys LLP
Bennett Jones LLP
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Band 2
Fasken
Lenczner Slaght
McMillan LLP
BCF LLP
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
Norton Rose Fullerton

Band 3
Fasken
Lenczner Slaght
McMillan LLP

Indicates individual with profile.
◊ Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Dispute Resolution: Class Action (Defence)
Leading Individuals

Band 1
Eizenga Michael Bennett Jones LLP*
Kay Katherine L Stikeman Elliott LLP*
Kent David W McMillan LLP*
McKee Gordon Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Plumont Linda M Torys LLP*
Steep R Paul McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Thomson Kent E Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP*

Band 2
Dixon Brad W Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*
Forbes Sandra A Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP*
Griffith Peter Lenczner Slaght
Martineau Yves Stikeman Elliott LLP*
Peebles Dana M McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Rodrique Sylvie Torys LLP*
Saint-Onge Jean Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*
Torrabio Robert Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Zakali Glenn M Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*

Band 3
Berman Wendy McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Borrell Andrew Fasken*
Cowper Geoffrey Fasken*
Curry Tom Lenczner Slaght*
D’Silva Alan Stikeman Elliott LLP*
de l’Etoile Vincent Langlois Lawyers, LLP/ORL*
Gledinning Deborah A Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Kolers Eliot N Stikeman Elliott LLP*
Kugler Scott Gowling WLG Canada LLP/ORL*
Maclaren J Scott McMillan LLP*
Neeve David DLA Piper Canada LLP/ORL*
Rodriguez Nick Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP*
Woodin Cheryl Bennett Jones LLP
Yates Jill McCarthy Tétrault LLP*

Band 4
Armstrong Sarah Fasken*
Beagan Flood Catherine Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Bjorkquist Sonia Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Cooper Laura F Fasken*
Davis Emery Bennett Jones LLP
Feder Michael A McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Fric Laura Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Jackson Lara Fasken Brock & Blackwell LLP*
Mhle-Smith Matthew Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP*
Morrison F Paul Miller Thomson LLP/ORL*
Pliska Peter Fasken
Sullivan James Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Tenal Steve J Aird & Berlis LLP/ORL*

Band 5
Finn Shaun BCF LLP
Fuerst Linda Norton Rose Fullerton*
Kwinter Robert E Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Laing Andrea Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Lawrie Jill M Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
McNamara William Torys LLP*
Naudie Christopher Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Perhawk Tom Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*
Pétionnére Éric Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Reinertson Robin Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Royal Danielle Stikeman Elliott LLP*
Ryan André BCF LLP
Zayid Caroline McCarthy Tétrault LLP*

Up-and-coming Individuals
Carson Robert Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Merinod Anne Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*
Whitmore Sarah Torys LLP*

Associates to watch
Angelas Matthew Torys LLP*

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon houses a leading national team of dedicated class action defence specialists with considerable expertise in product liability, privacy, antitrust and securities cases. The team offers ample experience representing domestic and international clients from a broad range of industries before all levels of provincial and federal court, as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. The firm fields well resourced teams in Toronto, Montréal, Calgary and Vancouver, demonstrating a strong track record in cross-border disputes.

Strengths “One of the main strengths of this firm is, not simply to provide legal positions, but to be able to do so considering the business complex and the socio-political environment. The ability to take all these indicators into account and then provide a range of innovative solutions and approaches.”

“The firm provides excellent service on these sophisticated matters. They are practical, business-oriented, strategic and effective.”

Work highlights Blake, Cassels & Graydon assisted BDO Canada with defeating certification of a class action arising from alleged misconduct by the man...
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

**What the team is known for**

McCarthy Tétrault operates an impressive litigation practice with a commensurate national class action strength, particularly from its Toronto base. The firm maintains a strong bench of litigation professionals with experience acting at all trial levels. The practice oversees leading cases in the antitrust, securities and product liability sectors, with added strength in healthcare and pharmaceutical actions. The group is regularly cited as a first port of call for defence work with privacy and data breach aspects, as well as cases relating to employment, financial services, insurance and franchising.

**Strengths**

“McCarthy Tétrault has knowledgeable and intelligent lawyers who provide the sophisticated legal advice required.” “The team is extremely proficient and able to synthesise difficult topics.”

“McCarthy Tétrault is our first choice for complex litigation. They are consistently extremely responsive and provide high levels of service in circumstances that are often challenging and demanding.”

**Work highlights**

McCarthy Tétrault acted on behalf of Pretium Resources in a national class action challenging the disclosure of an admission perceived in the course of a public gold miner’s exploration programme.

**Notable practitioners**

Paul Steep (see p.296) remains one of Canada’s most accomplished and sought-after litigators, well recognised for his leadership in high-stakes class proceedings, particularly securities-related cases. He has handled the disclosure of a commercial disputes practice based out of Toronto. “He is a tremendous overall litigator with a wonderful reputation.”

Toronto-based Dana Peebles (see p.69) has experience acting on data breach, privacy and breach of contract class actions. His clients include prestigious names in the pharmaceutical and technology sectors. “Dana Peebles has the ability to see the core of the issue. His knowledge of the law and business of class actions is superb.”

Wendy Berman (see p.282) is one of Canada’s premier securities litigators. Based in Toronto, she represents her clients in both single-plaintiff and class action suits. “She is an effective lawyer,” according to one former major junior hockey player. Jill Yates (see p.70) is based in the firm’s Vancouver office. She assists multi-talented, financial institutions and manufacturers with a range of class proceedings, with particular strength in competition, privacy and product liability cases. “She has handled multiple large class actions and is especially effective at delivering complex messages quickly and concisely.”

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for

Stikeman Elliott has a stellar reputation for its accomplished handling of class action files for prominent national and international clients. The team is particularly well known for its competition class action expertise and is further commended for its broad capabilities in securities, consumer protection and privacy litigation. The firm enjoys a particularly prominent reputation in Quebec and Ontario, and frequently takes a leading role among the defence counsel in high-stakes multi-party actions.

**Strengths**

“Stikeman Elliott is one of our go-to firms in Canada.”

**Work highlights**

A team led by Alan D’Silva and Éric Azran represented an insurance company in the defence of multiple proposed class actions relating to the business interruption claims arising from widespread government shutdown orders made in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Katherine Kay (see p.68) is held in high regard for her expertise in the class action space, with particular expertise in conspiracy cases and competition law generally. Among her impressive list of clients are stand-out names in financial services and aviation, as well as the pharmaceutical and engineering sectors. “She is smart, reliable, practical and knows everybody.”

Yves Martineau (see p.68) is a distinguished Montreal-based lawyer with considerable experience representing clients from sectors including financial services and telecoms in class action disputes. He is particularly skilled in complex product liability and consumer protection class proceedings. “He is a terrific lawyer.”

Alan D’Silva (see p.67) operates a diverse litigation practice out of Toronto, handling both single-plaintiff and class action defence mandates. Jill Yates has notable experience of securities and insurance-related claims. Head of the litigation group Eliot Kolers (see p.80) has wide-ranging litigation experience, particularly in high-stakes price-fixing class actions. He also has experience in complex securities cases. He is based in Toronto. “Eliot understands the detail but doesn’t get lost in it.”

**Torys LLP**

What the team is known for

Torys operates a top-drawer litigation practice, providing integrated nationwide class action representation out of its Toronto and Montreal offices. The firm handles prominent cases in various areas including securities, competition, employment and environmental law as well as advising on consumer class actions and privacy matters. The team provides wide-ranging industry expertise to prominent clients in the pharmaceutical, technology and financial sectors, among others. Its lawyers possess deep trial experience in both Canadian and US class actions, frequently working on cross-border matters with the support of the firm’s office in New York.

**Strengths**

“Torys is a go-to law firm for some of our most complex and sophisticated matters and we rate their abilities very highly.”

“The firm keeps a consistent vision for handling all related claims and stewarding each one with a view to optimising effects on other cases.”

Torys has good procedural and subject matter expertise.

**Work highlights**

Torys defended Canadian Hockey League against class actions brought against it by current and former major junior hockey players regarding their employment status.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based chair of the disputes practice Linda Plumpton (see p.81) commands significant respect in the market for her extensive expertise handling all manner of securities, employment and antitrust class actions. “She has a strong understanding and application of the law, an impressive client service approach and outstanding availability.”

“She is proactive, provides excellent work and leaves no stone unturned.”

Managing partner of the firm’s Montreal office, Sylvie Rodrigue (see p.69) has an impressive command of the law surrounding class actions. She regularly handles employment, consumer protection and product liability cases. “She has strong expertise in class action matters.”

William McNamara (see p.324) is a seasoned advocate in the class actions space. Based in Toronto, he is particularly well versed in product liability and consumer protection mandates. Sarah Whitmore (see p.70) is based out of Torys’ Toronto office and is well regarded for her growing expertise in class action litigation. She handles disputes in an array of provinces, primarily in relation to employment matters. “Sarah is smart and provides quality work and advice.”

“Sarah was very client-centric – she took care, took time and energy to address and organise volumes of complex materials with ease.”

**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for

Bennett Jones is a regular feature of class action litigation in Canada, pos-
sitting longstanding experience acting for players in the pharmaceutical, medical device and automotive sectors, with added capabilities in competition, product liability and securities matters. The firm also handles insurance, consumer, employment and professional liability disputes. The litigation group is often called upon to handle multi-jurisdictional and cross-border cases, as well as proceedings involving national classes.

Strengths “The Bennett Jones team are extremely strong and respected. They have addressed each stage of our case requirements in the most professional and highly competent manner.”

“It is a strong and experienced team that is able to bring significant expertise in responding to plaintiff claims.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones defended J.P. Morgan in several class actions in Ontario and Québec related to an alleged conspiracy to fix the gold and silver markets.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Leon is highlighted for his longstanding experience that covers both class action and single-plaintiff disputes. A seasoned litigator, he has experience handling a range of commercial, securities and product liability cases. Toronto-based Michael Elizenga co-chairs the firm’s class action practice and is regarded as a top choice of counsel in this space. His practice encompasses competition, product liability and privacy-related actions, including a number of the jurisdiction’s most high-profile cases. “Michael is a balanced and experienced lawyer who is wonderfully calm and pragmatic.” Cheryl Woodin co-chairs the department from the firm’s Toronto office. Her core practice is focused on national class actions, most notably in the automotive sector, with significant expertise in product liability and competition-related cases. “Cheryl is very knowledgeable, reliable and helpful.” Toronto-based Emrys Davis continues to build an impressive reputation for his work in the class action space. Sources highlight his involvement in competition disputes, acting for major names in the banking, pharmaceutical and aviation sectors.

“He is highly experienced and provides strategic advice that is in the best interest of the client.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais has a solid class action defence practice with national and multinational capabilities across a variety of sectors, principally operating out of its offices in Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver. The team regularly acts on behalf of prominent institutional clients and insurers on product liability litigation in the automotive, medical and pharmaceutical sectors. The firm also draws on its expertise across various practices in constructing defences, including banking, securities and competition, as well as consumer protection, health and employment law.

Strengths “Borden Ladner Gervais is excellent in its defence portfolio.”

Work highlights Defended George Weston and Loblaw Companies in a number of class actions relating to alleged price fixing for certain packaged bread products.

Notable practitioners

Vancouver-based national co-chair Brad Dixon (see p.68) has a wealth of class action expertise covering product liability and competition cases. He has additional experience featuring in novel environmental class actions. He has acted for a number of high-profile corporates, including banks and pharmaceutical companies. “He is a standout lawyer who is experienced and talented.” Brad is highly skilled and takes a practical approach to files. He doesn’t take on needless battles and instead focuses on managing the case with the goal of achieving a practical result where possible.”

Jean Saint-Onge (see p.69) is an esteemed litigator with a particularly prominent presence in Québec. He possesses wide-ranging class action experience covering price fixing, extra-contractual liability, professional liability disputes and consumer protection. “He has good market stature and work product.”

Glenn Zakal (see p.324) has considerable product liability experience and represents both the public and private sectors. He acts as the national co-chair of the group from the Toronto office. “Glenn Zakal is a knowledgeable and sophisticated professional who is able to break down complex matters into manageable bite sizes.” Anne Merminod (see p.69) is a Montréal-based lawyer with a burgeoning reputation for representing clients in class action disputes before an array of courts. She regularly provides assistance with consumer, privacy and product liability disputes. “Anne provides very clear explanations and was very helpful throughout the whole process. She always responds to emails and calls on time, even if it’s after hours, and is always on top of things.”

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg features skilled litigation practitioners in Toronto and Montréal, offering class action expertise for both common and civil law jurisdictions. The group is particularly renowned for its specialists in securities, privacy and competition litigation and its representation of clients in the mining, telecoms, medical, financial services and automotive industries. The firm can frequently be seen advising on matters involving national classes and those with parallel proceedings in the USA.

Strengths “Davies has been efficient and effective at developing and implementing litigation strategies in novel and complex cases.”

“They have an in-depth knowledge of substantive and procedural law regarding class actions. This knowledge is coupled with their ability to provide advice that is both practical and strategic.”

“We have never been disappointed with their services and their advice has always yielded great results. They are just as good at providing complex opinions on technical matters as they are at providing high-level strategic advice.”

Work highlights Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg acted for SK Hyacinth in its defence of multiple class actions across Canada alleging anti-competitive conduct in respect of the sale of dynamic random-access memory chips.

Notable practitioners

Head of the firm’s Toronto litigation department Kent Thomson (see p.298) operates a broad disputes and litigation practice, including securities class actions. He represents an impressive number of blue-chip companies in mining and financial services. “He is a formidable litigator.” Kent is very smart and a strong lawyer. “He is tirelessly committed to advancing his client’s cause.”

Toronto-based Sandra Forbes (see p.78) is highly respected in the Canadian market for her skilful handling of class actions. She has particular expertise in the field of competition, standing out for her major role in price-fixing claims in the automotive and food industries. “Sandra is very responsive and clear in her writing. She is a fearless advocate and has done a fantastic job.”

She is a very focused and impressive lawyer.” Montreal-based Nick Rodrigo (see p.69) attracts plaudits for his active class action practice. He is particularly regarded for his consumer protection work, handling cases in industries such as gaming and medical products. “He is a spectacular lawyer with a high degree of litigation skill, as well as good insight into business needs.”

Matthew Milne-Smith (see p.292) is a recognised Toronto-based litigator with a strong reputation for defending clients in prominent competition class actions as well as notable in competition class actions acting for major names in the aviation sector. “He is quick to assess the needs of a situation and effective in advancing and managing our litigation.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt maintains a skilled dispute resolution group, complemented for the breadth and depth of its class action practice, including support on high-value cases involving product liability, securities, consumer protection and competition disputes. The team handles complex litigation for a range of high-profile clients in the financial services, pharmaceutical and tobacco industries. The firm derives significant strength from its Ontario operations, coupled with notable class actions experience from its respective offices in Québec and Alberta.

Strengths “Osler Hoskin & Harcourt has depth and strength across a broad spectrum of litigation areas. They have brought real insight and value and have compelling strength across a range of areas and issues.”

“Osler’s is widely recognised as a leading class action litigation firm in Canada.”

“The firm does impressive work – the team is both sophisticated and knowledgeable, in addition to being thorough and thoughtful.”

Work highlights Osler Hoskin & Harcourt assisted Höegh Autoliners in defending against class actions relating to the price of vehicle shipping services for the ocean shipment of new cars across the world.

Notable practitioners

Deborah Glendinning (see p.323) is an accomplished Toronto-based litigator, with experience appearing in high-profile class actions including those in the tobacco and pharmaceutical sectors. “Deborah is a pre-eminent and client-focused litigator.”

Sonja Bjorkquist (see p.322) has notable experience representing clients from an array of major industries, including manufacturing, oil and gas and tobacco, in high-profile product liability class actions, with further experience advising on price-fixing disputes. She chairs the firm’s national litigation group from her Toronto base. Laura Fric (see p.68) is regularly instructed to defend companies in consumer and securities class actions, with particular experience acting on behalf of pharmaceutical companies and distributors. She is based in Toronto. “She is strategic and collaborative”. “She is a very canny character who is very hand on the tiller. She is strategic and collaborates in thinking about how to run files.”

Toronto-based Christopher Naudie (see p.81) is well versed in competition class actions, acting for major shipping companies, financial institutions and manufacturers.

“Chris has excellent in-depth knowledge and intellectual ability.”

Montreal-based Eric Préfontaine (see p.69) is increasingly noted for his expertise in the field, with experience featuring in price fixing, consumers’ rights and securities class actions. “He is
a very knowledgeable and experienced class action lawyer.” Robert Carson (see p.67) is based in Toronto and is noted for his proficiency in handling class action disputes. He is adept at advising on privacy, securities and life sciences cases. “He is intelligent, insightful, responsive and a tireless worker.”

**Band 3**

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken fields an experienced defence team with multi-jurisdictional capabilities in competition and securities class actions. The firm’s clients hail from a range of sectors including technology, mining, pharmaceutical and financial services. The team offers further strength in construction, IP, insurance and environmental law. It is also notable for its expertise in cybersecurity and its privacy and law specialities. With experience across its national office network, the group is particularly highly regarded for its key strength in Vancouver.

Strengths “The firm consistently delivers practical, thoughtful and well-reasoned advice.”

“The Fasken team will always respond in a quick and efficient manner to any questions or concerns.”

Work highlights A Fasken team led by Laura Cooper represented Capital One in 12 privacy class actions across the country relating to a cybersecurity incident that is alleged to have impacted the personal information of approximately six million Canadian consumers.

Notable practitioners Andrew Borrell (see p.67) is a widely respected Vancouver-based commercial litigator with wide-ranging class action experience covering consumer protection, privacy and product liability. “He is a talented lawyer.” “Andrew routinely provides key insights to help effectively drive our complex class action defence pocket forward at scale.” Geoffrey Cowper (see p.285) is widely recognised for his broad expertise in class action law. Based in Vancouver, he leads the firm’s litigation and dispute resolution practice group. Sarah Armstrong (see p.67) attests plaudits for her growing presence in Canada’s disputes market, acting on both single-plaintiff and class actions. With a strong track record in cybersecurity and securities class action cases, she also has notable experience in insurance-related cases. She is based in Toronto. Laura Cooper (see p.67) represents entities in financial services, technology and e-commerce in consumer protection, price fixing and privacy-related class action suits. She co-leads the class actions department from Toronto. “She is an effective lawyer.” Peter Pliszka regularly handles single-plaintiff and class action cases out of the firm’s Toronto office. A highly regarded expert in product liability litigation, he routinely acts for major automotive and pharmaceutical companies in class proceedings. “Peter understands the industry very well.”

**Lenczner Slaght**

What the team is known for Lenczner Slaght is a prominent Toronto litigation boutique commended for its performance in multi-defendant class actions. The firm frequently handles cases at the pre-certification, trial and appellate levels and represents clients from the financial services, insurance, manufacturing, mining and pharmaceutical sectors. The team is particularly well known for its expertise in handling class action disputes, representing securities, consumer protection, product liability and employment matters and is often selected for cases concerning professional negligence involving lawyers, accountants and physicians.

Strengths “Lenczner Slaght are super accountable and approachable. The firm has always provided an excellent team for a wide variety of matters and the work is always high quality.”

Work highlights Lenczner Slaght represented Walmart in a proposed national class action involving allegations that the drug Zantac, along with its generic versions, are defective and increase the risk of cancer.

Notable practitioners Peter Griffin (see p.288) is a hugely well-regarded litigator with a stellar reputation in Canada. Based in Toronto, he handles class actions as part of his wider disputes practice, and has notable experience in product liability and professional negligence claims. “Peter commands the courtroom and is a skilled orator. He is strategic, pragmatic and simply incredible.”

Toronto-based managing partner Tom Curry (see p.285) is one of Canada’s pre-eminent litigators. In addition to his single-plaintiff work, he attracts plaudits for his class action representation where he represents multiple prestigious clients from the technology, banking and automotive sectors. “Tom is an expert in this field — he has very strong oral and written advocacy skills and is able to meet a high level of expectations.”

**McMillan LLP**

What the team is known for McMillan is a high-profile law firm with a notable class action practice of particular renown for its product liability work. The group is additionally instructed for its counsel on competition and securities law cases, as well as consumer protection disputes. The firm represents a broad range of clients, including electronic manufacturers, pharmaceutical and transport companies, and financial service providers.

Strengths “McMillan has a strong and broad knowledge base, as well as experienced counsel who instil trust and confidence.”

“McMillan provides high-quality and efficient legal advice at a very reasonable price. They are always willing to work with us on issues that impact the business.”

Work highlights McMillan defended Honda in class action proceedings initiated in British Columbia and Quebec concerning the recall of vehicles equipped with an allegedly defective DENSO fuel pump.

Notable practitioners Co-chair of the litigation group David Kent (see p.68) is an acclaimed Toronto-based litigator with a top-tier contentious practice. He is sought out for his representation on a number of high-profile class actions, particularly in the competition space on issues such as price fixing and false advertising. He acts for a number of notable national and international tech and financial services companies. “His strong experience has helped us navigate challenging matters.”

Scott Maidment (see p.323) is a well-regarded litigation lawyer with considerable consumer protection class action experience. He provides counsel on issues such as negligent misrepresentation and false advertising, as well as being actively involved in opioid-related disputes. He co-chairs the firm’s class action practice from his office in Toronto.

**Band 4**

**BCF LLP**

What the team is known for BCF LLP operates a sophisticated class action defence practice from its offices in Montréal and Quebec City. The team is particularly adept at assisting with actions brought against car manufacturers, but has further expertise in medical product, consumer protection, construction and securities disputes. They frequently represent public and private organisations.

Strengths “BCF has great legal and technical skills, good judgement, and provides thorough legal opinions.”

“The lawyers carry out proactive follow-ups and their reaction to the various developments is almost instantaneous, which is very much appreciated.”

BCF plans ahead and dispatches tasks adequately between seniors and juniors. When an unforeseen deliverable comes up, they make themselves available and handle it very well.”

Work highlights A BCF team lead by André Ryan and Shaun Finn defended Hyundai in a class action defence matter regarding airbag control units that allegedly failed to deploy due to an alleged product defect.

Notable practitioners Shaun Finn is a Montréal-based lawyer with a strong reputation for his handling of class action lawsuits. He is particularly adept at assisting with product liability disputes relating to cars and medical devices. “Shaun is diligent, organised and plans ahead. He is extremely knowledgeable in relation to class actions and provides sound, strategic advice.”

“He clearly identifies the interests of the client and uses an efficient approach to achieve the desired results.” André Ryan co-leads the class action defence team at BCF. He is based in Montréal but advises on product liability and employment-related disputes across Canada. “André is a very practical lawyer who has good judgement and a great reputation in the market.”

**Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP**

What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell has a solid litigation practice group with significant class action expertise emanating from its Toronto office. The team is renowned for its deep expertise, servicing major institutional clients in mining, financial services and the cannabis sector. The firm is also noted for its role in competition, consumer protection and insurance class proceedings.

Strengths “The team is exceptionally responsive and helpful.”

Work highlights A Cassels team represented Havenstreet in a proposed class action in the Ontario Superior Court involving allegations that the defendant’s mortgage contracts are void for unconscionability, and that Havenstreet is liable for breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duties and misrepresentation.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based Lara Jackson (see p.289) is well versed in handling commercial and securities class actions for her roster of banking, financial services and mining clients. “Lara is a strong litigator with impressive abilities.” Tim Pinos (see p.69) is known for his experience representing clients in commercial disputes, including class actions. He handles a range of mandates from his Toronto base, including those related to issues of privacy and consumer protection. “He is very active in the class action space.”
Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is acknowledged for its longstanding experience of defending life sciences clients in product liability class actions. The team also demonstrates skill in competition, securities and consumer protection matters for a broad array of clients in the telecoms, education and retail sectors, among others. The firm is notable for its cross-border coordination of its offices in Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, Montréal, Québec City and Vancouver. Its lawyers are well suited to advise on complex domestic actions, drawing on knowledge bases across its global offices.

Strengths “Norton Rose Fulbright maintain deep and wide expert capabilities. The team is very strong in terms of technical analysis and development of legal strategy.”

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright defended Gilead Canada in two class actions relating to its portfolio of HIV drugs. The core allegation is that the second generation of HIV drugs caused patients to sustain more severe side effects.

Notable practitioners
Linda Fuerst (see p.287) is the chair of Norton Rose Fulbright’s Toronto litigation and disputes group. She is noted for her proficiency in class actions involving insurance and consumer protection issues. “Linda is simply outstanding. She is bright, pragmatic, strategic and quickly understands complex legal and factual issues.”

Other Ranked Lawyers
Montreal-based head of the class action practice Vincent de l’Étoile is one of the Quebec market’s most notable litigators. Impressing for his breadth of expertise, he handles a broad array of product liability, competition, securities and consumer protection disputes. “Vincent has excellent commercial awareness.” “Vincent is an exceptional litigator who has established a sterling reputation in the class action defence space.”

Koskie Minsky LLP
What the team is known for Koskie Minsky operates a leading Toronto-based class action group, representing plaintiffs from both the public and private sectors throughout every stage of class proceedings and at all levels of court. The firm commands considerable respect for its representation of plaintiffs in residential schools and Crown liability and government negligence cases. Its other areas of expertise include securities, consumer protection, product liability and environmental actions.

Strengths “Koskie Minsky has very high-quality lawyers.”

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Kirk Baert possesses a wealth of class action experience and heads the firm’s class action group. He is regularly instructed to handle high-profile cases on a broad range of issues, including those relating to securities and public law. “Kirk Baert is one of the obvious leading lawyers in the class action sphere.” Celeste Poltak stands out for her work on high-profile class actions and her experience in appellate proceedings. She is based in Toronto. “She has been practising in this area for a very long time and is very good at what she does.” Jonathan Ptak is highlighted in the market for his experience in the class actions space, with a particular focus on insurance and professional negligence. He has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario. “He is a very good lawyer who stands out.” James Sayce is based in Toronto and has a strong record for pur-
suing class action lawsuits on behalf of plaintiffs. He is particularly adept at assisting with cases involving securities, competition and consumer protection issues. “James is a smart lawyer who takes on and runs complicated files.”

**Siskinds LLP**

What the team is known for Siskinds is a well-known law firm with a superlative class action practice, handling a wide breadth of work in the field. The firm is considered for the breadth of its representations, overseeing competition, securities, product liability and consumer protection actions, with added skill in environmental and human rights cases. Its lawyers receive praise for their significant track record in the certification of class proceedings. The team frequently acts for investors, pension funds and asset managers, among others. The firm is based in London and Toronto, with an affiliated office in Quebec City and an additional office in Sarnia. Strengths “Siskinds has a diverse range of well-qualified lawyers. They are the leading firm in this area and are very good at class actions.”

**Notable practitioners**

London-based Charles Wright is a pre-eminent lawyer who is recognised for handling some of the market’s largest and most high-profile class actions, with competition and securities law being areas of particular proficiency. “Charles is an experienced and knowledgeable lawyer.” Michael Robb is well versed in representing plaintiffs in product liability and securities class action litigation. He is based in the firm’s London office. Toronto-based Daniel Bach is adept at handling securities and consumer class actions, as well as those relating to medical devices. Linda Visser focuses her class actions practice on product liability matters as well as price-fixing cases. She is based in London. “Linda is an excellent lawyer and she is very, very smart.”

**Sotos LLP**

What the team is known for Sotos LLP is a highly regarded Toronto-based boutique law firm that is active in the plaintiff class action space. The team is particularly strong in franchising, employment, privacy and consumer protection litigation, and is singled out for its competition and antitrust work. Its lawyers also win praise for their capabilities in the emerging area of data breach class actions. The firm frequently represents consumers, investors and employees. Strengths “The lawyers at Sotos are unique in their ability to assess complex matters and formulate winning strategies.” “The lawyers at Sotos have an outstanding knowledge of the caselaw relating to class actions in all of the Canadian jurisdictions.”

**Work highlights**

Sotos represented Condo Corpora- tion as the plaintiff in a class action dispute seeking compensation for damages resulted as a result of alleged bid-rigging and anti-competitive conduct.

**Notable practitioners**

Louis Sokolov handles a broad range of class actions relating to employment law, market manipulation and price fixing, as well as consumer protection. He is currently advising on a class action brought against Amazon involving alleged breaches of minimum employment standards. “Louis is a highly-skilled litigator and an effective listener.” “He’s a thoughtful, modest and effective lawyer who gets great results.”

David Sterns’ class action cases have been at the forefront of the law relating to privacy, antitrust, consumer protection and human rights. “David is one of the leaders of the class action plaintiff’s Bar in Canada. His knowledge of the law and strategic vision is nearly unmatched.” “David shows a high degree of integrity and understanding.” Jean-Marc Leclerc has notable experience handling high-profile automotive sector antitrust class actions, as well as privacy class actions in the financial services industry. “Jean-Marc is a smart and practical lawyer. He identifies the potential challenges of a case and strategies for addressing those challenges.” “He is a very skilled lawyer.”

**Band 2**

**Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman**

What the team is known for Camp Fiorante Matthews Mogerman is a Vancouver-based litigation boutique with significant national and international reach. The class actions group is particularly well regarded for its plaintiff work in competition and price-fixing cases. Its other areas of expertise include product liability in the pharmaceutical, automotive and technology sectors, consumer protection cases and aviation accident disputes. The lawyers are also acknowledged for their work on human rights-related litigation. Strengths “They are a significant player in the market.”

**Notable practitioners**

Reidar Mogerman enjoys a formidable reputation for his class action work in the competition space. He has appeared before all levels of the court in BC as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. “Reidar is a fantastic lawyer.” David Jones possesses notable experience advocating in class action suits, including those relating to price fixing and product liability. He has also handled cases relating to health products and the automotive industry. “David Jones is a very, very good lawyer.”

**Belleau Lapointe**

What the team is known for Belleau Lapointe is a prominent Montréal-based law firm highlighted for its accomplished class actions practice. The team offers expertise in unfair competition, securities, product liability and environmental files. It is also known for handling consumer disputes. Strengths “They have great lawyers and a national scope to the practice.”

**Notable practitioners**

Maxime Nasr draws recognition for his class actions capabilities in the areas of environmental damage, consumer rights, health and labour law. “He is a very good lawyer.”

**Branch MacMaster**

What the team is known for Branch MacMaster is well-regarded Vancouver-based class action law firm that regularly handles claims related to price fixing, product liability and privacy. The law firm represents a variety of clients in the medical, automotive, financial and technology sectors. It also operates active insurance and health law practices. The team has experience litigating both on the plaintiff side and on behalf of defendants.

**Strosberg Sasso Sutts LLP**

What the team is known for Strosberg Sasso Sutts LLP is a well-known boutique litigation firm operating out of Windsor and Toronto. The firm demonstrates strong capabilities in securities, product liability, competition and consumer protection actions. It offers proven expertise in the technology, health and cannabis sectors.

**Notable practitioners**

Harvey Strosberg is a standout advocate in the Canadian market who is widely recognised for his deep experience in the class actions space. He is based in the firm’s Windsor office. Windsor-based Jay Strosberg focuses his practice on commercial litigation, with a particular emphasis on class proceedings. He is notably experienced handling securities and consumer class actions.

**Trudel Johnston & Lespérance**

What the team is known for Trudel Johnston & Lespérance wins praise for its victories in Québec and across Canada and for its presence and capabilities in plaintiff-side class actions. The law firm brings significant class actions related to consumer protection, securities and product liability, as well as environmental and human rights issues. Strengths “The firm is involved in complex and diverse class actions and is well respected.”

**Notable practitioners**

Montréal-based André Lespérance boasts a wealth of experience handling class actions, most notably on public law issues and those related to the tobacco industry in particular. “He is one of the driving forces of the firm and an excellent lawyer.” Montréal-based firm founding partner Philippe Trudel is an accomplished commercial litigator with considerable plaintiff-side class action experience. He is well versed in handling cases in the tobacco industry.
Kugler Kandestin

What the team is known for: Kugler Kandestin is a Montréal-based law firm with a prominent reputation for its contentious work. The firm possesses broad-ranging class action experience covering product liability, sexual abuse and harassment, market manipulation and consumer protection. Its lawyers additionally handle constitutional mandates.

Notable practitioners: Senior partner Gordon Kugler is a key contact.

Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

What the team is known for: Paliare Roland is a highly regarded litigation boutique with a strong bench and a broad spectrum of expertise. The firm is recognised for its specialised class action group, offering assistance to both plaintiffs and defendants.

Strengths: "The team is very skilled and did a terrific job."

Work highlights: Paliare Roland served as class counsel to a class of pharmacist franchisees of Shoppers Drug Mart. The franchisees allege that their franchisor breached franchise agreements and was unjustly enriched at their expense.

Notable practitioners: Linda Rothstein (see p.295) maintains an impressive reputation for her public and administrative law work, as well as professional regulation. Her expansive practice includes extensive class action experience.

"She is an extremely effective class action litigator and is involved in high-value and complex cases." Odette Soriano (see p.68) is fast establishing a strong presence in the class action space in Canada. She regularly advises plaintiffs on consumer protection disputes, as well as cases concerning broader commercial and regulatory issues. "She is an extremely effective counsel. " Odette was very knowledgeable about the case, including the surrounding facts and trends."

Rochon Genova

What the team is known for: Rochon Genova is an accomplished Ontario law firm that handles securities, competition, consumer and product liability class action suits. The class actions group stands out for its work relating to defective medical device and pharmaceutical, as well as viral outbreaks in hospitals and nursing homes. It also represents the victims of large-scale accidents and institutional abuse. The law firm offers further experience in privacy and telecommunications matters, as well as aviation law. Based in Toronto, the team is associated with a US class action and mass tort plaintiff firm with offices in San Francisco, New York and Nashville.

Strengths: "The firm got a very good settlement in a very tough case. They have very experienced lawyers who know what they are doing."

Notable practitioners: Joel Rochon is one of the founding partners of Rochon Genova. Based in Toronto, his class actions practice includes experience across a wide range of areas, from securities and product liability to institutional abuse. "He is a tenacious and effective plaintiff attorney."

Waddell Phillips

What the team is known for: Waddell Phillips is a Toronto-based law firm advising on a wide range of class actions, civil litigation and family law matters. Of late, the team has been particularly busy in areas such as privacy, consumer protection and public health.

Strengths: "The firm vigorously advances class actions and takes on risky cases."

Notable practitioners: Margaret Waddell commands an impressive reputation for her plaintiff class action practice. She is instructed by clients on financial crime, product liability and employment-related mandates. She is called to the Bar in both Ontario and Alberta. "Margaret is a very smart and capable lawyer." "Margaret is a very good lawyer who has excellent skills and judgement."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Angela Bespflug: "Angela has shown much dedication to understanding immensely complex issues." when things were being slowed down by the defendants, she was able to explain the process and advise as to steps to take to keep the suit moving forward.

Jonathan Foreman is a well-respected litigator with considerable class action experience. His practice spans consumer, shareholder and competition class actions. Based in London, Ontario, he founded Foreman & Company in 2020. "He is a kind and caring individual who continually demonstrated a high level of expertise, a depth of knowledge and his valuable experience, all while maintaining a professional demeanour." "Jonathan is extremely knowledgeable."

David O’Connor has notable class action experience encompassing product liability, employment and securities cases, as well as those in the automotive industry. He is based in Toronto. "His work is of consistently high quality."

Mike Peerless is a highly regarded class actions lawyer who frequently represents plaintiff-side clients. He was named managing partner of McKenzie Lake Lawyers in 2020. "He is known to be involved in complex cases."

Kyle Taylor is based in Toronto and is one of the founding partners of Orr Taylor. He is held in high regard for his experience representing plaintiffs in competition class actions concerning price fixing allegations. "Kyle is compelling as a speaker and is unafraid to take difficult positions." "Kyle has a strong knowledge base and experience in the area of anti-trust litigation. He is an effective oral advocate and is unflappable."
Leaders’ Profiles in Class Actions

ANGELUS, Matthew
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Matthew’s practice focuses on civil and commercial litigation. His experience includes civil, commercial and class action litigation, including in matters relating to insurance, consumer, real estate, insolvency and transportation law. Matthew has acted in proceedings before various courts of first instance, the Quebec Court of Appeal and the Federal Court of Canada. Matthew has extensive experience dealing with the Quebec Consumer Protection Act, particularly in the context of class actions. He regularly provides consumer counsel and is involved in matters relating to consumer protection legislation, including regarding the impact of the modifications to Quebec’s consumer protection regime arising from Bill 134. An Act mainly to modernize rules relating to consumer credit and to regulate debt settlement service contracts, high-cost credit contracts and loyalty programs. Matthew also provides advice to Canadian and multinational corporations on language requirements and other legal requirements for doing business in Quebec. Matthew is responsible for the recruitment, onboarding and integration of the Montreal office’s summer students. Matthew is fluent in French and English.

ARMSTRONG, Sarah
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sarah Armstrong is the Vice-Chair of Fasken’s Ontario Litigation Department. As experienced and strategic litigator with broad litigation, arbitration and dispute resolution experience, she has developed a robust practice focused on complex civil, commercial and class actions across a range of industries, including mining, professional services, insurance, health, automotive, retail and manufacturing. Sarah advises clients on complex and business-critical commercial disputes and professional liability matters. Her class action experience includes securities, product liability, privacy, insurance and consumer claims, and she is an advocate for clients at both the trial and appellate levels. Acting as lead counsel and co-counsel in matters before all levels of court in Ontario as well as before domestic and international arbitral tribunals, Sarah also has experience in administrative law matters, including acting as independent legal counsel to the discipline and fitness practice committees of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.

BEAGAN FLOOD, Catherine
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Class Action (Plaintiff) Career: Angela Bespflug is a strategic and innovative lawyer. Her work on several high-profile and historic class actions has garnered her national and international attention, and she has been recognized by the Federal Court as a “leading practitioner” in the field of class actions. Angela was named Plaintiff Litigator of the Year in the National Review Magazine in both 2022 and 2021 and one of the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers of 2020 by Canadian Lawyer magazine. Angela also recognized by Global Law Experts, Who’s Who, Global 100, Lawyer International, Lawyer Network, and Advisory Excellence for her work in class actions. Cases on which Angela was class counsel have combined settlement values totalling more than $500 million. Angela is lead counsel on a class action against Canada by Indigenous children who lost their cultural identity as a consequence of being apprehended off reserve and placed into state care. In June, the Federal Court certified the action as a class proceeding. The decision represents an important shift in the law and signals that Canada may no longer be able to deny legal responsibility for Indigenous children residing on reserve land. Angela was also lead counsel on a class action brought against the RCMP on behalf of female workers who had been subjected to sexual harassment, discrimination and abuse in the RCMP workplace. Despite the legal and logistical challenges associated with this complex action, Angela successfully negotiated a settlement with an estimated value of $100 million, which was approved by the Federal Court. The action was innovative and paved the way for class proceedings to be used as vehicles for addressing systemic sexual misconduct. Angela is currently counsel on numerous class actions that seek to push the boundaries of the law, including actions focused on commercial wrongs, pension calculation errors, privacy breaches, veterans’ rights, sexual misconduct, and Indigenous rights. Angela is an author on the subject of class actions and a regular presenter at conferences on class actions and emerging areas of the law.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Class Action (Plaintiff) Career: Angela Bespflug is a strategic and innovative lawyer. Her work on several high-profile and historic class actions has garnered her national and international attention, and she has been recognized by the Federal Court as a “leading practitioner” in the field of class actions. Angela was named Plaintiff Litigator of the Year in the National Review Magazine in both 2022 and 2021 and one of the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers of 2020 by Canadian Lawyer magazine. Angela also recognized by Global Law Experts, Who’s Who, Global 100, Lawyer International, Lawyer Network, and Advisory Excellence for her work in class actions. Cases on which Angela was class counsel have combined settlement values totalling more than $500 million. Angela is lead counsel on a class action against Canada by Indigenous children who lost their cultural identity as a consequence of being apprehended off reserve and placed into state care. In June, the Federal Court certified the action as a class proceeding. The decision represents an important shift in the law and signals that Canada may no longer be able to deny legal responsibility for Indigenous children residing on reserve land. Angela was also lead counsel on a class action brought against the RCMP on behalf of female workers who had been subjected to sexual harassment, discrimination and abuse in the RCMP workplace. Despite the legal and logistical challenges associated with this complex action, Angela successfully negotiated a settlement with an estimated value of $100 million, which was approved by the Federal Court. The action was innovative and paved the way for class proceedings to be used as vehicles for addressing systemic sexual misconduct. Angela is currently counsel on numerous class actions that seek to push the boundaries of the law, including actions focused on commercial wrongs, pension calculation errors, privacy breaches, veterans’ rights, sexual misconduct, and Indigenous rights. Angela is an author on the subject of class actions and a regular presenter at conferences on class actions and emerging areas of the law.

BERMAN, Wendy
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Class Action (Plaintiff) Career: Angela Bespflug is a strategic and innovative lawyer. Her work on several high-profile and historic class actions has garnered her national and international attention, and she has been recognized by the Federal Court as a “leading practitioner” in the field of class actions. Angela was named Plaintiff Litigator of the Year in the National Review Magazine in both 2022 and 2021 and one of the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers of 2020 by Canadian Lawyer magazine. Angela also recognized by Global Law Experts, Who’s Who, Global 100, Lawyer International, Lawyer Network, and Advisory Excellence for her work in class actions. Cases on which Angela was class counsel have combined settlement values totalling more than $500 million. Angela is lead counsel on a class action against Canada by Indigenous children who lost their cultural identity as a consequence of being apprehended off reserve and placed into state care. In June, the Federal Court certified the action as a class proceeding. The decision represents an important shift in the law and signals that Canada may no longer be able to deny legal responsibility for Indigenous children residing on reserve land. Angela was also lead counsel on a class action brought against the RCMP on behalf of female workers who had been subjected to sexual harassment, discrimination and abuse in the RCMP workplace. Despite the legal and logistical challenges associated with this complex action, Angela successfully negotiated a settlement with an estimated value of $100 million, which was approved by the Federal Court. The action was innovative and paved the way for class proceedings to be used as vehicles for addressing systemic sexual misconduct. Angela is currently counsel on numerous class actions that seek to push the boundaries of the law, including actions focused on commercial wrongs, pension calculation errors, privacy breaches, veterans’ rights, sexual misconduct, and Indigenous rights. Angela is an author on the subject of class actions and a regular presenter at conferences on class actions and emerging areas of the law.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Andrew Bourrell is a litigation and dispute resolution partner in Fasken’s Vancouver office. As an interna- tionally-recognized leader in the defence of class actions, he represents defendants in matters in the Superior Courts and Courts of Appeal, as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. Andrew also advises de- fendants who anticipate defending class actions or seek to limit their exposure to class actions.

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Practice Areas: Andrew Bourrell is a litigation and dispute resolution partner in Fasken’s Vancouver office. As an interna- tionally-recognized leader in the defence of class actions, he represents defendants in matters in the Superior Courts and Courts of Appeal, as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. Andrew also advises de- fendants who anticipate defending class actions or seek to limit their exposure to class actions.

CARSON, Robert
Oslser, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Robert has a broad litigation practice with particular emphasis on corporate and securities litigation and class action defence. Robert has expe- rience defending securities, consumer, competition and product liability class actions. His practice also includes merg- ers and acquisitions litigation, director and officer liability, shareholder disputes, valuation proceedings, oppression claims, Ontario Securities Commission proceedings, and insolvency and restructuring matters. Robert has represented financial institutions and other leading clients across a range of industries, including auditors, mining companies, retailers, pharmaceutical companies, utilities and other businesses. Robert is co-author of the Canadian chapter in The Securities Litigation Review (an annual “year in review” publication regarding securities litigation around the world) and Defending Securities Class Actions in Canada. Personal: Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.B. Queen’s University, B.Comm.

COOPER, Laura F
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Laura Cooper is Leader of Fasken’s Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group and Co-Chair of the firm’s Class Actions practice group. Laura has extensive experience dealing with the Quebec Consumer Protection Act, particularly in the context of significant class actions. Many of her cases have cross-border and international implications and Laura works closely with counsel in the U.S. and other jurisdictions to ensure strategic co-ordination of cases across borders. Laura also regularly acts as national co-ordinating counsel in respect of Canadian multi-jurisdictional class actions. Laura has particular expertise in securities class actions, defending corporations and others against allegations of misuse-of- representation in the market. She also has extensive experience in competition class actions, having represented clients in competition class actions with respect to electronic components (including SRAM, DRAM, LCD, CRT, ODD and LiB), foreign exchange products, a variety of auto parts and chemicals, among others. Laura also represents clients in respect of a variety of other class action areas including privacy, consumer remedies and employment.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Alan D’Silva is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. He is considered a leading litigation lawyer in Canada with expertise in a number of areas of law, including defence of class actions, corporate/commercial disputes, securities litigation, shareholder oppression cases, large insurance litigation, accountants’ and auditors’ negligence, professional negligence, sports law and directors’ and officers’ claims. Alan has served on the
Management Committee in the Toronto office. Alan has acted as counsel in more than 200 publicly reported cases and has extensive experience at all levels of court, and before administrative tribunals, including more than 100 appeals in Canadian appellate courts and 13 cases in the Supreme Court of Canada since 2001. He has also acted as a mediator, arbitrator and an expert witness in Canadian courts. Alan is a recipient of the University of Ottawa Law School’s 2015 Alumni Award and has been inducted to the Common Law Honour Society, which is described as the Law School’s most prestigious alumni distinction. Alan has also achieved national recognition as one of the top 25 Most Influential Lawyers in Canada by Canadian Lawyer magazine. Alan is a Fellow in The Trial Lawyer Honorary Society of the Litigation Counsel of America since 2018, a by invitation only membership. He was also appointed as an Arbitrator for the International Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in 2019, where he is one of only a small group of worldwide arbitrators to hear professional and amateur sports cases to the CAS. In 2022, Alan became a resident member of Arbitration Place as an arbitrator and mediator, providing dispute resolution services to domestic and international counsel and parties.

DIXON, Brad W
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Brad Dixon is a senior partner practising in the areas of commercial litigation and class action defence. He represents clients in various types of actions, including consumer law claims, competition law issues, product liability, and securities claims. With more than 25 years of experience in defence of class actions, Brad has successfully defended numerous Canadian and multinational companies in certification applications, appeals and common issues trials. He has appeared in the courts of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories, achieving precedent-setting results and is widely recognized by clients and peers as a leading counsel.

Career: British Columbia Bar, 1990; Co-Chair of BLG’s Class Actions Group.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association (B.C. Branch, Civil Litigation and Class Action Subsections); Associate Member, American Bar Association (Civil Litigation Section and International Class Actions Subcommittee); Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America.

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FRIC, Laura
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Laura is an experienced trial, appellate and class action lawyer, representing clients on their most challenging issues. She is Co-Chair of Osler’s Compensation Committee, and a former Co-Chair of the Canadian Advocates’ Society commercial litigation group.

Laura specializes in complex commercial litigation, acting as lead counsel in a broad range of matters, and defending many companies facing large class actions. Laura acted on one of Canada’s largest class action trials, and in a complex transfer-pricing tax trial. Her recent class actions include acting as lead counsel, defending generic pharmaceutical companies in various ongoing product liability claims across Canada, and defending a complex securities class action.

Laura is consistently recognized for her leading expertise including by Benchmark Canada, Who’s Who Legal, the Canadian Legal Experts Directory and the Best Lawyers in Canada.

Career: Laura won the Treasurer’s Medal for highest marks in the 1995 Ontario Bar admission course, and clerked for the judges of the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

Laura started her career as a criminal lawyer, at a prominent defence firm. Professional Memberships: ABA Member, Litigation Section Advocates’ Society Publications: Laura is a frequent speaker and writer on class actions and litigation.

Personal: University of Toronto, LL.B; University of Western Ontario, B.A.

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KAY, Katherine L
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Katherine Kay is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution and Competition & Foreign Investment Groups. She has served on the Partnership Board and Executive Committee, as well as the Management Committee at the Toronto office. Katherine leads the competition litigation group and her practice is concentrated on complex commercial litigation, often involving the interplay between regulatory, civil and criminal law regimes, and across multiple jurisdictions. Chambers Global has described Katherine as “virtually insurmountable in the area of competition litigation” and quoted client feedback that “she is always on top of her game – outstanding expertise, energetic, insightful and very practical” and “an encyclopedic knowledge of the antitrust practice in Canada.” She is recommended as “bright, very responsive and has a good litigation sense.” Katherine was recently noted in the Global Competition Review’s Country Survey: Canada as one of Canada’s “headline competition litigators” and as “among the most talented and well-regarded in the country”. She was also described in previous GCR Country Surveys as “arguably the best competition litigator in Canada” and “among the most talented and well-regarded in the country.”

Career: University of Toronto, LL.B.

KENT, David W
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: David Kent, senior litigation partner in McMillan’s Advocacy and Class Action practices and in its Competition/ Antitrust group. Practice involves complex litigation in competition, IP, commercial and regulatory disputes. Lead defence counsel in over 70 competition consumer, securities, privacy and product liability class actions, including over 50 competition cases involving products such as sub-sovereign agency bonds, credit card, mail order, auto parts, e-books, tech components, DRAM, chemicals and vitamins. Matters at the Competition Tribunal include cartel, unilateral conduct, mergers and misleading advertising. Advised Competition Bureau on proposed 2008 Google/Yahoo tie-up and 2010 BHP Billiton/Potash transaction. Represents broadcasters, cable networks, online music and movie/TV streaming services and social media sites in copyright rate litigation, with 30+ fully litigated rate hearings. Appears at all levels of Canadian courts including Supreme Court of Canada, Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers.

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Practice Areas: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Yves Martineau is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. Over the years, Yves has developed a specific expertise in class actions primarily defending manufacturers, banking institutions and telecommunications companies. He also deals with every aspect of litigation, such as commercial law, product liability, banking law, professional liability, consumer law and private international law. Yves has pleaded before all civil courts of Quebec and before the Supreme Court of Canada.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)
See under Product Liability for profile.
Career: Odette Soriano is a partner and a member of the firm’s Executive Committee. She is an advocate characterized by her thoughtful, strategic and practical approach to solving complicated problems. In her litigation practice focused on class actions, defamation, and other complex disputes, Odette represents significant stakeholders both on the plaintiff and defendant side. Odette is described as having “spectacular problem-solving instincts.”

Professional Memberships: The Advocates’ Society Toronto Lawyers Association

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SULLIVAN, James
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Jim is consistently recognized as leading counsel in complex litigation and class actions. He has been named Canada’s Class Action Litigator of the Year and one of “the very best trial lawyers in all of Canada.”

Career: Jim has presented on legal issues in many locations in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Publications: Jim has authored or co-authored five books on a variety of legal issues and many other legal publications. He has presented on legal issues in many locations in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

THOMSON, Kent E
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: Robert practises corporate commercial litigation and arbitration with an emphasis on defending class actions; product liability, securities, banking, real estate and shareholder disputes. His clients include financial institutions, large multinational organizations, securities dealers, manufacturers and real estate developers. Robert regularly appears before all levels of Quebec courts and arbitration panels, and has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Professional Memberships: Robert is a member of the Montréal, Quebec and Canadian Bar Associations, the Defence Research Institute, the Canadian Defence Lawyers Association and the Federation of Defence & Corporate Counsel. Robert is a Senior Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America, a by-invitation-only honorary trial lawyer society. Member, Trial Law Institute and member, Diversity Law Institute.

WHITMORE, Sarah
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: From precedent-setting employment class actions to defamation and public law litigation, Sarah brings broad experience and skilled advocacy to her work with clients on all aspects of their disputes. As a Partner in our Dispute and Litigation group, Sarah maintains an active disputes practice with an emphasis on class actions, employment law, commercial litigation, public law and constitutional litigation. She has appeared as counsel at all levels of court in Ontario, in various administrative tribunals in Ontario (including the Human Rights Tribunal), the British Columbia Supreme Court, the Alberta Court of Appeal, the Quebec Superior Court, the Federal Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of Canada.

Sarah is counsel to the defendants in a number of leading and precedent-setting employment national class actions, including the Canadian Hockey League, Canada Cartage and Livingston International, as well as a Canadian Schedule I bank in its defence to the first common issues trial to proceed on the merits in an employment class action in Canada. Sarah also assists clients in resolving claims involving allegations of discrimination, sexual harassment and related allegations of wrongful and constructive dismissal, frequently speaking and writing on legal matters related to sexual harassment and discrimination class actions. Sarah is also frequently involved in complex contract disputes, providing representation in all avenues of dispute resolution, as well as proactive advice to mitigate disputes in commercial transactions, joint venture relationships, shareholder arrangements and significant projects. Sarah also has a robust defamation practice and is an advocate for expansive protection for free expression, regularly representing media companies, authors, and individuals in a variety of defamation matters. In particular, Sarah acts on a number of cases engaging the right of complainants to report allegations of misconduct.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Partner in and Practice Lead of the firm’s Litigation Group in Vancouver. Chair of the firm’s National Class Actions Group. Experienced commercial litigator and has appeared at all levels of court in British Columbia, in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario, in the Federal Court, and in arbitral hearings. Has expertise in complex commercial litigation involving a variety of types of claims and in a broad range of industries, and particular expertise in defending class actions. Has significant trial experience, including trial of common issues. Frequently represents financial institution clients on a variety of matters including in relation to fraud, de-marketing, contract terms and mortgage issues. Frequently represents clients in consumer protection, product liability and privacy claims.

Career: British Columbia Bar, 2002

Professional Memberships: International Association of Defense Counsel, Canadian Bar Association and Vancouver Bar Association.


Personal: Board Chair of BGC South Coast (formerly Boys and Girls Club of South Coast BC).

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Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
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See under Product Liability for profile.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Competition/Antitrust
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/savviness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Competition/Antitrust Nationwide

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* Indicates individual with profile.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for

Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a leading law firm with a wide-ranging competition practice that features notable regulatory expertise and adept representation of clients in competition litigation. Respected for its presence on leading M&A transactions, the competition, anti-trust and foreign investment team has a strong track record in contested international mergers and precedent-setting Canadian deals. Its lawyers also offer expertise in antitrust inquiries in relation to cartels and abuse of dominance cases at the Competition Bureau. The firm has established a broad industry expertise, with impressive credentials in a range of sectors including technology, resources and life sciences.

Strengths  “Blake, Cassels & Graydon’s competition practice provides strong technical expertise that they are able to distil down into practical advice.”

“The team at Blakes was excellent – knowledgeable, pragmatic and responsive.”

“From partner to associate, the team is very quick to respond, at any time of the day. The work is very high quality and delivered on time.”

Work highlights

Blakes advised Allied Universal on the Canadian competition law aspects of its USD5.3 billion takeover of G4S.

Notable practitioners

Brian Facey (see p.78) is highlighted as an eminent figure in the competition Bar, with an immense breadth of experience charting merger review and regulatory investigations. Based in Toronto, he chairs the firm’s competition, antitrust and foreign investment group. “Brian is smart, sophisticated and great to work with.”

Toronto-based Navin Joneja (see p.79) has considerable experience leading high-profile merger review files, often in collaboration with foreign counsel. Recent engagements have included major mandates in the pharmaceutical and technology sectors. “Navin is very practical and a really great lawyer to work with.”

“He has good relationships with the Competition Bureau and knows how things should be managed.”

Randall Hofley (see p.79) is a well-recognised lawyer in the competition field, particularly in relation to litigation and regulatory enforcement. His experience covers a wide range of issues, from price-fixing class actions to abuse of dominance cases. Hofley rejoined the firm in January 2020 following a two-year secondment as general counsel and senior enforcement adviser at the Canadian Competition Bureau.

“He is a very smart and thoughtful lawyer.”

Toronto-based Julie Soloway (see p.82) is a skilled and experienced competition lawyer with significant knowledge of cross-border M&A transactions. She has a strong track record of acting for blue-chip clients including financial services and luxury consumer products companies. “Julie delivered a thorough, intelligent, actionable and clear summary to assist us.”

“She is a real star – commercial, clever and knows her way around the authority.”

Robert Kwinter (see p.80) is a highly respected Toronto-based competition lawyer with experience covering major antitrust investigations and disputes, as well as proficiency in merger review cases. As a litigator, he has an impressive track record defending corporate clients in competition-related class action cases.

“Robert is great at navigating difficult legal problems.”

“Rob is one of those lawyers that just knows the answer to so many things. His ability to judge what matters in a dispute is so good and he can think matters over so quickly.”

Micah Wood (see p.83) continues to...
play an important role in a range of significant competition-related mandates, covering cross-border M&A and investments and abuse of dominance lawsuits. He is based in Toronto. “Micah provides an excellent service. We trust his advice on complex matters and he has a good demeanor.” Cassandra Brown (see p.78) is a respected competition lawyer based in Blakes Toronto office. She has assisted a number of major names in the financial and gaming sectors with cross-border M&A work. “Cassandra is a very solid lawyer,” Kevin MacDonald (see p.81) is a partner in Blakes, Cassels & Greydon’s competition & foreign investment team in Toronto. He has a strong practice assisting clients in obtaining competition approval for mergers and acquisitions, particularly in the energy and healthcare sectors. “Kevin has very in-depth experience and has achieved outstanding success.”

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is a leading Toronto-based law firm with a premier competition department, identified for its skillful handling of international transactions and related competition matters. The firm fields a sizeable team that adeptly handles both litigation before the Competition Tribunal and competition reviews. Its lawyers also assist with civil and criminal investigations and abuse of dominance cases. The team demonstrates proficiency across a range of sectors including pharmaceuticals, mining and manufacturing.

**Strengths** “Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is my go-to firm in Canada - they always do an excellent job.”

“The understanding they have of our business is unparalleled.”

**Work highlights** Davies acted for S&P Global on Canadian regulatory matters in connection with its USD44 billion all-stock merger with IHS Markit.

**Notable practitioners**

**George Addy** (see p.77) is a distinguished figure in the Canadian competition market with an immense wealth of experience. His skills continue to be sought after for his regulatory and transactional expertise. John Bodrug (see p.77) is much admired for the depth of his expertise in antitrust investigations, transactional clearance mandates and foreign investment reviews. His recent experience includes acting for significant clients in the telecoms and aviation sectors. Toronto-based Sandra Forbes (see p.78) is a skilled class actions and antitrust lawyer who has experience defending an impressive range of competition-related cases, including deceptive marketing and criminal cartel matters. She also has an active commercial litigation practice. “Sandra is a very bright lawyer - she has a good handle on strategic considerations and is responsive.” Anita Bancivie (see p.77) advises clients on significant merger review files, as well as providing assistance with competition-related class actions. “She is an expert in competition law – she leverages her expertise well and is both responsive and pragmatic.” "Anita has extensive competition law expertise, is very responsive and provides practical advice.” Mark Katz (see p.80) is a well-established competition lawyer with considerable experience advising on both domestic and cross-border transactions. Of late, he has impressed for his leading role in a number of significant financial services sector deals. "Mark is an excellent attorney – it is always a pleasure working with him.”

Elisa Kearney (see p.80) is noted for her impressive breadth of expertise in a variety of competition matters, as well as her proficiency in matters in highly regulated industries, including cannabis, food and other consumer products. “Elisa is incredibly practical, responsive and able to understand complex processes.” Charles Tingley (see p.82) stands out for his involvement in significant investment and merger review files, with a particular focus on the financial services sector. He also has experience advising clients implicated in price-fixing investigations and related litigation. “We were really satisfied with Mr. Tingley’s services.” "He is an excellent lawyer.” Chan'elle Cseh (see p.78) is a Toronto-based litigator with a burgeoning practice representing clients in competition class action disputes. She regularly advises on disputes involving anti-competitive conduct allegations, including price-fixing and market allocation conspiracies. “Chan’telle is a very smart lawyer who is practical and engaging.” “She is wonderful to work with and has a very strong sense of the underlying facts of a case.”

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault operates a dynamic and well-established competition law practice group, featuring considerable experience of investigations, transactions and disputes, as well as foreign investment. Clients appreciate the team’s assistance and advocacy skill in dealings with the Competition Bureau. The law firm acts for clients on both criminal proceedings and civil matters, including cartel class actions, as well as compliance programs. It represents a varied list of international and domestic clients, including household names in the transportation, telecommunications and entertainment sectors. The group has an impressive track record handling prominent, blue-chip cross-border merger files.

**Strengths** “The firm’s service is always timely and of a high quality.”

“The team has very strong expertise and the ability to summarise complex matters.”

**Work highlights** McCarthy Tétrault acted as Canadian counsel to Aon on its now terminated proposed acquisition of Willis Towers Watson for an implied combined equity value of USD80 billion.

**Notable practitioners**

Donald Houston (see p.79) is an eminently respected member of the Canadian competition Bar, with an impressive career that has seen him represent clients in both regulatory enforcement and litigation. He also has significant experience in merger and investment review files. Jason Gudofske (see p.79) is frequently engaged to provide competition advice on a multitude of complex and high-profile cross-border transactions. He is based out of McCarthy Tétrault’s Toronto office. “Jason is great with clients and a good sounding board. He is very sharp and responsive.” “He has a lot of authority and charisma which allows him to get things moving in the right direction.” Oliver Borgers (see p.77) has cultivated a solid reputation in the Canadian competition market, with significant experience advising on all manner of transactional reviews, including acquisitions, joint ventures and strategic alliances. Nikiforos Iatrou (see p.79) is an experienced litigator and antitrust lawyer with significant experience advising on abuse of dominance and misleading advertising cases. He particularly impresses for his work in the technology and e-commerce sectors. Casey Halladay (see p.79) is a respected competition lawyer with a skill set covering both merger review and regulatory enforcement. He continues to be engaged in a number of major cross-border transactions. “Casey is incredibly technically strong and really understands global merger control.” Deborah Salzberger (see p.82) provides guidance to clients on the process of investment and merger review, including navigating the Investment Canada Act. Her recent work includes several impressive mandates in financial services and construction. “Debbie is an invaluable resource when dealing with complex discussions within competition law. Her thoughtful consideration of issues assists in navigating what can be grey areas in terms of policy development and enforcement priorities.” Montreal-based Dominic Thérien (see p.82) is a respected competition law expert with expertise in major merger review and foreign investment files. “Dominic is an expert in the field and is able to help us solve the various problems that may arise in connection with competition law.”

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott is a full-service law firm housing a superb competition practice group with notable expertise in contentious antitrust issues such as cartel investigations and competition class actions. The team also wins praise for its representation of blue-chip clients in connection with the competition aspects of global merger transactions. The firm has further expertise in criminal matters that span various sectors, including telecoms, retail, and banking and finance, among others. Its impressive client portfolio features Veolia, Air Canada and Canadian National Railway.
Strengths “Stikeman Elliott has great business acumen and a deep roster of talent, all the way down to the junior level. I can always count on the firm to get the job done under any timeline.”

“They treat my issues like they are their issues, with ownership and relentlessness.”

“The quality of the counsel at Stikeman Elliott is second to none – the firm’s strategic understanding and thinking is great.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott acted as Canadian antitrust and competition counsel for Willis Towson Watson in its proposed merger with Aon.

Bennett Jones LLP

Lawson Hunter KC (see p.79) is a pre-eminent figure in Canadian competition. He continues to be acknowledged for his leadership and guidance and is credited as one of the key individuals behind the creation of Canada’s Competition Act. Paul Collins (see p.78) continues to be recognised as a leading light in the field of competition law. He has a wealth of experience leading various cross-border transactional mandates. “Paul is an exceptional lawyer who provides great advocacy and contacts.” Katherine Kay (see p.68) is a highly experienced litigator, frequently at the forefront of the country’s most significant antitrust disputes. She also assists clients in responding to regulatory inquiries and enforcement actions. “Katherine has a strong breadth of experience.” “I’m a big fan of Katherine Kay – she’s smart, reliable, practical and knows everybody.” Susan Hutton (see p.79) is highly regarded for her significant competition and foreign investment expertise. She has played a leading role in transformative M&A deals across a range of major industries, including agriculture, pharmaceuticals, energy and telecoms. “Susan has a very broad base of knowledge and the ability to advise on multiple competition areas, ranging from mergers to marketing.” Elliot Koler (see p.80) is a highly respected litigator who has considerable experience leading high-profile antitrust single-plaintiff and class action proceedings. He is the head of the firm’s litigation and dispute resolution group. “Elliot is a pleasure to work with.” “Elliot understands the details but doesn’t get lost in them.” Michael Kilby (see p.80) is the head of Stikeman Elliott’s competition & foreign investment and is based in Toronto. He continues to impress for his competition and merger review practice, leading a number of significant deals in the pharmaceutical, telecoms and utilities sectors. “Michael Kilby is a very strategic thinker.” “Michael is very practical and great at client service.” Kevin Ackhurst (see p.77) is a competition lawyer who advises on various cross-border merger files, particularly in the energy and technology spaces. He is based out of Stikeman Elliott’s Toronto office. Michael Laskey (see p.81) is a highly rated lawyer in the Canadian competition Bar, with an impressive track record handling complex cross-border mergers and regulatory reviews. Danielle Royal (see p.82) is a skilled litigator with experience covering price fixing and various cross-border merger files, particularly in the energy and technology sectors. He is based out of Stikeman Elliott’s Toronto office. Michael Laskey (see p.81) is a highly rated lawyer in the Canadian competition Bar, with an impressive track record handling complex cross-border mergers and regulatory reviews.

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for Bennett Jones operates a high-profile competition and antitrust practice that is widely recognised for its significant experience of cartel investigations and class actions with additional strength in price-fixing cases and misleading advertising matters. The firm has a solid track record advising on merger and foreign investment review files, often acting for multinational clients on mandates in the cannabis and technology sectors, among others. Clients benefit from the broad spread of Bennett Jones’ expertise across Canada, with lawyers based in Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and Montréal.

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is a respected law firm that is highlighted for its standout capabilities on the M&A side of competition and antitrust, providing guidance to notable clients in financial services, energy and technology. The Toronto and Calgary-based team also adeptly represents clients before regulatory bodies in com-
petition disputes and civil enforcement proceedings. Its lawyers offer additional experience in cartel and criminal antitrust investigations.

**Strengths** “Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt has the expertise and business understanding to meet our needs.”

“The firm exhibits a good understanding of legal and operational implications and takes a pragmatic approach to providing advice and guidance.”

“The team is very collaborative, thoughtful and efficient.”

**Work highlights** Osler advised Microsoft on the Canadian Competition Act and Investment Canada Act aspects of its US$68.7 billion all-cash acquisition of Activision Blizzard.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based senior partner Michelle Lally (see p.80) offers significant extensive experience in the process of merger and investment review. She acts for a number of high-profile clients in the entertainment, telecommunications and financial services sectors.

Christopher Naudle (see p.81) is a Toronto-based litigation lawyer who was considered an expert in a number of key antitrust areas, including price fixing, bid rigging and cases of misleading advertising. He has represented clients in several major class actions in the banking and consumer products sectors. Shuli Rodal (see p.81) chairs the firm’s competition, trade and foreign investment group in Toronto, from where she represents corporate clients in both merger reviews and regulatory investigations. She is particularly active working for clients in financial services, including investment managers and fintech companies. “It was a pleasure to work with Shuli as she is not only extremely knowledgeable, she also digs in and understands the business issues, in order to provide practical advice.” “Shuli was very thoughtful at identifying issues that could come up in the matter.”

Calgary-based Kaeleigh Kuzma (see p.80) assists clients with the regulatory clearance of significant M&A and inbound investment mandates. She is particularly active in energy sector work. “Kaeleigh is a pleasure to work with.”

**Band 4**

**Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais possesses a solid competition practice group that earns recognition for its increasing visibility in Canada. The team is noted for its presence and strength in competition litigation, specifically on cartel matters, including class actions. The law firm also offers competition and foreign investment advice in relation to mergers for multinational clients across various sectors. It also maintains a solid reputation among its counterparts in other jurisdictions, as well as for its work in the areas of technology and e-commerce.

**Strengths** “The firm has vast experience which strengthens the advice they provide.”

**Work highlights** A BLG team led by Subrata Bhatchacharjee advised Netflix on Canadian competition and foreign investment clearance for its global acquisition of Scantine VFX.

**Notable practitioners**

Subrata Bhatchacharjee (see p.77) has an excellent client following and is highly regarded by his international counterparts in the antitrust space. He is sought out for his breadth of expertise in competition law, covering merger reviews, regulatory compliance and litigation. Based in Toronto, he is the national co-chair of BLG’s competition and foreign investment review group. “Subrata is particularly good with clients and very responsive.” “He is able to explain the particularities of the Canadian process, which is very much appreciated.” Robert Russell (see p.82) is a seasoned Toronto-based lawyer with considerable experience representing clients in a range of competition cases, including those involving issues of enforcement and misleading advertising. “Denes Rothschild (see p.82) is an up-and-coming competition lawyer who provides support and guidance to clients seeking merger regulatory approval, including matters with national security implications. His recent mandates include files in the real estate, construction and energy sectors. “Denes is really good at merger control and foreign direct investment work.”

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken is an international law firm with a respected competition department in Canada. It has a strong track record advising a range of clients in various sectors, including agriculture and transportation. The team assists with cartel investigations, class action defence, transactions and competition compliance. Its lawyers also represent clients in litigation before the Competition Tribunal, with a growing focus on issues relating to the abuse of dominance. The firm is also noted for its particular expertise in South African competition law. It benefits from the support of various practitioners with significant enforcement experience within the Bureau, including most recent Competition Commissioner John Pecman, who is a senior business adviser in the firm’s Ottawa office.

**Strengths** “I found Fasken to be very positive, practical and pragmatic.”

“Fasken has a good cross-section of both experience and background with the regulator. They deliver responses quickly and effectively.”

**Work highlights** Fasken assisted Rogers Communications with a regulatory review by the Competition Bureau in relation to its CAD26 billion acquisition of Shaw Communications.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Antonio Di Domenico (see p.78) continues to grow his reputation for his work on competition litigation, including class action proceedings. He also advises on high-profile regulatory investigations and mergers. “Antonio has great experience and is able to easily translate that into practical advice for the client.” “He is knowledgeable, practical, pragmatic and proactive.” Huy Do (see p.81) co-leads the firm’s competition, marketing and foreign investment practice from Toronto and is noted for his breadth of experience in the competition space. He advises on both merger mandates and regulatory investigations, and is particularly noted for his recent work on complex deals in the consumer products sector, including luxury goods, food production and cannabis. “I think highly of him. He is thoughtful, strategic and thorough.” “Huy is extremely experienced, understands business issues and provides timely, practical advice in a very confident manner.” Anthony Baldanza (see p.77) is a long-standing Toronto-based lawyer with considerable experience in the Canadian competition arena. He continues to play a leading role on complex antitrust and competition cases, with notable precedents. “He is a strategic lawyer who has done a lot of complex deals.” Chris Margison (see p.81) is a counsel in Fasken’s Toronto competition, marketing & foreign investment team. He advises clients in a number of industries on mergers and unilateral conduct, including organisations in the food, financial services and retail sectors. “He is very good at explaining complex situations to his clients and finding ways to adapt.” “Chris is thoughtful, strategic and thorough.”
Band 5

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

What the team is known for: Cassels Brock & Blackwell offers expertise in merger and foreign investment review, as well as a solid track record in competition dispute resolution. The firm's Toronto-based competition and foreign investment group is particularly well respected for its roster of blue-chip clients in the mining and natural resources sectors.

Strengths: "The depth and breadth of the team is very, very strong."

Work highlights: Cassels Brock & Blackwell represented KEMET and Rubycon in class actions in British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec alleging price-fixing in respect of sales of electrolytic and film capacitors.

Notable practitioners:
- Davit Akman (see p.77) is a well-regarded competition litigator based in Cassels Brock & Blackwell's Toronto office. He regularly represents clients in cartel class actions, as well as advising on competition clearance for international transactions. "Davit Akman is a very strong advocate - he has a very high level of sophistication and commercial awareness, along with his expert knowledge of antitrust law." "Davit is savvy, well-connected, thoughtful and strategic." Michael Osborne (see p.81) is a Toronto-based lawyer who has considerable experience representing clients implicated in price-fixing and abuse of dominance class action litigation. He has played a significant role in a number of prominent competition class actions. "Michael is a very diligent and hard-working lawyer."

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for: Dentons is a well-resourced firm with an international scope, in addition to a good nationwide reach with offices in Ontario, Alberta, Quebec and British Columbia. Its Canadian competition team adeptly advises international clients on the regulation and review process surrounding the Investment Canada Act. The firm also provides litigation support to a client base from a range of industry sectors on matters before the Competition Tribunal, including cartel investigations and class action proceedings. Its lawyers offer particular prowess in securing competition and foreign investment clearance for cross-border transactions in the energy and natural resources sector.

Strengths: "I can’t imagine better service than the service at Dentons – the team is very responsive and solution-oriented."

Work highlights: Dentons provided WOW! Unlimited Media with regulatory advice concerning clearance under the Investment Canada Act, in relation to its acquisition by Genius Brand International.

Notable practitioners:
- Sandra Walker assists clients with merger and foreign investment regulatory approval. She particularly stands out for her work in the energy and power sectors. Based in Toronto, she is co-chair of Dentons’ competition and foreign investment review group. "She is a very solid practitioner on the foreign review side of things."
- Adam Goodman is an up-and-coming Toronto-based lawyer who impresses due to his strong competition regulatory practice. He frequently assists clients with securing antitrust clearance for mergers, in addition to providing regulatory advice related to the Investment Canada Act. "Adam provided us with high-quality and prompt service." "He is very effective at pushing his clients’ interests forward."
- Barry Zelmanowitz KC is a veteran of the Canadian antitrust market, with considerable experience handling significant transactions and responding to regulatory actions. Based in Edmonton, he is particularly well regarded for his expertise in the oil and gas sector. "Barry is a very eminent and respected lawyer."

Other Ranked Lawyers:

Arlan Gates of Baker McKenzie is an experienced Toronto-based competition lawyer with notable expertise in regulatory investigations and compliance work in the area of advertising and marketing. "Arlan is extremely intelligent, hard-working and insightful."

Industry stalwart Calvin Goldman KC is a highly regarded Toronto-based competition lawyer and former commissioner of the Competition Bureau. He is well known for his position at the forefront of his field.

Vancouver-based David Rosner (see p.82) of Goodmans LLP operates a well-respected antitrust and foreign investment practice, with particular expertise in domestic and cross-border merger review files. He also leads the firm’s competition, antitrust and foreign investment practice group.
Leaders’ Profiles in Competition/Antitrust

ACKHURST, Kevin
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Kevin Ackhurst is a partner in the Competition & Foreign Investment Group. He has over 20 years of extensive experience in advising clients on all aspects of Canadian competition/antitrust and foreign investment review law, including mergers, cartel defence, and civil matters. He has acted as counsel for private parties in numerous proceedings before the Canadian Competition Tribunal, in class actions, and other civil, criminal, and competition litigation matters at all levels of court in Canada, including the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal, and the Ontario Superior Court.

Baldanza, Anthony
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Tony Baldanza’s business law practice is focused on competition law, foreign investment law and corporate/commercial matters. In his competition law practice, Tony provides advice and representation in relation to mergers and in relation to cartel, abuse of dominance and other restrictive trade practices. Working across a wide range of industries, Tony assists clients in clearing transactions through the Canadian Competition Bureau and, with local counsel, through the competition/antitrust procedures of other jurisdictions. Tony has extensive experience in advising on all aspects of competition/corporate law and has acted as counsel in numerous matters involving the Investment Canada Act, national security and other federal legislation and policies.

ADDY, George N.
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: George brings 40 years of foreign investment, regulatory, and competition law expertise advising clients on matters involving domestic and foreign regulators, including cartels, M&A, and various trade practices. He has acted at all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada, and at judicial inquiries and regulatory hearings on behalf of private and public sector clients.

BALDANZA, Anthony
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Tony Baldanza’s business law practice is focused on competition law, foreign investment law and corporate/commercial matters. In his competition law practice, Tony provides advice and representation in relation to mergers and in relation to cartel, abuse of dominance and other restrictive trade practices. Working across a wide range of industries, Tony assists clients in clearing transactions through the Canadian Competition Bureau and, with local counsel, through the competition/antitrust procedures of other jurisdictions. Tony has extensive experience in advising on all aspects of competition/corporate law and has acted as counsel in numerous matters involving the Investment Canada Act, national security and other federal legislation and policies.

BANCHEVIC, Anita
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Anita is a partner in the Competition, Antitrust & Foreign Investment practice. She advises on all aspects of Canadian competition and foreign investment review law, with a particular emphasis on complex multimodal mergers, criminal price-fixing investigations, as well as advertising-related investigations and general compliance issues. She has been involved in a number of the most closely watched and leading competition cases in Canada and assists clients with contested proceedings before the courts and the Competition Tribunal, as well as negotiating resolutions and consent agreements. Anita is a recognized leader in the competition bar in Canada and internationally, and has held leadership positions within the Canadian Bar Association and American Bar Association. Most recently, she served as chair of the National Competition Law Section of the CBA in 2017-18 and is currently a member of the ABA Antitrust Section’s Section Council. Anita is a Co-Chair of the Editorial Board of Antitrust Online (a publication of the ABA’s Antitrust Law Section). Select Recognition: Chambers Global; GCR 100 Canada; Legal 500 Canada; The ABA Antitrust Section’s Section Council; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Canada; and the Competition & Foreign Investment Practice Areas of Chambers Global; Chambers Canada; GCR 100; Legal 500 Canada; Lexexpert/ALM 500 Directory; Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Competition.

BORGERS, Olivier J
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oborgers@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Olivier J. Borgers practices on all aspects of antitrust law, foreign investment and national security review. Emphasis on application of these laws to mergers, acquisitions, negotiations and market conduct. Regularly provides merger advice to numerous global companies. Has obtained competition and foreign investment clearances for Canada’s largest transactions, among many others.

Zbara’s business law practice is focused on all aspects of competition law, foreign investment review, including mergers, price-fixing investigations and other pricing, distribution and advertising matters. He has acted for Canadian, US and international corporations across a wide range of industries, including energy & resources, transportation, agriculture, manufacturing, financial services and consumer products. Olivier has obtained Competition Act and Investment Canada Act clearances for numerous transactions. He also has extensive expertise in advising clients on the criminal provisions of Canada’s Competition Act and is regularly consulted on contested matters, immunity or leniency agreements, and resolutions prior to formal proceedings. He is a member of the CBE’s Anti-Corruption Task Force. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; GCR 100 Canada; Legal 500 Canada; The Lexexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Antitrust.

BHATTACHARJEE, Subrata
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Subrata Bhattacharjee is a partner at BLG and a Co-Chair of the Competition and Foreign Investment Practice Group. Practice encompasses all aspects of Canadian competition/antitrust and regulatory strategy including merger clearance, cartel defence and civil matters. Extensive foreign investment practice, and routinely advises non-Canadian investors on Canadian foreign investment and other federal policies/legislation.


Professional Memberships: Oficer, ABA Section of Antitrust Law; Chair, Canadian Chamber of Commerce Competition Law & Policy Committee; Non-Governmental Advisor, International Competition Network.

BODRUG, John
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: John’s practice is focused on all aspects of competition law and foreign investment review, including mergers, price-fixing investigations and other pricing, distribution and advertising matters. He has acted for Canadian, US and international corporations across a wide range of industries, including energy & resources, transportation, agriculture, manufacturing, financial services and consumer products. John has obtained Competition Act and Investment Canada Act clearances for numerous transactions. He also has extensive expertise in advising clients on the criminal provisions of Canada’s Competition Act and is regularly consulted on contested matters, immunity or leniency agreements, and resolutions prior to formal proceedings. He is a member of the CBE’s Anti-Corruption Task Team and a past chair of the CBA National Competition Law Section. John is currently a Co-Chair of the Editorial Board of Antitrust Online (a publication of the ABA’s Antitrust Law Section). Select Recognition: Chambers Global; GCR 100 Canada; The Legal 500 Canada; The Lexexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Canada and Competition; The Best Lawyers in Canada’s Toronto Competition/Antitrust Law Lawyer of the Year 2017.

Career: Partner, McCarthy Tétrault (Toronto); Former managing partner of UK offices of McCarthy Tétrault, Taught...
competition law at Western University (London) and York University; Ontario Bar; England and Wales Bar; BA (Hon.); LLB; LLM.

Professional Memberships: Former Chair of National Competition Law Section (Canadian Bar Association); Founder, Foreign Investment Review Committee; Former Chair, Mergers Committee (CBA); ABA task force on Antitrust, Consumer Protection and Diverse Consumers; Founder, Canadian-German Lawyers’ Association; Member of Studienvereinigung Kartellrecht (German Antitrust Law Section); Member of the Merger & Mergers Working Group. 

Publications: Contributing editor of Foreign Investment Review (Getting the Deal Through).

Personal: Speaks English, French, German, Spanish.

BROWN, Cassandra Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto 416-863-2295 cassandra.brown@blakes.com Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada)

Practice Areas: Cassandra is a Partner in the Competition, Antitrust & Foreign Investment Group at Blake’s. She advises on all aspects of Canadian competition law, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, distribution practices, criminal and civil investigations, compliance, as well as foreign investment transactions under the Investment Canada Act. Her clients span a variety of industries, including energy, mining, technology, pharmaceutical, consumer products, agricultural, telecommunications, transportation, aviation, financial services, manufacturing, automotive and real estate. She has completed secondments to Coca-Cola Limited, a major international law firm based in London and the Blakes New York office.

Career: Cassandra was a sessional ad junct professor of competition regulation at Osgoode Hall Law School.

Publications: Cassandra is co-author of a leading trend-setting book, United States: Foreign Investment Review (Canadian Bar Association, 2022). She has written on foreign investment issues, including in relation to mergers, criminal and civil investigations, compliance, as well as foreign investment transactions under the Investment Canada Act.

Collins, Paul Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto 416-869-5577 pcollins@stikeman.com Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada)

Practice Areas: Paul Collins is senior counsel and the former Head of the Competition & Foreign Investment Group in the Toronto office. He practices corporate and commercial law, specializing in the area of competition law, providing both transactional and general compliance advice, including on contract marketing and advertising law. Paul is also a leading advisor for foreign investors in connection with the Investment Canada Act. His practice puts him in constant contact with the federal Competition Bureau and the Investment Review Division of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. He is a past chair of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Bar Association Competition Law Section. From May 2010 to May 2012, Paul served as a Senior Deputy Commissioner with the Competition Bureau where, as the head of the Mergers Branch, he was instrumental in the Bureau’s review of high-profile corporate transactions and the development of key Bureau policies arising from the significant amendments to the Competition Act introduced in 2009. Such Bureau policies/guidelines include the revised Merger Enforcement Guidelines published in October 2011, as well as the Merger Review Process Guidelines, the Fee and Service Standards Handbook for Mergers and Merger-Related Matters, and a number of Interpretation Guidelines. During his tenure with the Bureau, Paul was a member of the Senior Management Committee.

CSEH, Chantelle Davies Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto 416-367-7552 cseh@dpvlaw.com Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Chantelle is known for her superb oral advocacy skills and her expertise in electronic litigation. She advises clients of all sizes across a wide range of civil litigation matters, including complex commercial, competition and securities disputes. A significant portion of her practice involves the defence of national and cross-border class actions. Chantelle is at the forefront of the use of litigation technology, and regularly consults on best practices for electronic and virtual litigation. A frequent legal author, Chantelle presents for organizations such as the Law Society of Ontario, the Canadian Bar Association and The Advocates’ Society. Chantelle is chair of the Governance and Risk Management Committee and a member of the board of Earth Rangers. She is the Past-Chair of the OBA Civil Litigation Section Executive, a member of the OBA Equality Committee and a member of the Commercial Lit. Users Committee. Select Recognitions: OBA Heather McArthur Memorial Young Lawyers Award; Osogoode Alumni Gold Key Award, One-to-Watch; Financial Times’ North America Innovative Lawyers Report, Top 10 Individuals; Benchmark Canada, 40 and Under Hotlist; The Best Lawyers in Canada.

Di DOMENICO, Antonio Fasken, Toronto 416-868-3410 addomenico@fasken.com Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada)

Practice Areas: Tony is a Partner and Co-Leader of the Firm’s Competition, Marketing and Foreign Investment Group. As former counsel to Canada’s Commissioner of Competition (Department of Justice Canada) and having served as counsel in many of Canada’s most significant competition matters, Tony is widely recognized as one of Canada’s leading practitioners in competition law and litigation. Tony’s expertise is recognized in numerous national and international legal directories, including Chambers, Who’s Who Legal, Global Competition Review, Best Lawyers, and Legal 500, Benchmark Litigation and Lex. Clients note that Tony “is an absolute pleasure to work with”, “is an extremely responsive lawyer”, “has a practical, pragmatic approach to litigation and advisory matters”, “has a strong international presence”, “has outstanding knowledge of the Canadian Competition Bureau and its processes” and “deals with government red tape efficiently.”

Do, Huy A Fasken, Toronto 416 868 3505 hdo@fasken.com Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada)

Practice Areas: Huy Do is the Co-Leader of the firm’s Antitrust/Competition & Marketing group. His practice focuses on antitrust/competition, marketing and foreign investment law. Huy is a recognized leader in Canadian competition, marketing and foreign investment laws. He is the current Chair of the Competition Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association and serves as a Non-Executive Advisor to the International Competition Network, a network of antitrust/competition law enforcement agencies from around the world. Huy brings his wealth of experience, including from his time with the Competition Bureau, to advise clients in complex domestic and international competition law cases, including in relation to mergers, criminal cartels, deceptive marketing and abuse of dominance investigations. Huy also has extensive experience advising foreign clients, including state-owned enterprises, on economic and national security reviews under the Investment Canada Act.

Facey, Brian A Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto 416-863-2179 bfacey@blakes.com Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada)

Practice Areas: Brian is one of the world’s most highly regarded lawyers and a trusted advisor to senior counsel, management and CEOs. He is sought after for his judgment, experience, connections and ability to execute on complex matters. Recognized at the top of all the major ranking services, including as one of Canada’s 25 most influential lawyers and as Competition Lawyer of the Year, Canada Professional Memberships: Past Chair of the CBA Competition Law Section, founder of the CBA Foreign Investment Review Committee.

Publications: Competition and Antitrust Laws in Canada; Mergers, Joint Ventures and Competition Collaborations; Competition and Antitrust Laws in Canada and the United States; Investment Canada Act: Commentary and Annotation; Competition Act: Commentary and Annotation. Repeatedly cited by the Supreme Court of Canada and other leading courts.

Forbes, Sandra A Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto 416-863-5574 sfforbes@dwpv.com Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide-Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Sandra is a leading competition lawyer who specializes in corporate, class action, securities and competition litigation. A significant portion of her practice involves defending clients in national and cross-border class actions. She acts for clients before all levels of courts and various administrative tribunals in Canada, including the Competition Tribunal. Sandra has achieved successful results for clients on diverse issues, including class action allegations alleging anti-competitive conduct or collusion, and competition matters such as abuse of dominance. She is highly experienced in defending litigation for directors and audit committees. Sandra is the past president of The Advocates’ Society, a Regent of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. She is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law in which she teaches the Advanced Advocacy course. Sandra was a law clerk to the Honourable Justice Peter Cory of the Supreme Court of Canada from 1990 to 1991. Select Recognitions: Chambers Global; The Legal 500 Canada; The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert Special Edition Litigation; Benchmark Canada; Who’s Who Legal-Canada.

FORBES, Sandra A Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto 416-869-3505 sfforbes@dwpv.com Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide-Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide-Canada), Litigation (Ontario)
GUDOFSKY, Jason
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Jason is the Chair of McCarthy Tétrault’s Competition/Antitrust & Foreign Investment Group. He has over 20 years of experience advising on all aspects of competition law, including mergers, joint ventures and alliances, and both civil and criminal investigations. Significant recent mandates include: Parkland/Husky, Parkland/Pétroleos Creviser, Discovery/WarnerMedia, Hitachi Rail/Thales Ground Transportation Systems, NCR/Cardtronics, AstraZeneca/Alexion Pharma, and The Okta/AbbVie/Allergan, Harris Corporation/L3 Technologies, and Walt Disney. 21st Century Fox. Jason also advises on foreign investment/national security reviews under the Canadian Investment Act, including the following significant transactions: Cineworld/Cinéplex, Zijn Mining/Continent Gold, CCCI/Aeon and CNOOC/Nexen. Jason is regularly relied upon to provide strategic advice, internal audits and navigate sensitive matters through the relevant Canadian governmental authorities. Jason previously worked for three years at a leading international law firm in Brussels.

Professional Memberships: Past Chair and Vice-Chair of CBA committees, and active member of the ABA.

Publications: In 2010, he published numerous articles and regularly speaks at major international conferences. Global Competition Review editorial board and Co-Chair, Annual GCR Antitrust Law Leaders Forum Co-Chair, and President of the GCR Postgraduate Diploma in EC Competition Law.

HALLADAY, Casey W
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Casey is one of Canada’s leading competition lawyers, with a practice covering merger control, cartel defence, and antitrust litigation. He brings an analytical approach to competition law issues that is unique in the Canadian profession, having practiced with leading firms in Toronto, Washington and London. He has been named one of the world’s top 40 competition lawyers under 40 (Global Competition Review, 2012), one of the top 40 lawyers in Canada under 40 (LEXPERT, 2018), one of the top 25 lawyers under 40 worldwide “Lawyer of the Year - Under 40” Award (2014, 2013). His Harvard Law School LL.M thesis on competition on the international level was published as a book with the International Swowe Antitrust Writing Competition. Casey is admitted to practice in Ontario, New York, and England & Wales. He is a longtime member of the Leadership of the ABA Section of Antitrust Law, including serving as a member of the section’s governing Council.

HERSH, Christopher
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Christopher Hersh is a business law partner based in Toronto and the Canadian head of our antitrust and competition practice. Chris provides strategic counsel to clients on all aspects of competition law, including mergers and acquisitions, criminal matters, abuse of dominance, marketing and advertising, as well as pricing and distribution issues. He also regularly works with international clients to obtain approvals under the “net benefit,” national security and cultural content review provisions of the Investment Canada Act. In addition to his transactional and regulatory work, Chris has an active competition litigation practice and acts for clients involved in matters before the only Competition Tribunal, trial case to criminal investigations/prosecutions, as well as price-fixing class actions.

Professional Memberships: Member of the Canadian and American Bar Association, Past Chair of the CBA Competition Law Section’s Policy and Legislation Committee and Co-Chair IBA Working Group on Private Antitrust Litigation.

HOFLEY, Randall J
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Randall Hofley - partner in the Competition, Antitrust & Foreign Investment and Litigation groups. Trusted advisor on competition law and the federal regulation of business, with a focus on contentious matters before the Canadian Competition Bureau and Competition Tribunal, and all levels of Canadian courts and federal administrative tribunals. Brings both private-sector and public-sector experience to most recent serving as General Counsel and Senior Enforcement Advisor, Competition Bureau Legal Services. Ligated high-profile competition Act cases, including the first abuse of dominance case to reach the Supreme Court of Canada, the only Federal Court of Appeal decision to address patents under the Act, the only (civil) price maintenance case, the first case considering the Act’s consent provisions, the only appellate level case on the application of the Act’s cartel provisions to agreements between purchasers of goods or services, the Commission’s first-ever contested order rescinding a Consent Agreement. Represented clients in a variety of investigation proceedings and private actions, including class actions. Has frequently represented the Commissioner of Competition. Significant cartel and merger practice, both domestic and international. Extensive experience litigating Competition Tribunal cases. Adjunct Professor at Western University Law School.

HOUSTON, Donald B
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Competition law and litigation practice includes defending criminal prosecutions, Competition Tribunal proceedings and private actions, includingclass actions. Has frequently represented the Commissioner of Competition. Significant cartel and merger practice, both domestic and international. Extensive experience litigating Competition Tribunal cases.

HUNTER, Lawson
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Lawson Hunter is one of Canada’s renowned regulatory and government relations counsel, drawing on a wide range of experience in business, government and private practice. Most recently, Lawson was awarded the Order of Canada for his distinguished career in government, business and private practice as one of the country’s leading competition and antitrust lawyers. In 2017, he was awarded the Order of Ottawa for his significant contributions to the City of Ottawa. In 2016, he was the recipient of the Chambers Canada Lifetime Achievement award for his prominent practice and global reputation as a leading life-time practitioner and influential member of the Canadian Bar. Formerly Canada’s senior civil servant in charge of competition policy and enforcement, Lawson was primarily responsible for the drafting of the federal Competition Act. From 1993 to 2003, he was a partner of Stikeman Elliott and head of the firm’s Competition/Antitrust Group. From 2003 to 2008, he served as executive vice-president and chief corporate officer of Bell Canada and BCE Inc., where he was responsible for overseeing regulatory, governmental relations and corporate affairs. In September 2008, he rejoined the Ottawa office of Stikeman Elliott as counsel. From April to December 2012, Lawson assumed the role of head of the Competition and Foreign Investment Group and recently returned to his role as counsel.

HUTTON, Susan
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Susan Hutton is a senior partner in the Competition & Foreign Investment Group. She provides Competition Act and Investment Canada Act advice in respect of numerous complex mergers and acquisitions. She provides clients with ongoing compliance advice and has guided clients through civil and criminal investigations, as well as complaints under the Competition Act.

IATROU, Nikiforos
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Focused on contentious antitrust matters, Nikiforos is routinely retained by Canadian and multinational clients facing high-stakes, competition issues, including mergers, cartel, abuses of dominance, false and misleading advertising claims, and class actions. Recent matters involve investigations into social media, food delivery, alleged abuse of dominance in commercial aviation; alleged misleading online price representations in international transports; e-Book publishing; airline joint ventures; and class actions regarding salmon, hard drive suspension systems, sub-sovereign bonds, and generic drugs.

CAREER: Ontario Bar, 2004. From 2009 to 2012, counsel to Canada’s Commissioner of Competition, providing clients with unique insight and deep understanding of how the Competition Bureau operates. Led numerous matters before Competition Tribunal, including for Kobo in e-Books, obtaining the first-ever order enjoining the Commissioner from implementing a consent agreement and first-ever contested order rescinding a consent agreement.

Professional Memberships: Past Chair: Competition Litigation Committee of the CBA Competition Law Section. Immediate Past Co-Chair: ABA Section of International Law’s International Antitrust Committee.

Publications: Editor, Litigating Competition Law in Canada (LexisNexis Canada, 2018), Canada’s first textbook on competition law.

JONEJA, Navin
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Navin is a Partner and Co-Chairs the Competition, Antitrust & Foreign Investment group at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP. He provides strategic advice on domestic and multinationals, mergers, joint ventures, strategic alliances, cartel, abuse of dominance investigations, class actions and compliance programs. He is considered a leader in Canada’s leading competition law firms.
leading expert on Canada’s competition, antitrust and foreign investment laws and regulations. Over the past nearly twenty years, clients have valued his practical and thoughtful approach to navigating Canada’s competition and foreign investment laws, often in coordination with reviews in other jurisdictions. Notable recent matters include: Secure/Tervita, Praxair Inc./Linde AG-Elanco/Bayer, Superior Plus Corp., Gibson Energy Inc.; GSK/Novartis; Penguin/Random House; and Visa.

Career: Navin is continuously recognized as a leading competition law practitioner in all major directories and publications. In 2021, Navin was named one of Canada’s Top 25 Most Influential Business Lawyers by Canadian Lawyer magazine for his work on complex regulatory matters. Professional Memberships: Navin is a past Chair of the Criminal Matters Task Force and vice-chair of the Competition Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association, and is regularly involved in antitrust programs in Canada and internationally.

KATZ, Mark C
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Mark advises on mergers & acquisitions, criminal cartel investigations, joint-ventures, abuse of dominance, distribution and pricing practices, misleading advertising and compliance, in Canada and internationally. Mark also advises on the regulation of foreign investments and ownership in Canada, including under the Investment Canada Act. Clients appreciate his common-sense advice on competition and regulatory matters and he has appeared at all levels of court and acted as counsel on leading cases before the Competition Tribunal. Mark has authored numerous articles and co-authored of The Competition Law Guide – Canada.

KENT, David W
McMillan LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael Kent is a partner and Head of the Competition & Foreign Investment Group. He is a leading advisor on matters relating to Canadian competition and foreign investment laws, and has wide-ranging experience in complex merger reviews, foreign investment approvals, national security reviews, pricing, distribution practices, misleading advertising, anti-corruption and related counseling matters across a broad spectrum of industries. Michael has been involved in some of the most important, precedent-setting foreign acquisitions in modern Canadian history, including securing approvals in the CNOCO / Nexen, Zayo / Alistream, Hasbro / Entertainment One, Petrochina / Athabasca Oil Sands and Vale / Inco transactions and the successful defence by Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan of the hostile bid from BHP Billiton. He has extensive experience advising clients in allocating and managing regulatory risk, throughout industries including technology, consumer goods, media, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, oil and gas, chemicals, transportation and telecommunications.

KILBY, Michael
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael Kilby is a partner and Head of the Competition & Foreign Investment Group. He is a leading advisor on matters relating to Canadian competition and foreign investment laws, and has wide-ranging experience in complex merger reviews, foreign investment approvals, national security reviews, pricing, distribution practices, misleading advertising, anti-corruption and related counseling matters across a broad spectrum of industries. Michael has been involved in some of the most important, precedent-setting foreign acquisitions in modern Canadian history, including securing approvals in the CNOCO / Nexen, Zayo / Alistream, Hasbro / Entertainment One, Petrochina / Athabasca Oil Sands and Vale / Inco transactions and the successful defence by Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan of the hostile bid from BHP Billiton. He has extensive experience advising clients in allocating and managing regulatory risk, throughout industries including technology, consumer goods, media, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, oil and gas, chemicals, transportation and telecommunications.

KOLERS, Eliot N
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Eliot Kolers is the Head of the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group and a member of the Management and Policy Committee (Canadian Chamber of Commerce). Eliot is recognized by his peers as a leading litigator with vast expertise in the areas of corporate commercial litigation, class actions, securities litigation and competition litigation matters. He has represented clients in numerous complex and high-profile commercial cases involving securities remedies, product liability, takeover bids, shareholder disputes, plans of arrangement and corporate governance matters, as well as expedited litigation matters in relation to contested corporate transactions. Eliot has defended numerous class actions involving competition law, securities and privacy issues. He also represents clients in commercial arbitrations and frequently works closely with counsel from various U.S. and international jurisdictions. Eliot regularly appears before the Commercial List of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and all levels of Ontario’s courts, and has appeared in other provincial appellate courts, the Federal Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. He has also appeared before the federal Competition Tribunal, the Ontario Securities Commission, and other regulatory and administrative tribunals.

KRANE, Joshua
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Joshua Krane is a leader of the Competition, Antitrust and Foreign Investment and the Advertising & Marketing Groups at McMillan. He advises companies in the agricultural, aviation, consumer products, energy, fashion, technology and telecommunications industries, collaborates with clients’ legal and executive teams to address complex business issues. Josh has been at the forefront of merger cases having been involved in many of the highest profile and most complex Canadian transactions over the last decade. Companies call on Josh for his practical guidance on reviewing contracts and joint ventures. Josh frequently represents clients in disputes before the courts, the Competition Bureau, Transport Canada, Ad Standards Canada and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). Josh successfully resolved a high-profile dispute with the Bureau in a digital marketing case, including, as a first, obtaining the Bureau.

KUZMA, Kaeleigh
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Kaeleigh is a Partner in Osler’s highly regarded Competition and Foreign Investment Group. Kaeleigh has extensive experience in all aspects of competition law and foreign investment review and has advised on many of Canada’s most high profile and complex transactions. Kaeleigh also advises on the conspiracy and other criminal and civil provisions of the Competition Act, including matters relating to domestic and international investigations and prosecutions, undertake and manages internal investigations, and assists clients in regulatory response to investigations by the Competition Bureau and other regulators. Kaeleigh represents clients across a broad range of industries, including energy and mining, manufacturing, entertainment, consumer products, real estate and transportation. Career: Kaeleigh joined the firm as a summer student in 2006 and returned to complete her articling. In 2007-2008 Kaeleigh was called to the Ontario Bar in 2008 and became a partner at Osler in 2018.

KWINTER, Robert E
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Robert advises clients on the Competition Act including conspiracy, bid-rigging, trade association activities, misleading advertising, mergers and other reviewable trade practices, as well as on regulatory approval under the Competition Act and Investment Canada Act. Litigation counsel in cases under various provisions of the Competition Act, including lead counsel to Visa Canada in a successful proceeding before the Competition Tribunal. His litigation experience includes: DRAM, air cargo, hydrogen peroxide, EPDM, chocolate, LCD and credit cards. Complex mergers include: Suncor/Petro-Canada, Merck/LCD and credit cards. Complex mergers include: Suncor/Petro-Canada, Merck/LCD and credit cards.

LALLY, Michelle
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (National-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michelle is a Senior Partner of Osler’s highly regarded Competition and Foreign Investment Group. Michelle has extensive experience in all aspects of competition law and foreign investment review and has advised on many of Canada’s most high profile and complex transactions. Kaeleigh also advises on the conspiracy and other criminal and civil provisions of the Competition Act, including matters relating to domestic and international investigations and prosecutions, undertake and manages internal investigations, and assists clients in regulatory response to investigations by the Competition Bureau and other regulators. Kaeleigh represents clients across a broad range of industries, including energy and mining, manufacturing, entertainment, consumer products, real estate and transportation. Career: Kaeleigh joined the firm as a summer student in 2006 and returned to complete her articling. In 2007-2008 Kaeleigh was called to the Ontario Bar in 2008 and became a partner at Osler in 2018.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Competition Law Section; Ontario Bar Association American Bar Association, Antitrust Section; Law Society of Ontario Women’s White Collar Defense Association

application of the abuse of dominance, price maintenance, refusal to supply, tied selling and exclusive dealing provisions of the Competition Act.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, a Former Chair of the National Competition Law Section American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law American Bar Foundation, Life Fellow Women's White Collar Defense Association

Personal: Queen's University, B.A. (Hons.) Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.M. University of Western Ontario, LL.B.

LASKEY, Michael
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Mike Laskey is a partner in the Competition & Foreign Investment Practice Group. His practice focuses on the review of transactions under the Competition Act and the Investment Canada Act. Under the Competition Act, Mike regularly advises clients on the competition law risks of complex and high-profile transactions. Mike leads competition law reviews of some of the most involved transactions in Canada. Mike works with the Competition Bureau to resolve difficult and novel competition issues and negotiate complex remedial agreements. In addition to the review of transactions, Mike also advises clients on compliance matters (including compliance training and internal investigations) and provides guidance on misleading advertising issues. Under the Investment Canada Act, Mike advises on precedent-setting economic, cultural and national security matters for clients across a broad range of industries. Mike also works with government relations and public relations advisors to secure approval for high-profile and complex transactions.

Li, Ian
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Ian’s practice focuses on competition law and foreign investment review matters. He provides advice to clients on all aspects of Canadian competition law in connection with complex mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures and strategic alliances under the Competition Act. In his foreign investment review practice, Ian advises clients on net benefit, cultural sector investment and national security reviews under the Investment Canada Act. He has represented numerous foreign investors, including state-owned enterprises, as well as domestic targets in acquisition transactions.

MACDONALD, Kevin
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Kevin is a Partner with the firm’s Competition & Antitrust Foreign Investment group, widely regarded as one of the leading competition law practices in Canada. He advises on all aspects of competition law, including mergers and acquisitions, marketing and distribution practices, abuse of dominance, criminal and civil investigations, and compliance matters. He has advised clients in high-profile investment merger review under the Investment Canada Act and is co-author of The Investment Canada Act: Commentary and Annotation (LexisNexis, 2021). Kevin has advised international and Canadian clients on a wide variety of competition law matters in a broad range of industries, including insurance, chemicals, technology, oil and gas, financial services, consumer products, and healthcare.

MARGISON, Chris
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Chris Margison has over 20 years of private and public sector legal experience, including as Special Advisor to both the Commissioner of Competition and the Senior Deputy Commissioner, Carter Wightman, at the Competition Bureau. With his background, Chris brings a number of attributes, such as the ability to provide critical advice, guidance and recommendations in a timely fashion on all aspects of Canadian competition law. He has advised the Commissioner, Senior Deputy Commissioners and high-profile Canadian and international companies on mergers, strategic alliances, cartel, bid-rigging, abuse of dominance, distribution and pricing practices, and misleading advertising matters. He has been involved in several litigated matters before the Competition Tribunal, including as an integral part of the Competition Bureau’s case team in Commissioner of Competition v. Visa Canada Corporation. Chris has developed expertise in a wide variety of industries, including the agriculture, food, consumer products, entertainment, financial services, information technology, manufacturing, mining, pharmaceutical, plastics and telecommunications sectors.

MUSGROVE, James
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Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: James Musgrove is the Co-Chair of McMillan’s, Competition and Antitrust Practice, and member of Marketing and Advertising Law Group. He practices primarily in the areas of competition, antitrust, consumer protection and foreign investment law. James was named 2015 Best Lawyers’ Toronto Advertising Lawyer of the Year, and is a two-time winner of the GCR Award – for Behavioural Matter of the Year - Americas (2014); and for Cartel Matter of the Year (2022). He is a member of the MBA Section of Antitrust Law leadership – past Member of Council and Chair, Ulilatric Conduct Committee. He is a member of Canada’s Competition Tribunal/Bar Liaison Committee. He has served as Chair of the Canadian Bar Association National Competition Law Section and as President of the Toronto Lawyers’ Association. He is the general editor of all the editions of the Canadian Bar Association’s Treatise Fundamentals of Canadian Competition Law.

NAUDIE, Christopher
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Chris is a partner of Osler’s Litigation Department. He has served as Co-Chair of the Firm’s National Class Action Practice. He practices complex commercial litigation, with a strong focus on corporate litigation, class action defence and cross-border litigation. He is a key contact for Osler’s Class Action Defence Group, and he has acted as lead counsel in class proceedings across Canada covering a broad range of tort and statutory claims, including allegations of anti-competitive conduct, securities violations, insider trading, oppression and derivative claims, misleading advertising, product liability, economic torts, as well as negligence and fraud. Chris also has extensive experience in litigating complex commercial disputes involving shareholder rights, director and officer liability, auditor’s negligence, valuation proceeding, insurance disputes, privacy and data breaches and professional liability.

Career: Chris has law degrees from McGill University and Harvard Law School, and prior to joining Osler, he clerked for the Chief Justice of Canada at the Supreme Court of Canada. Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Association (Section of Antitrust Law), American Bar Association (Section of International Law), Advocates Society.


OPASHINOV, Mark
McMillan LLP, Toronto
416 865.7873
mark.opashinov@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Mark has helped Canadian and foreign businesses solve the competition law problems that have impeded their growth. With over 25 years, Mark has steered hundreds of mergers through Canada’s merger regime to successful closings, including many of the most high-profile mergers in Canada including, most recently, Paper Excellence’s US$3 billion going-private take-over of Domtar and its prior acquisition of Catalyst Paper, Luxottica’s US$54 billion merger with Essilor, SABMiller’s US$10 billion acquisition by Anheuser Busch InBev and MedWestavo’s US$16 billion merger with Rock-Tenn Company. Mark’s expertise in merger clearances extends to managing complex and time-sensitive 2 review processes. His merger clearance practice is informed by his extensive transactional experience as a corporate M&A lawyer. In addition to merger clearances, Mark advises clients on their most challenging competition law conduct issues, such as leading the team that represented Live Nation and its affiliates in the class action litigation. Mark represents clients in all aspects of competition law and foreign investment review, including mergers & acquisitions, strategic alliances, price fixing & bid-rigging investigations, and pricing and distribution matters. He represents

OSBORNE, W Michael G
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 860 6732
wosborne@casselsbrock.com
Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on competition, regulatory, corruption, complex commercial litigation, and arbitration. Michael advises and represents clients involved in competition and regulatory inquiries, criminal and administrative proceedings, class actions and other competition litigation. He has extensive experience across all sectors involved in competitive conduct, securities violations, insider trading, oppression and derivative claims, misleading advertising, product liability, economic torts, as well as negligence and fraud. Chris also has extensive experience in litigating complex commercial disputes involving shareholder rights, director and officer liability, auditor’s negligence, valuation proceeding, insurance disputes, privacy and data breaches and professional liability.

Career: Chris has law degrees from McGill University and Harvard Law School, and prior to joining Osler, he clerked for the Chief Justice of Canada at the Supreme Court of Canada. Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Association (Section of Antitrust Law), American Bar Association (Section of International Law), Advocates Society.


PINSOULNAULT, Guy
McMillan LLP, Ottawa
613.691.6125
guy.pinsoulnault@mcmillan.ca
Featured in White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations for profile

PLUMPTON, Linda M
Torys LLP, Toronto
416 865 8193
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: A highly accomplished advocate in commercial dispute resolution, class action and competition and securities litigation, Linda Plumpton is known for her work in bet-the-company litigation and for her long track record defending clients in their most important disputes. Chair of the firm’s Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice, Linda is a recognized leading practitioner for her vast experience across competition litigation, class action defense, corporate/ commercial disputes and securities litigation. Linda has appeared as counsel in the Supreme Court of Canada, in all levels of court in Ontario and in the Federal Court, as well as before the Competition Tribunal and the Ontario Securities Commission. She also advises clients in the areas of public law, constitutional law and employment. Linda is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL).

RODAL, Shuli
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 (416) 862 4858
shroald@osler.com
Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Shuli is Chair of Osler’s highly regarded Competition Law and Foreign Investment group and is also Chair of the firm’s Diversity Committee. She has extensive experience in all aspects of competition law and foreign investment review, including mergers & acquisitions, strategic alliances, price fixing & bid-rigging investigations, and pricing and distribution matters. She represents

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Leading Individuals Competition/Antitrust

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clients across a broad range of industry sectors, including financial services, entertainment, new media, manufactur-
ing, steel, automotive, chemicals, energy & natural resources, consumer packaged goods, and transportation. Shuli has successfully obtained clearances under the Competition Act for numerous complex domestic, cross-border and international transactions. She also has extensive experience in providing coun-
selling to companies on compliance under the Competition Act and in conducting internal antitrust investigations and audits. Shuli has extensive experience advising non-Canadian clients on strategic issues and obtaining clearances under the Invest-
ment Canada Act.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Competition Law Section, past Chair of the Reviewable Matters/ Unilateral Conduct Committee Ontario Bar Association American Bar Association, Antitrust Law Women’s White Collar Defense Coalition

Publications: She has published many articles and spoken widely on various competition law and foreign investment topics. She has appeared before the Canadian Parliamentary Committees responsible for Industry, Science and Technology and Canadian Heritage.

Personal: McGill University, LL.B./B.C.L. University of Toronto, B.A.

Rothschild, Denes
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
(416) 367-6350
drothschild@blg.com

Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Denes practises all as-
cpects of Canadian antitrust/compe-
tition law, foreign investment law and advertising and marketing law. He is a trusted strategic advisor to clients on critical antitrust matters including merger clearance, cartels, all aspects of compe-
tition compliance and foreign investment review, including national security reviews of acquisitions by state-owned enterprises and in critical sectors, and reviews of the acquisitions of cultural businesses. He also advises clients on class action claims, often in multi-jurisdictional cases, against clients relating to alleged violations of the cartel and misleading advertising provisions of the Competition Act, and also litigates and provides advice on various other regula-
tory matters.

Career: Ontario Bar, 2009. JD, Wash-

Professional Memberships: Member, Law Society of Ontario, Member, American Bar Association, Member, Ontario Bar Association, Chair, Food and Agriculture Committee, American Bar Association’s Antitrust Law Section.

Personal: Denes is on the Board of Directors of Kef Toronto, a Jewish community non-profit. He is also on the National Board of Directors of the Public Affairs Association of Canada, acting as its Advocacy Chair.

Royal, Danielle
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 6254
draylen@stikeman.com

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationalwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Danielle Royal is a part-
ner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group and a member of the Management Committee in the Toronto office. Her practice focuses on class actions, complex commercial litigation and competition litigation. Danielle has appeared before all levels of Court in Ontario, the Federal Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. She has represented clients on several cross-border class actions involving claims of price-fixing and conspiracy, other commercial disputes, as well as a range of product liability claims. Danielle has significant experience advising and assisting companies regarding internal in-
vestigations and responding to regulatory, criminal or quasi-criminal investigations and the class action litigation that often accompanies allegations of serious mis-
conduct. Danielle is a former member of the Associates Committee in the Toronto office.

Russell, Robert S
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6256
trussell@blg.com

Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: National Chair of the BLG Competition and Foreign Investment Review Group. He has led some of the most significant cartel cases, abuse of dominance proceedings and contested merger cases in Canada both for private sector companies and for the Competition Bureau. With over 30 years’ experience in Competition law, Rob has been involved in a large number of complex and con-
tested merger reviews in a wide variety of industries.

Professional Memberships: Vice Chair, North American Forum; Member, Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Association and International Antitrust and Foreign Investment Bar Association, Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Canadian Bar Association, Toronto Branch; Member, Former Member, Integrated Justice Steering Committee

Salzberger, Deborah
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 8898
dsalzberger@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Debbie acts for clients in domestic and multinational mergers and acquisitions with respect to competition/ antitrust and foreign investment review matters. She also regularly provides competition law compliance advice in respect of criminal cartel investigations and multi-jurisdictional practices, including joint ventures, resale pricing, advertising and distribution issues. Widely recognized in Canada and abroad for her experi-
ence working on complex domestic and multi-jurisdictional transactions, Debbie’s practice is marked by her pragmatic and solutions oriented approach, working with clients to achieve their objectives. Her deep knowledge of the Canadian com-
petition/antitrust and foreign investment regimes is complemented by her under-
standing of a variety of industries, making her a valued business advisor.

Canada, Ontario, 2002

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Association Publications: Co-author: Canadian Chap-
nance: Current State of Play in North America and Europe, ABA Section of Antitrust Law, Federal Civil Enforcement Telephonic Committee Program, June 26, 2016.

Personal: Past Chair of the Canadian Bar Association Competition Law Section’s Foreign Investment Review Committee; Chair of the American Bar Association’s Insurance and Financial Services Com-
mittee.

Soloway, Julie
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
(416) 863-3327
julie.soloway@blakes.com

Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Julie is Co-Chair of the Competition, Antitrust & Foreign Invest-
ment group. Julie advises on all aspects of competition law with an emphasis on multi-jurisdictional transactions and stra-
tegic mergers, and is a leading expert on securing approvals for foreign investors under the Investment Canada Act. She is ranked in all leading directories as one of Canada’s top competition lawyers, and ranked by Global Competition Review as one of the world’s top 100 Women in Antitrust. Clients value her concise and aggressive approach, particularly in “truly international cases” and “fantastic legal mind.”

Professional Memberships: Julie has been a leader in the American Bar Asso-
ciation’s Section of Antitrust Law (SAL) for more than a decade and is currently co-chair of SAL’s International Committee. Julie is a co-founder of Canadian Competition Law - the only organization in Canada that recognizes one of the top 25 most influential lawyers in all of Canada.

Publications: Julie is co-author of the ground-breaking book: Leading the Way, Canadian Women in the Law (Lexis/Nexis), which documents the history of Canadian women who, like Julie, have lead the way for women in the legal profession and shaped Canadian society while pursuing greater diversity.

Thérien, Dominic
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
+1 514 397 7826
dtherien@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Dominic advises clients on all aspects of competition law, including merger control, cartel defence, abuse of dominance, and advertising and marketing practices. He has solid experience with domestic and interna-
tional criminal cartel and bid-rigging investigations. He also advises on foreign investment merger review and national se-
curity issues arising under the Investment Canada Act. From 2011 to 2013, Dominic acted as Assistant Deputy Commissioner for the Quebec and Atlantic regions with the Canadian Competition Bureau. In his role, he was responsible for criminal cartel and bid-rigging investigations, as well as investigations with respect to advertising and marketing practices.

Professional Memberships: He cur-
rently serves on the Executive Committee of the Canadian Bar Association’s Compe-
tition Law and Foreign Investment Section, and is a former member of the Editorial Board of the Canadian Competition Law Review.

Personal: Speaks English and French.

Tingley, Charles
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6963
c tingley@dwpv.com

Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Charles advises domes-
tic and international clients on Canadian competition and foreign investment review law, including mergers, joint ventures, abuse of dominance, cartel investigations, misleading advertising and general com-
pliance matters. He has significant expert-
ise in securing competition and foreign investment approvals for complex M&A transac-
tions. Charles also assists clients in major competition litigation and in ne-
gotiating resolutions with the Competition Bureau. Before rejoining Davies in 2012, he was Deputy General Counsel of the New Zealand Commerce Commission, where
he managed the Commission’s major litigation portfolio and acted as counsel in a variety of complex competition proceedings. An active member in the Canadian Bar Association, Charles currently serves as chair of the Competition Law Section’s Digital Media Committee responsible for launching the Counterfactual Podcast in 2022, which he also hosts. Charles has previously served as chair of the Competition Law Section’s Mergers Committee, Reviewable Matters/Unilateral Conduct Committee and Annual Competition Law Spring Conference, as well as vice-chair of the Legislation and Competition Policy Committee. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; GCR 100 Canada; The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Competition; Who’s Who Legal: Canada. **Wakil, Omar K**
Torys LLP, Toronto +1 416 865 7635 owakil@torys.com
Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)
**Practice Areas:** A leading lawyer in his field, Omar has deep understanding of competition law and foreign investment matters and extensive experience that spans industries, giving clients creative, tailored advice across business-critical transactions, discrete matters and investigations. Omar advises domestic and international clients on all aspects of competition law and foreign investment. In particular, he provides strategic advice to firms involved in mergers, cartel and abuse of dominance investigations under the Competition Act. In his foreign investment review practice, Omar advises clients on net benefit and national security reviews under the Investment Canada Act. He has represented numerous foreign investors, including state-owned enterprises, as well as domestic targets in acquisition transactions. Omar works with clients active in a wide range of business sectors, including automotive parts, agricultural products, chemicals, consumer products, energy, financial services, grocery retailing, manufacturing, media, metals and mining, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications and transportation.

**Wood, Micah**
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 4164 micah.wood@blakes.com
Featured in Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide - Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Micah is a key member of Blakes’ Competition, Antitrust & Foreign Investment group, widely regarded as the leading competition law practice in Canada. He is an advisor to companies in a wide range of sectors, including advertising, consumer products, energy, investment, financial services, media, technology, and telecommunications. Micah has over 15 years of experience advising on and completing strategic transactions, working with government agencies on regulatory matters, and providing practical, business-focused advice to clients on pricing and contracting practices, marketing initiatives, and arrangements with competitors and customers. **Professional Memberships:** Micah has written numerous articles on merger law, efficiencies and the efficiencies defence, abuse of dominance, and legal and economic analyses of network industries. Previously, Micah was an adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall Law School, where he taught regulation of competition for seven years.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Corporate/M&A
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness, astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

Corporate/M&A Nationwide

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Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a premier national law firm with an excellent M&A platform and a strong track record of advising on major public and private transactions. The firm has a regular feature on international inbound and domestic merger deals, and is equally well placed to advise on public and private equity and debt offerings. The firm offers significant high-end as well as mid-market capabilities with expertise that cuts across sectors, including technology and financial services. The firm’s recent deal sheet features a number of important transactions in the oil and gas, telecoms and media, agriculture and hospitality sectors. The team services clients from its offices across Canada’s key financial centres, as well as providing additional support from New York and London, UK.

Strengths “Blakes not only understood our commercial goals, but provided advice that aligned with these goals.”

Notable practitioners Cameron Belsher, sharing his time between Toronto and Vancouver, is the firm’s national M&A co-head.

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is a Toronto and Montréal-based law firm with significant international M&A capabilities. The team wins widespread recognition for its involvement in complex and high-value matters, with industry-specific expertise in the technology, telecommunications, mining, retail and real estate sectors. The team advises sophisticated clients on strategic transactions and often counsels investment banks on deals in the energy space, as well as representing various other multinational companies. The team stands out for its experience of hostile M&A and shareholder activism, and is well supported by the experience of complementary departments including tax and antitrust. The group is also involved in transactions related to the cannabis industry.

Strengths “They know how to execute large and complex transactions while advising on relevant local law issues.”

Notable practitioners Franziska Ruf in Montréal and Toronto-based Vincent Mercier are key contacts for the firm’s M&A department.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault houses a highly regarded national corporate law practice offering a wide range of industry specialties. The firm is especially strong in real estate, private equity and energy and is also well equipped to cover major deals in the telecoms, financial services, tech and retail sectors. The team advises on large M&A transactions as well as debt and equity securities offerings, and can regularly be seen acting for private equity sponsors and portfolio companies, as well as major Canadian and international investment banks.

Strengths “The team has deep industry knowledge, relevant benchmarks and a good understanding of dynamics and individuals within the space, which provides for strong commercial awareness.”

Notable practitioners

Corporate/M&A Nationwide p.85
Corporate/Commercial British Columbia p.87
Corporate/Commercial Alberta p.90
Corporate/Commercial Ontario p.93
Corporate/Commercial Québec p.98
General Business Law p.101
General Business Law Saskatchewan p.102
General Business Law Manitoba p.105
General Business Law Atlantic Canada p.106
Leading Individuals p.109
Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for
Stikeman Elliott is a go-to Canadian law firm for sophisticated securities, M&A and corporate finance matters, advising on high-profile deals from a nationwide base. The team advises on both inbound and outbound transactions, with a particularly high profile for its representation of foreign investors. The team's industry expertise encompasses mining, oil and gas, telecoms, tech and real estate, with further experience in retail and hospitality sector transactions. The firm stands out for its experience of both debt and equity capital markets and securities expertise. The group offers a strong bench in private equity, advising on domestic and cross-border buyouts, recapitalisations and financings across industries.

Strengths “The team is very practical and pragmatic in giving advice that factors in commercial considerations.”

“We chose them because they were extremely efficient and business-savvy. They understand the fundamentals of deals.”

“Everyone I’ve worked with is very commercial. They are looking to get deals done smoothly and effectively.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott acted as counsel to the largest shareholder of Husky Energy, Hutchison Whampoa Europe Investments, in connection with the combination of Cenovus Energy and Husky in an all-share transaction valued at USD23.6 billion.

Notable practitioners
Key contacts in Toronto include John Ciardullo and Jeffrey Singer. Other key individuals include Robert Carelli in Montréal, Keith Chatwin in Calgary and Noordin Nanji in Vancouver.

Torys LLP
What the team is known for
Torys is an eminent Toronto-headquartered law firm with a strong and growing presence in Calgary. The team regularly features on high-profile domestic deals as well as global transactions, and is highly regarded for its representation of major pension funds, financial institutions and resources companies. The firm’s outstanding M&A expertise is coupled with a robust private equity offering and experience of company reorganisation and advisory work; industry expertise cuts across sectors including technology, electricity, oil and gas, and transportation. Clients benefit from the support of the firm’s legal services centre in Halifax as well as its New York office providing US law expertise.

Strengths “I find they give me excellent advice and they are very much dialled into what the market is doing. Torys is always very practical and very commercial.”

“They have a very strong ability to handle complex issues. They invest time to understand client objectives so that they can deliver appropriate advice in relation to complex issues.”

“Torys have a deep bench with talented associates and specialist partners.”

Work highlights Torys advised Rogers Control Trust as counsel on its proposed CAD$26 billion acquisition of Shaw Communications.

Notable practitioners
John Emanolidis co-heads the firm’s M&A group and is a key contact for the group in Toronto. Key contacts in Calgary include Stephanie Stimpson and Janan Paskaran.

Band 2
Goodmans LLP
What the team is known for
Goodmans is a well-established Toronto firm that punches above its weight for big-ticket M&A in Canada, regularly advising on transactions in the mining, energy, technology and cannabis sectors. The team occupies a material position in the REITs space, as well as offering additional industry sector expertise in areas such as healthcare, media and telecoms. The team stands out for its experience of both public offerings and going-private transactions, as well as SPAC work. The group also advises on corporate governance and shareholder activism in addition to private equity matters.

Strengths “They’re very entrepreneurial in their culture, in addition to being able to provide sophisticated and excellent legal assistance.”

“I appreciate their work very much – they handled a very complicated transaction involving many jurisdictions and did a very good job. They are always able to make comparative decisions through a relatively simple way and try to balance risk and find solutions.”

“They get our business and what we’re trying to accomplish. It’s not just technical advice.”

Work highlights Goodmans advised Onex Corporation on its acquisition of Sunwing Vacations.

Notable practitioners
Stephen Pincus and Neill May are key contacts for the group.

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for
Bennett Jones houses a growing practice that is well known for its energy transactional practice, with a strong footprint in the mining and oil and gas industries. The team also offers advice in other sectors including senior care, technology and industrial products, acting on both high-end and mid-market matters. The firm’s experience encompasses M&A, corporate finance and private equity. The core of the team is spread across Toronto and Calgary, with additional partners in Vancouver. Bennett Jones completed its merger with distinguished Vancouver firm McCullough O’Connor Irwin LLP in June 2018, boosting its presence in BC.

Strengths “The team understand the value of partnerships and building long-term relationships. The group has strategic thinkers that offer tailored solutions and do not treat matters as off-the-shelf band-aids.”

“They know the technical elements of the law and can give you practical advice beyond the standard aspects.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones acted as counsel to EQT Infrastructure on its USD4.6 billion acquisition of First Student and First Transit.

Notable practitioners
Curtis Cusinato and Brent Kraus are key contacts for the Toronto and Calgary offices respectively.

Fasken
What the team is known for
Fasken is a national law firm that demonstrates solid expertise in M&A, with a strong mining practice across its offices in Canada and globally. The corporate/commercial team also advises on transactions outside the resources space, including insurance, tech, healthcare and pharma. The team handles both public and private deals, including private equity investments, capital reorganisations, share arrangement agreements and privatisation deals. The group also offers experience of proxy contests and contested M&A and is recognised for its involvement in significant cross-border transactions in the energy and mining sectors.

Strengths “The team at Fasken had a very good understanding of the complexities involved in the negotiation and agreements between the two companies. Non-conventional issues were researched and communicated on a very timely basis.”

Work highlights Fasken represented Neo Lithium Corp. in the acquisition by Zijin Mining Group of all of the outstanding shares of Neo Lithium for approximately CAD920 million.

Notable practitioners
Key contacts include Toronto-based John Turner, Michel Boislard in Montréal and Blair Horn in Vancouver.

Norton Rose Fullbright
What the team is known for
Norton Rose Fullbright is an international law firm with a successful Canadian platform and substantial cross-border capabilities. The team is highly regarded for its acquisition financing and proxy battle expertise, with additional experience advising on debt and equity securities and recapitalisation transactions. The group offers asset financing expertise as well as advising on project and infrastructure finance. The group maintains a strong practice emphasis on energy, natural resources and transportation. The team is also active on transactions in emerging sectors, including tech and fintech, life sciences and cannabis production.

Strengths “The firm is very adept at understanding complex issues.”

“The ability of Norton Rose Fullbright to navigate through complex matters, while providing top-tier client service, is unparalleled in my experience.”

“Norton Rose Fullbright are one of the best firms I have seen so far in handling complex matters diligently.”

Work highlights Norton Rose acted as Canadian counsel for Benevity on its acquisition of Alaya, an employee engagement platform.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Waled Soliman is the global and Canadian chair of the firm and the co-chair of its special situations team. Montréal-based Stephen Kelly is the national head of the business law group. Other key contacts include Troy Ungerman in Toronto and Mathieu Deschamps in Montréal, co-chairs of the firm’s Canadian private mergers and acquisitions team.
Corporate/Commercial: British Columbia

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a top law firm in Vancouver for commercial and M&A matters, handling a wide range of both public and private transactions. The team is frequently involved in technology-based deals, as well as advising on healthcare, mining and financial services sector transactions. It also offers additional expertise to clients operating in the cannabis sector. The group has a strong track record of advising on corporate finance, private equity and venture financing work, as well as matters of corporate governance. It stands out for its experience of multiparty and multi-jurisdictional work.

Strengths  “We got them on board because the deals were of high value. They have all the usual stuff: they’re very technically astute and consistent throughout the team and they are very practical. They adjusted very quickly to doing deals the way we wanted to do deals.”

“They’re always practical in their approach with the client’s end goal in mind.”

“The team is deep and as a result the process is smooth and efficient.”

Work highlights Blake, Cassels & Graydon advised Reigning Champ in its sale of a 75% stake in the company to Aritzia for CAD63 million.

Notable practitioners

John-Paul Bogden (see p.110) climbs to the top of the rankings as a result of strong market support. He routinely assists clients in the technology space with domestic and cross-border M&A transactions. He displays additional strength in private equity and venture capital matters and co-heads the firm’s private equity group from Vancouver. “JP is who we lean on whenever we need sage advice. He simply gets it and we love him for it.” “He has built out a wonderful team at Blake that we really enjoy working with.”

Joan Chambers (see p.117) represents clients in a range of transactions, including M&A and joint ventures, as well as advising on regulatory matters. Based in Vancouver, her expertise cuts across sectors including technology, aquaculture and cannabis. “Joan knows our business matters very well. We trust her professional opinion and value her depth of knowledge and talent.” “Joan is very responsive.”

Vancouver-based Troy Lehman (see p.115) has notable experience advising clients on M&A and commercial transactions in the technology space. “Troy’s ability to think commercially is unparalleled.” Based in Vancouver, Bob Wooder (see p.176) concentrates his practice on mergers and acquisitions and is known for his work with clients engaged in the mining space. Arash Amouzgar (see p.109) has a growing reputation in British Columbia for his work on a variety of private equity and M&A transactions. “Arash has a strong understanding of commercial matters in M&A transactions. He does a great job of explaining complex issues, and negotiates in a professional manner that never offends other advisers.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is a national law firm with a deep-seated presence in Vancouver and significant bench strength. It offers experience of both M&A and capital markets transactions across various industries including tech and consumer retail, energy and financial services, life sciences, power and infrastructure. The group demonstrates noted strength in the mid-market as well as in relation to private equity and venture capital work. Its expertise spans joint ventures, diversifications and partnerships. The team acts for major Vancouver-based and Western Canadian clients, as well as national and international clients with operations in BC.

Strengths  “They have great commercial awareness and understand the nuances of various negotiations and terms of agreements beyond the legal framework.”

“The team is knowledgeable and experienced. They handled complex and sophisticated matters very well.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised Methanex Corporation on its sale of a 40% interest in its shipping subsidiary, Waterfront Shipping, to Mitsui O.S.K. Lines for USD145 million.

Notable practitioners

Co-head of the firm’s M&A group Cameron Belsher (see p.109) is a well-established corporate lawyer. He has notable experience advising clients on high-value M&A transactions and splits his time between Toronto and Vancouver. “Cameron Belsher is a really good lawyer.”

Sven Milelli (see p.117) is well versed in handling M&A transactions in the energy, mining and construction spaces, among others. He currently serves as the firm’s managing partner for BC. “He’s talented, and always a pleasure to work with on a file.”

Vancouver-based Ted Koffman (see p.114) advises on M&A, venture capital and corporate reorganisation, among other corporate matters. His clients include technology companies and private equity funds. Vancouver partner Robin Mahood (see p.116) has a wealth of experience advising clients on complex M&A and financing transactions. “Robin is highly regarded.”

“Troy Lehman” (see p.115) has notable experience advising clients on M&A and commercial transactions in the technology space. “Troy’s ability to think commercially is unparalleled.” Based in Vancouver, Bob Wooder (see p.176) concentrates his practice on mergers and acquisitions and is known for his work with clients engaged in the mining space. Arash Amouzgar (see p.109) has a growing reputation in British Columbia for his work on a variety of private equity and M&A transactions. “Arash has a strong understanding of commercial matters in M&A transactions. He does a great job of explaining complex issues, and negotiates in a professional manner that never offends other advisers.”

Corporate/Commercial: The Elite British Columbia

Leading Firms

Band 1

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Leading Firms

Band 2

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded British Columbia

Leading Firms

Band 1

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

Band 2

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Band 3

Magan Daniels Slager LLP

Corporate/Commercial: The Elite British Columbia

Band 1

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Band 2

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Band 3

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Magan Daniels Slager LLP

Corporate/Commercial

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Groper Mitchell H. Farris LLP*

Smith John Lawson Lundell LLP*

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Altaid David Lawson Lundell LLP*

Bogden John-Paul Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*

McCullough Jonathan Bennett Jones LLP

Newby Bradley A. Farris LLP

Band 2

Belsher Cameron McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Horn Blair Fasken*

Milelli Sven McCarthy Tétrault LLP*

Pletcher Fred R Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*

Band 3

Gauthier Christian Bennett Jones LLP

Koffman Ted McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Mahood Robin McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Nanjn Noordin Stikeman Elliott LLP

Scott Trevor Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*

Steiner Daniel Norton Rose Fulbright*

Urbani Michael Stikeman Elliott LLP

Band 4

Bacic Mia Bennett Jones LLP

Leverhulme John-Ashley Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*

Daniels Nathan Maggie Sayers Slager LLP

Finlay Debra McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Honeymoon Jennifer Stikeman Elliott LLP

Jawanda Pavan McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Lehman Troy Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Mant Iain Fasken*

Martindale Graeme Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

McFetridge William J Norton Rose Fulbright

Shouldice Robert Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Wooder Bob J Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Up-and-coming individuals

Amouzgar Arash Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Bachynski Jared Stikeman Elliott LLP

Bhamal Ally Fasken*

Hennigar Andrew Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Associates to watch

Gorchakov Victor Stikeman Elliott LLP*

* Indicates individual with profile.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.
strong market support. The firm operates a national M&A practice with a significant Vancouver office. The team is noted for its involvement in both domestic and cross-border mining and securities transactions, and also handles M&A and commercial work in other sectors including technology, oil and gas and real estate. It also offers expertise in transportation matters and infrastructure projects, leveraging a strong national practice in these areas. The group acts for both public and private companies on financings, joint ventures and matters of corporate governance. Clients also benefit from the firm’s full-service approach including its tax, labour and employment and IP practices.

**Strengths** “They held our hand and walked us through the process. They represented us really well and ensured we got exactly what we wanted.”

“They adapt their advice to the reality of business operations. I value the practicality and the promptness.”

“They’re commercially minded and eager to help off the clock.”

“They balance the theory and commercial aspects of deals and are solution-oriented.”

**Work highlights** Borden Ladner Gervais represented FT Synthetics in its sale to an affiliate of Standard Energy. 

**Notable practitioners** Vancouver-based Fred Pletcher (see p.118) is noted for his experienced representation of clients in transactional matters, including M&A and corporate governance, particularly in the mining sector. Graeme Martindale (see p.116) is a Vancouver-based lawyer with a strong reputation for handling national and cross-border M&A transactions. He regularly assists clients corporate with deals in the mining, technology and retail sectors. He’s able to handle complex situations and stays calm under fire. He’s my go-to sounding board for ideas, thoughts and clarifications.”

“I would give him top marks for being responsive and attentive” Robert Shouldice (see p.120) has notable experience assisting clients with M&A and joint ventures, as well as infrastructure and transportation projects. “He’s been around for a while and has a different base of experience. We use him for transactional, higher-level opinions.” “He’s very thoughtful, elaborate, and a very skilled negotiator. He’s good to have on our side on complex deals. He has a very solid breadth of knowledge in the corporate legal world and excellent commercial awareness.” Andrew Henninger (see p.113) is noted in BLG’s Vancouver office and has a fast-developing reputation for taking on complex corporate mandates. He frequently supports clients on M&A transactions across a variety of sectors. “He explains very well and is a good listener. He’s also very practical and hands-on-you can pick up the phone and call him any time for advice, he’s very approachable. He’s also very firm and was able to get us what we wanted.” “He’s very commercial in his approach.”

Fasken

**What the team is known for** Fasken is noted for its involvement in technology transactions in BC, as well as advising on matters across a variety of other industries including real estate, insurance, natural resources and life sciences. The corporate commercial group handles a range of purchase and sale transactions, offering additional expertise of corporate finance and public-private infrastructure deals. It also advises on the structuring of joint venture agreements and reorganisations. The firm has offices in both Vancouver and Surrey.

**Strengths** “They’re highly communicative and always available.”

“They worked hard to ensure that we were ahead of the curve and in a position of strength in all aspects of the deal.”

**Work highlights** Fasken represented Galvanize in its acquisition by Diligent Corporation from Norwest Venture Partners and others.

**Notable practitioners** Vancouver-based Blair Horn (see p.113) assists clients in the technology space with M&A, finance deals and corporate governance matters. “He was very patient in educating and supporting us.” Iain Mant (see p.116) is an experienced corporate lawyer in Fasken’s Vancouver office who frequently advises clients on securities and M&A transactions. “Iain was a pleasure to work with and clearly a master in the subject he advised us on. His experience and guidance were invaluable to the success of our venture.” “He’s very commercially oriented.” Ally Bhamal (see p.392) demonstrates notable strength in the M&A arena in Vancouver, predominantly representing private companies in sectors such as tech and agribusiness. “Ally gets our business and we feel is constantly in our corner for support and growth.” “He’s incredibly smart, resourceful and hard working. He goes above and beyond to support us with reaching our next goals and always supports us with any matter we bring to the table.”

Lawson Lundell LLP

**What the team is known for** Lawson Lundell is a well-known Western Canadian law firm that is widely regarded as a significant competitor on major transactions in BC. The Vancouver team represents a host of major players from provincial public sector organizations to private equity funds and international corporations, frequently advising on acquisition and disposition transactions, as well as fund formation, debt financing and a variety of other commercial law matters. It is highly regarded for its resources-side practice, including mining and forestry, with additional experience acting for clients in other industries including manufacturing and technology. In addition to its Vancouver hub, the firm has a growing office in Kelowna, which services a broad range of industries, with a principal focus on technology.

**Strengths** “They’re certainly business-oriented. They are always willing to listen and try to adapt as we move forward.”

“They’re very good at being helpful and keeping their eyes on the ball.”

“I have witnessed Lawson Lundell on many transactions and they have been extremely thoughtful, kept track of all of the moving parts and been very efficient.”

**Work highlights** Lawson Lundell represented Canfor in the sale of its Fort Nelson forest licence to Peak Forest Properties.

**Notable practitioners** Esteemed lawyer John Smith (see p.120) has longstanding experience advising on corporate and M&A transactions in British Columbia. Vancouver-based David Allard (see p.109) is a top-ranked seasoned lawyer in the transactional space, routinely assisting clients with M&A and corporate governance matters. “He is extremely responsive, hard working and truly cares about the success of his clients.” “I have found David Allard to be an excellent lawyer and the perfect choice for our firm. He is responsive, smart, quick to give sound advice and amazing to work with.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP

**What the team is known for** Stikeman Elliott benefits from the firm-wide support of offices across Canada to advise on public and private M&A, capital markets and private equity transactions, including LBOS. It occupies a key role in the mid-market in British Columbia as well as advising on cross-border matters, including in relation to inbound Asian investment. The Vancouver team’s experience has an impressive corporate finance component, and continues to enjoy a strong profile in mining and real estate, with a growing practice emphasis on technology deals. It is increasingly active on corporate mandates in the cannabis space, offering private financing, IPO and transactional expertise.

**Strengths** “The team at Stikeman is well equipped to assist on complicated matters. They offer practical solutions in a timely manner.” “Their attention to detail was high and they were efficient in moving the transaction forward.”

“They’re very pragmatic and their commercial awareness is really good.”

**Work highlights** Stikeman Elliott represented Dolly Varden Silver Corporation in its acquisition of the Homestake Ridge gold-silver project from Fury Gold Mines for CAD50 million.

**Notable practitioners** Vancouver-based corporate and securities group in Vancouver Noordin Nanji KC (see p.117) assists clients with both domestic and cross-border M&A transactions, particularly in the technology and energy space. “He is an excellent business partner who understands our goals well.” Michael Urbanik (see p.122) is noted for his experienced handling of corporate finance and securities matters in British Columbia. Vancouver-based corporate and securities partner Jennifer Honeyman (see p.113) advises clients on joint ventures and M&A transactions. “She is excellent at drafting complex legal documents and identifying transactional issues.” Jared Bachynski (see p.109) is noted for his capabilities in M&A, securities and private equity work in Vancouver. “He has deep expertise and an understanding of alternative scenarios for our business needs.” Victor Gerchikov (see p.112) is an associate in the Vancouver Corporate team at Stikeman Elliott. He assists with the firm’s key transactions and also handles general corporate governance matters for a varied client base. “He provides great client service and really good work.” “Victor is a first-class lawyer. He is a trusted advisor and is wise and experienced beyond his year of call.”

Band 3 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite British Columbia

**Bennett Jones LLP**

**What the team is known for** Bennett Jones has a strong Vancouver team that demonstrates strong transactional capabilities, working on both domestic and cross-border mandates. The firm is frequently sought after to advise on investment funds, private equity and venture capital transactions. It also maintains a strong focus on public company work, including M&A, as well as securities law matters. Its sector expertise covers healthcare, education, mining and technology.

**Strengths** “The team got what we wanted through shrewd and skilled negotiations.”

“I am always at ease that when I’ve left something with them I will not have to follow up or wonder when it will
be ready. Bennett Jones always ensures they respond quickly and deliver to any timelines.”

“They have very strong commercial acumen.”

“They provided very methodical, detailed and sophisticated responses with a follow-up to ensure all parties had clarity.”

Work highlights
Bennett Jones represented VisionPros in its acquisition by CloudMD Software & Services.

Notable practitioners
Regional co-head of the firm’s corporate group Jonathan McCullough commands an excellent reputation for his handling of M&A transactions and securities work. Based in Vancouver, he displays additional strength in the investment funds space. “Jonathan is an excellent, experienced lawyer who calmly delivers top-level advice and service. In a very complicated transaction, he was able to help find practical solutions.” “He understands our sensitivities and is trusted to handle our most difficult negotiations. He is persistent and obtains the best outcomes for us.” Christian Gauthier is the founding partner of the firm’s Vancouver office. He is a highly experienced corporate lawyer with capabilities in both domestic and international M&A transactions. “Chris provides exemplary client service and pragmatic counsel when dealing with unique issues.” Mia Bacic maintains a broad-based corporate law practice in Vancouver covering M&A, securities and private equity matters, among others. “Her organisational skills are unmatched. She pushes us through very difficult transactions.” “Mia is practical and efficient.”

Farris LLP
What the team is known for
Farris is a well-established regional firm highly regarded for its involvement in transactions of note in BC. The corporate commercial group often advises on transactions involving First Nations; its other areas of expertise include capital markets, private equity and corporate finance work. The firm’s industry expertise covers mining, energy and transportation, among others. It also operates an active REITs practice, and stands out for its representation of government entities and international clients on their investments in British Columbia. Farris is also highly regarded for its handling of provincial, national and international mandates. The team assists with M&A transactions as well as financing instructions, representing companies from diverse industry sectors, including technology, government institutions and mining, as well as First Nations deals. The group also acts for investors and high-growth companies in investment rounds.

Strengths
“Very thorough and very practical.”

“Osler is a full service law firm and satisfies all of our legal services needs on a timely basis.”

Work highlights
Osler represented the syndicate of underwriters in the Province of British Columbia’s $2 bond offering valued at USD2.5 billion and USD1.75 billion.

Notable practitioners
Trevor Scott (see p.120) leads many of Osler’s key files out of Vancouver. He is noted for his considerable experience representing public and private companies in M&A and debt financing transactions. “He’s very calm, measured and deliberate.”

Band 4 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite British Columbia

Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for
Norton Rose Fulbright is a premier Vancouver firm with a robust private company deal sheet. It also demonstrates considerable expertise in assisting public corporations. The BC business law group regularly advises on M&A mandates and offers notable expertise in the technology space. Its expertise also cuts across sectors including transportation, energy and infrastructure. The team offers additional experience to clients in emerging industries such as fintech and cannabis. Through its global platform, it is well placed to advise international clients on their investments in British Columbia.

Strengths
“They’re very in tune with market precedents and are strong commercial negotiators.”

“I’m always impressed at how quickly and thoughtfully they are able to provide guidance and advice.”

Work highlights
Norton Rose advised HES PV on its acquisition of Sentinel Solar.

Notable practitioners
Vancouver M&A head Daniel Steiner (see p.121) centres his practice on public and private M&A transactions in the technology and infrastructure spaces. “He has very strong commercial expertise and is a good negotiator.” William McFetridge (see p.117) is a senior lawyer, experienced in assisting clients with a variety of transactions. He is based in Vancouver. “He is the orchestra director and has a breadth of knowledge across all areas of the law that allows him to provide well rounded advice.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
What the team is known for
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt’s Vancouver-based corporate department is well regarded for its handling of provincial, national and international mandates. The team assists with M&A transactions as well as financing instructions, representing companies from diverse industry sectors, including technology, government institutions and mining, as well as First Nations deals. The group also acts for investors and high-growth companies in investment rounds.

Strengths
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Band 1 Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded British Columbia

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for
DLA Piper represents Canfor in its acquisition of Millar Western Forest Products’ solid wood operations and associated tenure for CAD420 million.

Notable practitioners
Brian Hiebert is a key contact for clients.

Band 2 Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded British Columbia

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for
Gowling WLG is well known for handling corporate and commercial work in the mid-market space in British Columbia. The firm’s Vancouver business law group advises on transactions in the mining, resources and infrastructure sectors, as well as offering related tax advice. It also advises on capital markets deals and often handles cross-border mandates. With its offices located across Canada and internationally, clients also benefit from the firm’s wide-reaching network.

Work highlights
Gowling WLG represented Canfor No. 1 Apartments Partnership in a number of real estate portfolio acquisitions in Vancouver.

Notable practitioners
Brett Kagetsu is a key partner for clients in Vancouver.

Band 3 Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded British Columbia

Mogan Daniels Slager LLP
What the team is known for
Mogan Daniels Slager is a highly regarded M&A boutique law firm with a substantial reputation in Vancouver. The firm advises clients on M&A, private equity and commercial transactions across a broad range of industries including manufacturing, technology and hospitality.

Notable practitioners
Nathan Daniels is a respected lawyer with noteworthy experience assisting clients with corporate transactions across Western Canada. He focuses on transactions involving private companies, acting for sellers and investors. “He’s a first-rate lawyer.”
### Band 1 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite

**Alberta**

#### Leading Firms

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<td><strong>1</strong></td>
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<td>Stikeman Elliott LLP</td>
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**Strengths** “Bennett Jones doesn’t take any shortcuts. They have a very good aptitude to work through complex issues.”

“They can give you practical advice beyond standard aspects.”

“It’s really a partnership approach. You succeed together and fail together, they are always there to help you. They’re very pragmatic, their advice is very practical and very sensible.”

**Work highlights** Bennett Jones acted for Cenovus Energy in its USD23.6 billion acquisition of Husky Energy.

### Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded

**Alberta**

#### Leading Firms

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<td>Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP</td>
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**Strengths** “The team is very hard-working – they meet all their deadlines and are good at finding solutions.”

“The lawyers are plugged into issues and are very responsive and client-focused.”

“Blakes have the experience to recognize potential side issues that always seem to crop up, and have people in place with the ability to deal with them.”

**Work highlights** Blake, Cassels & Graydon advised Waterous Energy Fund and Strathcona Resources on the CAD700 million acquisition of Caltex Resources.

### Notable practitioners

**Ross Bentley** (see p.109) is a well-regarded securities and M&A lawyer who is noted for his strength across the full spectrum of transactional matters. He splits his time between the firm’s Calgary and London offices. “His knowledge of capital markets and deals of this nature enabled us to complete the transaction quickly and with the best documentation possible. He is an excellent lawyer and led the team through this complex transaction with professionalism and skill.” Chad Schneider (see p.120) is highly regarded in the Calgary market for his wealth of experience advising clients on corporate reorganisations and M&A transactions.

**Jeff Bakker** (see p.109) is an experienced lawyer who advises clients on securities law issues and M&A transactions and plays an increasingly significant role within the firm’s Calgary group, which he currently co-heads. “Jeff is very bright with an excellent grasp of technical aspects of the law. He is easy to deal with and someone you enjoy working with.” “He was very responsive.”

**Scott Clarke** (see p.111) is the co-head of the firm’s Calgary corporate department. He advises on M&A and corporate governance mandates, among other areas of expertise, typically acting on matters arising within the energy and manufacturing sectors. “Scott knows our management team and style, and puts that knowledge to good use when working on our files.”

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**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for: Bennett Jones is a highly esteemed Calgary and Edmonton-based law firm which is at the forefront of the Alberta legal market. The team’s deep bench of lawyers offer significant expertise in the oil and gas, technology, infrastructure and manufacturing industries. The Calgary group advises on a wide range of corporate and commercial matters including sophisticated cross-border M&A transactions, with noted strength in the private equity space. The team also provides guidance on joint ventures, partnerships and capital markets deals.
can be trusted negotiating on our behalf.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for
Stikeman Elliott is a national law firm that can regularly be seen advising on pipeline project negotiations, debt recapitalisation and securities and capital markets matters in the oil and gas sector, as well as high-value, cross-border M&A deals and going private transactions. The Calgary team acts for both issuers and underwriters; its client roster features foreign investors and private equity funds focused on the energy industry, as well as exploration and production services companies. The practice’s expertise covers the real estate, utilities, construction, infrastructure and agriculture industries.

Strengths “They give us solutions and not just to legal issues. Stikeman Elliott is very available and very attentive to all our matters.”
”Their responsiveness is really great. I rarely have to wait long for a detailed, considered response to a question.”

Work highlights
Stikeman Elliott acted for Spartan Delta in its CAD752 million acquisition of Velocet Energy.

Notable practitioners
Christopher Nixon (see p.117) operates an impressive transactional practice in Calgary that sees him advise on high-profile M&A transactions. He also heads the firm’s China practice. “He is one of the sharpest people I have ever met.” “Chris is an excellent lawyer and very smart.” Craig Story (see p.121) is highly accomplished in handling mergers and acquisitions, as well as joint ventures and capital markets transactions. “Craig Story is one of the pre-eminent M&A individuals. He’s one of the best, your classic consummate professional. Craig knows his stuff and is a great guy to work with.” “He has a good knowledge of our business so can respond quickly to questions.”

Calgary-based Leland Corbett (see p.111) handles a wide array of corporate transactions, including M&A and capital markets mandates, among others. “He is very knowledgeable, practical and a pleasure to deal with.” Keith Chatwin (see p.111) advises on both domestic and cross-border M&A and securities transactions. He heads the corporate department in Calgary, as well as co-leading the firm’s Korea initiative. “Keith is highly knowledgeable and has a great legal skill set. He’s a pleasure to work with.” “He is very proactive when there are new changes that might impact us. He is always very on-point. It’s very much appreciated.” Sony Gill (see p.112) assists clients with a broad range of corporate matters in the mid-market in Calgary, including M&A, recapitalisation and joint venture transactions. He is particularly active in the oil and gas space. “He is always practical, solution-oriented and goes above and beyond with the service level.”

Benjamin Hudy (see p.113) is widely recognised as an up-and-coming lawyer with notable strength advising on M&A transactions. “He fights when he needs to but he is reasonable when other people aren’t. It’s very impressive.”

Band 2 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite Alberta

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault offers notable experience advising both public and private companies in the oil and gas sector. The business law group in Calgary is well equipped to handle mid-market matters, including regulatory advice, corporate restructuring, M&A and shareholder agreements, as well as high-profile M&A. The team is experienced in handling cross-border mandates, as well as advising on debt and equity offerings. The law firm is well regarded for its diverse industry expertise encompassing oil and gas, power, financial services and technology. The legal practice’s clients benefit from the group’s multidisciplinary approach, including competition, tax, IP and real estate expertise.

Strengths “The lawyers we worked with are really good, very practical and very quick to respond.” “The firm provided quick responses and good solutions on complicated matters and situations.”

Work highlights
McCarthy Tétrault advised Lithia Motors on its CAD900 million acquisition of a car dealership chain.

Notable practitioners
Alyson (see p.113) Goldman (see p.113) is an exceptionally well-regarded lawyer who sits in the business law team at Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer. She is a strong lawyer with a grasp of both public and private transactions, and who displays additional expertise in matters concerning shareholder activism. “Alyson is great technically and she knows how to really get things done.” Catherine Samuel (see p.120) is a well-regarded transactional lawyer who frequently represents clients in mergers, acquisitions and private equity mandates. Gordon Cameron (see p.110) is a respected lawyer who is noted for his handling of securities and M&A mandates, particularly those in the oil and gas sector. He is based in the Calgary office of McCarthy Tétrault. “Gordon has very strong technical legal skills and is equally adept in providing practical business guidance.” John Osler (see p.118) is a member of the firm’s business law group in Calgary, from where he advises clients on M&A, corporate governance and securities issues, with notable strength in debt and equity offerings. “John’s customer service is superb.”

Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for
Norton Rose Fulbright is a strong international firm with a distinguished and longstanding presence in Alberta. The firm’s Calgary lawyers are well regarded for their experience acting for energy and energy services companies on corporate and securities matters, infrastructure investment projects and joint ventures in the oil and gas sector. The team also offers experience advising on a range of debt and equity financing transactions and distressed asset sales. The practice demonstrates expertise in a range of complementary areas, including tax, banking, capital markets and litigation. The group is adept at handling multi-jurisdictional mandates.

Strengths “Norton Rose is very sharp and very good at issue identification. They know how to deal with problems really well. They give us that strong specialised experience which is really useful to us.”

Work highlights
Norton Rose Fulbright acted as counsel to Benevity on its acquisition of Alaya.

Notable practitioners
Marcus Archer (see p.109) is well versed in advising clients on M&A and corporate finance transactions. He is based in Norton Rose Fulbright’s Calgary office and regularly advises on transactions in the energy and natural resources sector. “Marcus Archer is a practical lawyer.” Senior partner Justin Ferrara (see p.112) is a well-regarded lawyer who concentrates his practice on handling sophisticated M&A and securities matters. Justin is an expert in this area. I hold his opinion and advice in very high regard.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
What the team is known for
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is a respected national firm with a strong offering in Alberta. The team is well equipped to advise on takeover bids, energy and infrastructure projects, and both domestic and cross-border M&A and securities matters, as well as corporate restructurings and joint ventures. It offers further expertise in equity and debt capital markets and related tax law. The firm’s clientele ranges from startups to major multinationals. It also often represents private equity sponsors and portfolio companies.

Strengths “Team members have often reached out to me in reaction to recent corporate and commercial developments to make recommendations.” “They are client focused and never miss a deadline.” “The team is very commercially aware – their insight is invaluable.”

Work highlights Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt acted as principal counsel to Enterra Holdings, the parent corporation of Golder Associates, in its CAD1.5 billion acquisition by WSP Global.

Notable practitioners
Frank Turner (see p.122) is a highly respected figure in the Calgary corporate market, with a longstanding reputation for his handling of corporate finance and M&A transactions. “Frank Turner is a strong commercial head and draftsman.” Andrea Whyte (see p.122) is well equipped to advise clients on a variety of M&A and other corporate transactions and is an increasingly prominent member of the Calgary group. She routinely acts for clients in the mining and energy space. “Andrea is an experienced and talented lawyer who inspires confidence.” Andrea keeps us out of trouble.”

Torys LLP
What the team is known for
Torys advises energy services and royalty and streaming companies on M&A and restructuring matters in the midstream sector. The team also advises private equity entities, financial institutions and pension funds on a wider range of commercial matters, including corporate compliance, financing and capital markets transactions. The law firm’s client roster includes small, mid-size and large companies in both the public and private arenas. The Calgary-based group benefits from the support of the firm’s Toronto and New York offices to advise on national and international transactions.

Strengths “Responsiveness and communication are of paramount importance to us and Torys never disappoints. Emails and phone calls are always answered more promptly than expected.” “Advice is delivered with a practical, commercial focus that builds on the trust that we have formed with our lawyer over the years.” “They can handle highly complex deals – nothing is novel and it’s well handled. They are very good in terms of practical advice.”

Work highlights Torys advised Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co on its high-value joint venture with Pembina Pipeline.

Notable practitioners
Jenan Paskaran (see p.118) is highly regarded for his experienced representation of clients from the energy sector in mergers and acquisitions, as well
as corporate finance and securities law mandates. Based in Calgary, he often advises on commercial oil and gas transactions. "Janan really knows the technical side and is good at applying decisions in a commercial sense." "Janan never ceases to impress us with his strong overall knowledge and the ability to respond quickly and develop solutions for us." Head of the Calgary corporate/commercial department

Stephanie Stimpson (see p.121) regularly assists oil and gas companies and other clients with M&A, joint ventures and securities matters. Her practice includes a growing focus on corporate ethics and ESG risks. "She is practical and has great communication skills." Neville Jugnauth (see p.114) advises on private equity investments and M&A transactions. His clients include energy companies headquartered in Alberta and further afield, as well as Crown corporations. Michael Pedlow (see p.118) is a Calgary-based lawyer with a burgeoning corporate practice. He frequently advises on M&A transactions for energy clients. "He ensures that we receive the advice required in a timely fashion." Senior associate Jennifer Baugh (see p.109) frequently assists clients with a range of corporate and capital markets transactions. She is particularly adept at handling mandates in the energy and healthcare spheres. "Jennifer is very responsive, diligent in following up and managing challenging workstreams and is a pleasure to work with." "I was very satisfied with Jennifer’s client service and quality of advice provided."

Band 3 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite Alberta

Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP

What the team is known for Burnet Duckworth & Palmer is a well-known Calgary law firm that is highlighted for its expertise in both domestic and international corporate, private equity and securities mandates. The team specialises in energy-related corporate work, including the financing of midstream and construction projects and commercial real estate matters. The legal practice offers additional experience in capital markets and private equity-related transactions in the agricultural, automotive and aviation sectors. The group also advises on shareholder activism and corporate governance matters.

Strengths "The lawyers demonstrate common sense in applying their knowledge to real-world situations. "They are very in tune with the market conditions and issues that surround our operations." Work highlights Burnet Duckworth & Palmer advised Kicking Horse Oil & Gas on its USD300 million acquisition by Whitecap Resources.

Notable practitioners William Maslechko (see p.116) enjoys a longstanding reputation as a leading corporate lawyer in Calgary. He has a strong track record advising on M&A and corporate governance mandates, particularly in oil and gas. Made managing partner in 2022, Alicia Quesnel (see p.174) is a highly regarded name in the Calgary and nationwide legal markets. She is best known for her experience advising energy clients on a wide array of corporate transactions. Grant Zawalsky (see p.123) is widely respected for his corporate law expertise and operates an active practice in Calgary advising on high-value deals. He also demonstrates notable strength advising on shareholder activism.

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons is an international law firm with offices in both Calgary and Edmonton. The group frequently advises on high-end mid-market companies on M&A, corporate restructuring, contract negotiations and private equity and capital markets transactions. The law firm often represents stakeholders in infrastructure, as well as underwriters. Clients of the legal practice stem from a wide range of industries, including energy, technology and financial services.

Strengths "Dentons are always available to provide practical legal advice as they have a deep understanding of our business and strategy." "They have the team and specialists within their network of lawyers who they can draw on to handle any specific situation." Work highlights Dentons advised Canadian Natural Resources on its CAD960 million acquisition of Storm Resources.

Notable practitioners

William Jenkins possesses experience in a broad range of corporate matters, including M&A and equity financings. He co-leads the firm’s banking and financial services group in Calgary. "Bill Jenkins provides practical legal advice that aligns with the company’s goals and strategy." Dan Shea advises clients on various transactions arising in the private equity and capital markets mandates. He is the lead of the firm’s Canadian corporate group. "Dan Shea is articulate, practical and a natural problem-solver." "He is always fair and reasonable and focuses attention on the main important items as opposed to getting lost in immaterial details." Jessica Myers is a Calgary-based partner with a fast-developing reputation for her corporate law practice. She advises public and private companies in connection with M&A and capital markets mandates. "Jessica is always responsive and helpful when leading a process."

Band 1 Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded Alberta

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais is a national law firm that advises on the full spectrum of corporate transactions, with strong capabilities in M&A, debt financing and securities regulatory matters in Alberta. Its diverse industry experience spans oil and gas, energy and cannabis, among others. The department’s deal sheet features both domestic and cross-border transactions.

Strengths "Their main strength is being able to very succinctly identify various risks in the due diligence process and help us prioritise the severity of those risks. This allows me as a business-decision maker to quickly decide on what needs to be addressed and how."

Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais advised AutoCanada on its acquisition of PG Klassic Auto-body.

Notable practitioners

Melissa Smith is the regional group manager of the firm’s corporate/commercial and capital markets groups in Calgary.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for DLA Piper is a highly regarded international firm with a significant presence in the mid-market in Alberta. The group in the Calgary office is well versed in M&A and capital markets transactions in the oil and gas industry, with further experience advising private equity funds, infrastructure and technology sector clients. The practice regularly represents clients operating in the retail and healthcare industries. The department also offers advice on employment, venture capital, insolvenency and tax matters and is well placed to represent both public and private companies from its offices in Edmonton and Calgary. The team is adept at handling cross-border transactions, regularly advising on inbound US investments.

Strengths "All of our timelines and deadlines are met." Work highlights DLA Piper advised Legible on its reverse takeover of Twenty20 Investments and Legible’s listing on the Canadian Securities Exchange.

Notable practitioners

Trevor Wong-Chor is based in Calgary and is a key contact for clients.

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is an international law firm that enjoys a solid presence in Alberta, where it regularly advises on distressed M&A deals and infrastructure derivative financing matters. The team is focused on the oil and gas industry, with notable expertise in the midstream sector. The Calgary-based group is well positioned to advise on mining, IT and technology matters, and has a significant practice emphasis on the mid-market and a growing focus on international transactions. The team is also increasingly involved in transactions in the cannabis space.

Strengths "Working with Gowling means we trust that as new issues arise, they will do all they reasonably can to get ahead and safeguard our company and our shareholders." "Communication has been great and they are available at short notice."

Work highlights Gowling WLG acted for the majority shareholder of Dynamic Risk Assessment Systems in connection with the sale of all of its outstanding securities of the company to Edify Technologies for CAD81.54 million.

Notable practitioners

Greg Peterson heads the firm’s Calgary corporate finance, M&A and private equity group.

Band 2 Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded Alberta

Burstall LLP

What the team is known for Burstall is a well-known Calgary-based corporate and commercial boutique law firm with a strong focus on oil and gas-related matters. The team is active in the mid-market where it frequently advises energy, manufacturing and technology clients on corporate financing, securities and technology licensing. The firm also provides expertise in capital markets transactions and related tax advice, and is particularly highly regarded for its public company work.

Notable practitioners

Dale Burstall is a key contact.
## Band 1 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite Ontario

### Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

**What the team is known for**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a strong choice for corporate and commercial work in Ontario as well as nationwide. The Toronto corporate/commercial practice has a robust private M&A component, coupled with an acclaimed securities offering and substantial experience of joint venture transactions, as well as a wide variety of strategic commercial agreements. The firm also demonstrates expertise in advising on outbound investments. It is particularly active in the financial services sector, as well as advising on work in various other industries including infrastructure, automotive, retail and real estate. The lawyers are active on high-end, cross-border deals, as well as in the corporate mid-market.

**Strengths**

- "Blakes are very good at thinking outside the box and try to problem-solve with clients while thinking of ways to achieve the objectives."
- "Blakes provided advice that aligned with our commercial goals."
- "We do deals in aggressive timelines, we are very demanding clients and they can meet our timelines and deliver a high-quality work product for us."

**Work highlights**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon advised the board of directors of Canadian Pacific Railway on its USD31 billion acquisition of Kansas City Southern.

**Notable practitioners**

- **Sarah Gingrich** (see p.117) is co-leader of Fasken’s securities, mergers and acquisitions group and the practice group leader for the group’s Calgary office. She regularly assists clients with M&A transactions in the cannabis, pharmaceutical and energy sectors. "Sarah is a consummate professional who manages our files and ensures a smooth client experience. She truly understands client needs and follows up to make sure we are getting what we need when we need it."
- "She is practical and gives us the best advice possible."

### Fasken

**What the team is known for**

Fasken possesses a strong corporate team that advises clients on the full range of matters, including M&A and capital markets mandates. The group advises on transactions across a broad span of industries such as energy, healthcare and technology. The firm’s national network benefits clients who are able to leverage its experience to handle acquisitions in provinces across Canada.

**Strengths**

- "They have a good sense of the practical application of the law and how it works in the context of a business transaction."
- "They adapt well and listen effectively."

**Work highlights**

Fasken advised Citizen Stash Cannabis on its CAD$4.3 million acquisition by The Valens Company.

**Notable practitioners**

- **Sarah Gingrich** (see p.52) is co-leader of Fasken’s securities, mergers and acquisitions group and the practice group leader for the group’s Calgary office. She regularly assists clients with M&A transactions in the cannabis, pharmaceutical and energy sectors. "Sarah is a consummate professional who manages our files and ensures a smooth client experience. She truly understands client needs and follows up to make sure we are getting what we need when we need it."
- "She is practical and gives us the best advice possible."

### McLeod Law LLP

**What the team is known for**

McLeod Law is a respected Calgary firm with experience handling mid-market commercial transactions. The corporate/commercial law team advises clients on shareholder agreements, private placements, securities and M&A transactions. The group’s expertise cuts across sectors, including technology, financial services and healthcare.

**Strengths**

- "They are responsive and on-point on all issues."

**Work highlights**

McLeod Law advised Algonaught Capital Corporation on its acquisition of Algodex.

**Notable practitioners**

- Robert Fooks is the head of the business law group.

### Goodmans LLP

**What the team is known for**

Goodmans is an emerging Toronto M&A firm with a notable profile in the REITs space and deep experience across various other industry sectors including mining and tele-

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### Corporate/Commercial Ontario

#### Band 1 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite Ontario

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<th>Firm</th>
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- "She is practical and gives us the best advice possible." |
| Davises Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP | Davises Ward Phillips & Vineberg is one of the top law firms in Toronto offering strategic advice on high-level corporate and private M&A, as well as other matters including corporate governance and shareholder activism. The law firm’s corporate department maintains a strong focus on inbound transactions and offers significant experience in relation to unsolicited takeovers, as well as advising on various debt and equity financing matters. The team has a strong track record of advising on transformative cross-border deals; its wide industry experience encompasses mining and energy, technology, financial services and healthcare, among other areas. The firm’s clients range from bidders and investors to target boards. | **Vincent Mercier** (see p.117) wins praise for his deep expertise advising high-end clients on M&A and corporate governance matters. He is a regular feature on the firm’s most important deals. "He’s a great lawyer who is really well regarded." |
| Goodmans LLP | Goodmans is an emerging Toronto M&A firm with a notable profile in the REITs space and deep experience across various other industry sectors including mining and tele- | **Melanie Shishler** (see p.175) is highlighted for her representation of clients within the mining sector in M&A, joint ventures and corporate governance transactions. Toronto-based **Brett Sefred** (see p.120) has experience in corporate matters and transactions involving a range of sectors, including manufacturing and financial services. "Brett is very practical, has great commercial sense and he’s a very dynamic individual who is good at leading transactions." |
Activism. The team is frequently involved in multi-jurisdictional matters, including major inoubound deals. It also benefits from the firm’s leading expertise in corporate restructuring and is increasingly noted for its work in the cannabis space.

**Strengths** "Goodmans are very entrepreneurial in their culture, in addition to being able to provide sophisticated and excellent legal assistance."

"They have a good team of very experienced lawyers who know the process. They have a good bench strength."

"They have the right combination of technical know-how and business sense."

**Work highlights** Goodmans acted for Rogers Communications in connection with its acquisition of all of Shaw Communications’ issued and outstanding Class A Shares and Class B Shares in a transaction valued at USD26 billion.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Jonathan Lampe (see p.115) is recognised for his deep experience in corporate law, with particular expertise in securities and M&A transactions. "He’s a brilliant guy." Toronto-based Dale Lastman, C.M. (see p.115) is widely recognised for his experience in handling complex corporate transactions across a variety of sectors. Co-chair of the firm’s corporate securities group Neil May (see p.116) has a wealth of experience handling M&A and corporate finance matters. Based in Toronto, he advises on transactions across a broad range of industries, including mining and private equity. "He always provides us with solutions to deal with problems; we found his handling of transactions really good." Robert Vaux (see p.122) is noted for his experience handling M&A and corporate governance matters arising from the cannabis and pharmaceutical sectors, among others. He co-chairs the firm’s corporate securities group in Toronto. Stephen Pincus (see p.253) leads the firm’s capital markets group. Based in Toronto, he regularly advises a broad range of clients on M&A and securities matters, including REITs transactions. "Stephen is very experienced and has been around a long time. He’s a good lawyer and a great business person while being very practical. He’s a great strategist too." Toronto-based Jonathan Feldman (see p.112) is an active corporate lawyer whose practice demonstrates capabilities across both M&A and REITs transactions. "Jonathan is an expert on USA to Canada rules and regulations." Toronto-based Chris Sunstrum (see p.121) is noted for his representation of clients from a variety of industries, including mining and energy. His practice includes advising on corporate governance and M&A and private equity transactions.

**Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is a regular feature of the market-leading Canadian deals, with an elite Toronto-based corporate department acting alongside partners based nationwide. The firm’s extensive deal sheet includes sophisticated M&A and capital markets transactions, acting for both issuers and dealers, as well as high-profile private equity deals. The group stands out for its representation of major Ontario-based clients, as well as its emerging companies practice. The practice is well regarded for its industry-specific experience, with extensive expertise in the financial services, mining and oil and gas sectors, among others. The legal team advises clients ranging from financial institutions and pension plans to startups in the tech and life sciences sectors. The law firm has also recently been active advising clients on their strategic investments into the cannabis space.

**Strengths** "As a firm, they make it a priority to know the client at a level which allows them to be creative and proactive."

"They are very sophisticated and experienced. They have very good business judgement and are very focused on good customer engagement and experience."

**Work highlights** Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt advised the Bank of Montreal on its USD16.3 billion acquisition of Bank of the West from BNP Paribas.

**Notable practitioners**

Douglas Bryce (see p.110) is the national managing partner of the firm and enjoys a prominent reputation both in Ontario and beyond. He has a wealth of experience across a wide range of M&A and private equity matters. "He was the wise adviser in the background. I knew I could rely upon him as the transaction advanced." Chair of the firm’s corporate department in Toronto, Emmanuel Pressman (see p.119) enjoys a stellar reputation and concentrates his practice on the representation of high-end clients in M&A and private equity matters. "He’s a very effective and-
McCarthy Tétrault is Toronto-based and private equity matters. Practice on M&A transactions, corporate governance and driven when it comes to achieving an objective.” It’s a very strong leader and solid advisor to us.” James Brown (see p.110) is based in Toronto and is noted for his adept handling of both corporate and commercial mandates.. He is particularly active in transactions in the mining sector, regularly leading high-value deals. “He’s very practical. He understands the issues that you face in transactions. He’s not just focused on the legal side, he understands the business and the personalities side.” Alex Gorka (see p.113) is a Toronto-based corporate lawyer with a fast-developing reputation for handling sophisticated matters. He assists with significant transactions in varied industry sectors, including media, technology and retail. “He’s a solid technical lawyer.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott is a national M&A powerhouse with a distinguished corporate/commercial base in Ontario. The law firm has a strong tradition of public M&A and is well-equipped to advise on the regulatory aspects of market-leading deals. The Toronto corporate group also boasts a strong track record of private equity deals and capital markets transactions, particularly equity IPOs, across numerous industry sectors including tech and fintech, resources, cannabis and retail. 

Strengths “The law firm has a very strong client focus, in particular with respect to availability.”
“Torys is incredibly service-oriented and responsive. We are a demanding client and things change quickly. Torys is able to adapt and keep up.”
“Torys offers very effective management of client relationships and matters. He is a critical resource who routinely advises on both public and private transactions. 

Strengths “Torys is incredibly service-oriented and responsive. We are a demanding client and things change quickly. Torys is able to adapt and keep up.”
“Torys offers very effective management of client relationships and matters. He is a critical resource who routinely advises on both public and private transactions. 

Torys LLP
What the team is known for Torys is a large Toronto-based law firm with significant national and international renown. It is firmly placed at the forefront of the business law community in Toronto, advising on its high-end and mid-market domestic and cross-border M&A transactions straddling various industry sectors; recent highlights include a number of significant retail, fintech and private equity deals. The group maintains longstanding institutional relationships with various private equity firms, pension funds, financial advisers and large corporates. Its lawyers are well placed to advise on both public and private transactions.

Strengths “Torys is incredibly service-oriented and responsive. We are a demanding client and things change quickly. Torys is able to adapt and keep up.”
“Torys offers very effective management of client relationships and matters. He is a critical resource who routinely advises on both public and private transactions. 

Band 2 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite
Ontario

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for Bennett Jones is highly regarded for its focus on transactions in the mining, energy, tech and fintech sectors. The corporate team benefits from the firm’s strength in areas such as restructuring and tax to provide a comprehensive service on a range of deals, including public and private M&A, joint ventures and capital markets matters. Its Toronto lawyers are experienced in handling deals in the telecommunications, retail and construction industries. The firm also advises on transactions in the cannabis space.

Strengths “Bennett Jones are always very commercial, working to find solutions to problems rather than getting hung up on principles.”
“The team are strategic thinkers with tailored solutions, not off-the-shelf band-aids.”
“They provided quick and reliable answers. They have a great strategic sense for negotiations.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones acted as counsel to EQT Infrastructure on its USD4.6 billion acquisition of First Student and First Transit.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Curtis Cusinato has deep experience assisting clients in the technology, energy and private equity spaces with mergers and acquisitions, leveraged buyouts and financing transactions. “Curtis is the lawyer you want on your side in any transaction. He’s dogmatic but pragmatic and can solve complex problems even when they seem insurmountable.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is highly regarded for commercial energy and financial services sector transactions. The law firm’s Toronto corporate team acts for issuers and underwriters on capital markets matters, including IPOs, as well as undertaking a large number of M&A deals. It is also well equipped to represent major private equity sponsors; its enviable client list comprises significant Canadian companies as well as major multinationals. The lawyers offer additional expertise in reorganisations, divestitures and joint ventures; their industry
expertise encompasses telecoms and entertainment, retail and hospitality.

Strengths “McCarthy Tétrault are very timely in responding to requests. They are very approachable and the matters are treated with a sense of urgency.” “They worked incredibly hard and offered great advice. They are very commercial.”

“One of the greatest strengths of the firm is its problem-solving orientation and the level of commercial awareness.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised Endeavour Mining on its CAD2.4 billion acquisition of all issued and outstanding securities of Teranga Gold.

Notable practitioners

Robert Hansen (see p.113) is a Toronto-based lawyer who handles corporate transactions on behalf of clients in the technology, private equity and financial services sectors, among others. “Robert provides good client service and commercial sense.” Toronto-based David Woolcombe (see p.123) operates a long-standing transactional practice spanning a number of industries, including media and energy. Toronto-based Jonathan See (see p.120) offers expertise in M&A transactions, capital markets and private equity matters, and serves as co-head of the firm’s national M&A and private equity group. “He is an excellent M&A strategist.”

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is a Toronto-based firm that regularly provides advice on the Canadian aspects of cross-border M&A and corporate finance deals, as well as acting on a range of domestic commercial matters. The corporate/commercial department has established a particularly solid reputation for mid-market private equity transactions, and offers specialised expertise in capital formation. The law firm is particularly well versed in technology and energy industry transactions and is developing a reputation for its work in the cannabis space.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Richard Kimel assists both public and private companies with a range of corporate transactions.

Band 1 Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded Ontario

Aird & Berlis LLP

What the team is known for Aird & Berlis is a Toronto-based firm that regularly provides advice on the Canadian aspects of cross-border M&A and corporate finance deals, as well as acting on a range of domestic commercial matters. The corporate/commercial department has established a particularly solid reputation for mid-market private equity transactions, and offers specialised expertise in capital formation. The law firm is particularly well versed in technology and energy industry transactions and is developing a reputation for its work in the cannabis space.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Richard Kimel assists both public and private companies with a range of corporate transactions.

Band 3 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite Ontario

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell is a dominant law firm in Canadian mining with a strong base in Toronto. Its corporate lawyers also advise on M&A transactions in the wider resources sector and offer notable expertise on cross-border work. The group’s industry expertise also encompasses technology and gaming, as well as a growing presence in the cannabis industry. The law firm acts for a range of clients from multinational mining majors to small and medium-sized Canadian businesses.

Work highlights Cassels Brock & Blackwell acted for Kirkland Lake in its merger with Agnico Eagle Mining valued at USD10.6 billion.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Jeffrey Roy (see p.119) possesses experience in a broad range of corporate matters. He focuses his practice on M&A and take-private transactions within the mining and oil and gas sectors. “Jeffrey is outstanding on complex M&A transactions.”

Toronto-based Jamie Litchen (see p.47) garners praise for her growing corporate practice. She routinely advises clients on mergers and acquisitions and demonstrates experience in handling cannabis-related transactions.

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken advises on both public and private M&A across a diverse range of sectors including transportation and infrastructure, media, manufacturing, communications, mining and financial services. The law firm’s Toronto office represents large multinational businesses as well as mid-sized companies and start-ups, and continues to be very well known for its transactional expertise. The legal team has notable experience in corporate reorganisations, joint ventures and corporate governance matters.

Strengths “Fasken are very experienced and have a good understanding of how to marry a sound strategy with good legal advice. They are excellent in war-gaming scenarios and considering alternative options and defense.”

“The firm provides consistently reliable, effective, efficient and practical advice.”

Work highlights Fasken advised Apria in connection with its CAD10 billion merger with Tilray.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Grant McGlaughlin (see p.117) is well-regarded for his expertise in corporate transactions in a variety of sectors, including cannabis, telecommunications and energy. He assists clients with mergers and acquisitions and securities transactions as well as reorganisations of business. “He is providing sound advice on all aspects of corporate support and M&A.” “He’s a good and solid lawyer,” Sean Stevens (see p.121) is a corporate lawyer based in Fasken’s Toronto office. He regularly assists clients with acquisitions in a variety of industry sectors, including mining and technology. “Sean has invested much time in understanding our business. He is client-focused.”

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright operates a robust corporate practice in Toronto and Ottawa, with an especially high profile for its experience of proxy contests and other hostile and distressed transactions. The firm also handles going-private matters, recapitalisation transactions and joint venture arrangements. The practice often advises on national and international transactions, leveraging the expertise of its counterparts across the country and worldwide. Its client roster features a variety of companies, boards of directors and private equity investors straddling a broad range of sectors, including mining and energy, infrastructure, technology and cannabis.

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright advised Securitas as Canadian counsel on its USD3.2 billion acquisition of Stanley Black & Decker’s global electronic security solutions and healthcare solutions businesses.

Notable practitioners

Waled Soliman (see p.120) has a wealth of experience handling M&A and securities transactions, as well as proxy contests. Based in Toronto, he serves as the firm’s Canadian chair and the co-chair of its special situations team. “He’s one of the best client-facing lawyers. He’s super creative.”

Band 4 Corporate/Commercial: The Elite Ontario

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for DLA Piper Canada Toronto office enters the rankings on the back of strong market feedback and increasing visibility. The group assists with M&A in a variety of sectors, including in larger cross-border deals. The team is well recognised for handling deals in the cannabis sector and is also active in technology and retail. The firm also assists with transactions involving securities.

Strengths “I liked how adaptable and available they were. There was the perfect amount of assistance. They didn’t shy away from going above and beyond and making sure our needs were met.”

They team is absolutely bang on in terms of commercial awareness they made sure our acquisition went through properly.”

“We are a demanding client and they have been up to the challenge. They have good connection between partners in different functions, which allows us to have an overall good commercial view.”

Work highlights DLA Piper advised LEAP Group Holdings on its acquisition of DivorceMate Software Inc. and MySupportCalculator.

Notable practitioners

Russel Drew is based in DLA Piper’s Toronto office, from where he represents clients in both domestic and cross-border M&A transactions.
team’s deal experience extends across borders, often advising on M&A involving US entities. The practice also advises on business succession planning, corporate reorganisations and securities regulation. The law firm’s industry expertise cuts across sectors including real estate, healthcare, technology, retail and financial services, among others. **Strengths** "Torkin Manes always demonstrate a ‘client first’ attitude with tremendously impressive turn-round times.” “The team is very practical in simplifying complex issues for us and suggesting solutions that help resolve issues in a collaborative way.”

**Work highlights** Torkin Manes represented Barilla on its CAD165 million acquisition of Catelli Foods Corporation’s Canadian dry pasta business and the Lancia and Splendor brands from Riviana Foods.

**Notable practitioners**

- Jeffrey Cohen is rated for his experienced handling of M&A and financing transactions in the mid-market. He is based in Toronto and currently serves as the managing partner of the firm. “He has brought huge value to us in many ways.” Chair of the firm’s business law group in Toronto, Matthew Tevlin is a highly regarded corporate practitioner with particular expertise in the private equity space. “Matt had very good commercial instincts and sorts through legal issues quickly.” “Matt Tevlin is a great business person’s lawyer. He’s very practical and excellent at keeping clients informed.”

Wildeboer Dellelce LLP

**What the team is known for** Wildeboer Dellelce is a boutique corporate law firm with a substantial reputation in Toronto. Its lawyers act for a wide range of issuer clients and investment dealers on corporate finance and structured finance transactions, as well as providing significant M&A, corporate governance and tax expertise. The legal team advises on going-private matters, as well as transactions in numerous industries including real estate, mining and financial services, tech and biotech. The law firm is recognised for its work on deals in the cannabis space; other areas of growing focus include blockchain and cryptocurrency-related work.

**Strengths** "Wildeboer Dellelce are excellent at taking in the detail and making them business-executable.” “The team takes time to listen and explain.”

**Work highlights** Wildeboer Dellelce acted for iLobby on its USD100 million investment from Insight Partners.

**Notable practitioners**

- The firm’s founder and managing partner of the Toronto office, Perry Dellelce (see p.111) has a broad corporate practice that encompasses expertise in M&A, securities and financing transactions. Perry understands the industry, client relations and how the legal side and business side come together. He is very service-oriented and also able to come up with solutions." Toronto-based Troy Pocaluyko (see p.118) adeptly advises on M&A, private equity and securities transactions. "He is knowledgeable and reliable.” "He’s solid and easy to deal with.” Rob Wortzman (see p.123) is highlighted for his broad transactional practice in Toronto. He advises clients on securities and M&A transactions. "Rob is easy to work with. He’s very practical and business-savvy.”

Band 2 Corporate/Commercial: Highly Regarded

**Ontario**

Blaney McMurtry LLP

**What the team is known for** Blaney McMurtry is a popular law firm among Toronto clients for transactions in the mid-market. The firm’s corporate/commercial group handles a range of acquisition and financing matters, with a strong emphasis on the alternative energy and emerging technology industries. The law firm also offers expertise in the real estate, banking and pharmaceutical sectors. The practice is often involved in cross-border matters and is the sole Ontario member of law firm network TAGLaw.

**Strengths** “They are quick to respond to the smallest detail.” “They have a solid grasp of the big picture and how their clients’ interests behave outside of the narrower legal framework.”

**Work highlights** Blaney McMurtry represented The Toronto-Dominion Bank in its CAD150 million loan to a residential developer.

**Notable practitioners**

- Toronto-based Steve Popoff (see p.119) acts for a diverse range of clients on both M&A and corporate finance deals. “He is always quick to respond.” Toronto-based Dan Giantsopoulos (see p.112) represents clients in the purchase and sale of assets, as well as private placements, among other corporate mandates.

Fogler, Rubinoff LLP

**What the team is known for** Fogler, Rubinoff is a well-known mid-sized law firm with a full-service commercial law practice in Toronto. The corporate department advises both public and private companies on M&A, corporate governance and regulatory compliance, as well as commercial litigation. The firm also represents entrepreneurs and family-owned businesses and provides noted securities expertise. It also operates an esteemed real estate practice.

**Work highlights** Fogler, Rubinoff advised Fortune Bay in connection with the completion of a non-brokered private placement for aggregate gross proceeds of USD6.86 million.

**Notable practitioners**

- Rick Moscone receives recognition for his transactional work, frequently handling securities and M&A matters. Based in Toronto, he is well equipped to assist clients with transactions in the cannabis industry.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Ontario-based Peter Saad of Loopstra Nixon LLP is a corporate lawyer with a growing reputation in the market. He frequently assists clients with acquisitions of mid-sized businesses, particularly in the pharmacy sector. “Peter is a pleasure to work with. He’s knowledgeable, capable, friendly, efficient and timely.”
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg represents a premium clientele comprising local pension funds, investors, financial institutions and major multinational companies in high-end domestic and cross-border transactions. The team wins particular recognition for its representation of both entrepreneurial businesses and sophisticated companies based in Montréal in connection with international expansions. The law firm’s recent deal sheet also includes a number of notable inbound deals. It is equally well placed to advise on M&A, private equity and capital markets transactions, as well as corporate governance. The lawyers’ expertise cuts across sectors including pharmaceutical, manufacturing, tech and retail.

Strengths
“They are very available, they make you feel like a priority and they are very good on the technical issues.”

“Theyir turnaround times on analysis and availability to participate on urgent calls was simply remarkable. It seemed like we were the only client they had, and that our file was the most important file they had ever worked on. As a client, this felt incredibly reassuring.”

“They are always providing excellent advice and prompt responses.”

Work highlights Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg advised Cominar REIT on its CAD$7 billion sale to Irving Acquisition II.

Notable practitioners
Montréal-based Franziska Ruf (see p.119) is recognised for her work on high-end M&A, as well as offering further capabilities advising on joint ventures and capital markets transactions. “Franziska Ruf is a force of nature with extensive expertise in shareholder agreements, on top of general M&A expertise.” “She is diligent, available and skilled in negotiation. I appreciate her judgement and finesse.”

Montréal-based Hillet Rosen (see p.260) advises clients on M&A and broader transactional matters and is particularly active in the life sciences sector. “He is a brilliant legal technician who truly manages to understand core business issues and how they interact with legal elements.”

Montréal-based Justin Vineberg (see p.122)’s practice sees him advise clients within the retail and tech sectors on M&A, equity financings and broader corporate work. “He displays exceptionally intelligent tactics and approaches in negotiations. He is able to blend high-level short, medium and long-term strategic vision and also has a deep understanding of complex legal corporate structures.”

Montréal-based Richard Cherney is an experienced corporate lawyer who handles a range of transactions, including M&A, securities and private equity matters. “Sébastien is excellent and very good for complex transactions. He is very hands-on.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault regularly advises on the Québec aspects of national and international M&A and capital markets deals. The team represents an enviable list of local clients across various industries, including energy and natural resources, tech, transportation and financial services. The law firm frequently advises clients on transactions with cross-border dimensions, with particular expertise in matters relating to the USA and EU. The group is also well placed to advise leading institutional investors on strategic transactions in Québec, and has been active on private equity-driven deals. The firm has a solid platform in both Montréal and Québec City.

Strengths
“Think their biggest strength is their ability to translate their legal knowledge and make it fit to our business needs.”

“They are great at anticipating our needs - they take time to get to know us and understand our business.”

“We have so far always succeeded in achieving our goals thanks to the commercial acumen across their team. The depth and breadth of their team is exceptional.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised mdf commerce on its CAD260 million acquisition of Periscope Intermediate.

Notable practitioners
Montréal-based Patrick Boucher (see p.110) earns a spot in the highest band of the rankings this year. He offers leading expertise in acquisition and equity issuance mandates and also co-heads the firm’s national capital markets group. “Patrick Boucher is really good with technical aspects, and able to take a step back to analyse the full picture.”

Montréal-based Clemens Mayr (see p.117) has a wide-ranging practice that covers areas including M&A, securities law and corporate finance. He handles both domestic and cross-border mandates. Montréal-based Patrick Shea (see p.318) has a broad corporate practice which includes representing clients in capital markets and M&A transactions, as well as providing equity investments and leveraged buyouts. “Patrick Shea is an extremely good lawyer - he knows what is going on in the market, he is great at offering solutions and he is very good for complex cases.”

Montréal-based Éric Gosselin (see p.113) assists clients with corporate and commercial matters, including mergers, corporate reorganisations and joint venture transactions, among other areas of expertise. His client roster includes domestic companies active across the technology and distribution sectors. Philippe Lecterc (see p.259)’s practice features strength in both M&A and securities law. He divides his time between Montréal and Québec City. Karl Tabbah (see p.121)
combines his role as regional managing partner for Québec with an active client-facing practice where he handles M&A acquisitions as well as capital markets matters. Hadrien Montagne (see p.117) is a corporate lawyer operating out of McCarthy Tétrault’s Montréal office. He routinely assists domestic clients with strategic M&A operations.

**Norton Rose Fullbright**

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fullbright is a large and well-respected corporate group in Montréal, featuring pension plans, manufacturers and major Montréal-headquartered banks. The group benefits from its worldwide network when advising foreign clients on Canadian transactions and commercial operations, and has experience representing clients from European and other jurisdictions. It advises on business establishments, financing, initial public offerings and acquisitions. The team’s expertise cuts across sectors, including manufacturing, mining, transportation and tech. It is well known for its large securities and corporate finance practice, including asset finance.

**Strengths** “The availability of the team members and the partner in charge is exemplary. They are available by phone or e-mail at all times.” “It is a great firm: we are always very satisfied with the quality of the service the lawyers provide and we will continue working with them in the future.”

**Work highlights** Norton Rose Fullbright advised Coveo on its CAD215 million initial public offering.

**Notable practitioners**

Montréal-based Paul Raymond (see p.119) has a wealth of experience in M&A and securities law and displays additional strength assisting clients with debt and equity financing transactions. His activity is notable on deals arising across a wide range of sectors including tech, aviation and mining. “Paul is an outstanding partner and business advisor.” Montréal-based Stephen Kelly (see p.114) is the national practice head for the firm’s Canadian business group. He operates a broad corporate practice which features strength in both M&A and corporate finance. “I have witnessed the awareness by Stephen Kelly of the commercial implications of a case for his client. In complex and sophisticated matters he represents the clients long term interests.” Solomon Sananes (see p.120) is highly adept at handling M&A and securities law issues, as well as corporate governance and capital markets matters, among others. He serves as the managing partner of the Montréal office. Montréal-based senior partner Eric Stevens (see p.121) benefits from a strong background in finance to advise on a range of clients across various industries on M&A and other commercial transactions. “Eric Stevens always seeks to find situations that are win-win for everyone. He was available throughout the process and was able to set up a competent and responsive team to support us.” Nicolas Labrecque (see p.119) is a well-respected and seasoned lawyer, both domestically and internationally on M&A and financial services work. He is the chair of the Montréal business law group. “Nicolas is extremely responsive, thoughtful, personable and business-minded.”

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott operates a large and well-respected corporate group in Montréal and occupies an important position within the business law community in Québec. The law firm plays a central role in large M&A deals in the province, acting for major Québec-based clients as well as international private equity funds, and offering considerable cross-border capabilities. It has a strong corporate finance practice and is well placed to advise clients on private transactions through to debt and equity deals, including IPOs. The team represents firms across industries, with particular expertise in the technology space. Its other areas of notable activity include retail and transportation.

**Strengths** “Their expertise is on point and their work capacity is unbeaten. They were extremely efficient, business-savvy and they understand the fundamentals of the deals.” “They are excellent lawyers who are dedicated to the success of our projects. They understand our business, they are very responsive and give practical business-oriented advice.”

**Work highlights** Stikeman Elliott acted on TELUS on the CAD500 million sale of its financial solutions business to Dye & Durham.

**Notable practitioners**

Sidney Horn (see p.113) is a highly regarded lawyer in the corporate and commercial market in Québec. He acts as a trusted adviser to domestic and international clients on transactional matters including M&A, corporate governance and securities law issues. Montréal-based John Leopold (see p.115) maintains a leading reputation for his impressive corporate practice that sees him handle M&A transactions and private equity deals, among other matters. “John Leopold is the dean of Canadian private equity deal work.” Robert Carelli (see p.111) combines his role heading the Montréal office’s corporate group with an active client-facing practice. He moves up the rankings this year and demonstrates strength in mergers, acquisitions and equity deals. He is also noted for his expertise in securities law. “He is a fantastic lawyer and is very calm.” Montréal-based Peter Castiel (see p.111) focuses his practice on the representation of clients in cross-border mergers and acquisitions as well as divestitures and private equity matters. “He is exceptional, really smart, methodical and strategic.” Montréal-based Jean Marc Huot (see p.114) attracts praise for his consummate handling of high-level corporate matters. He frequently advises clients on securities, corporate governance and M&A transactions. Warren Katz (see p.114) regularly advises public and private corporations on securities, mergers and acquisitions, and private equity matters. He serves as the managing partner of the Montréal office. “Warren Katz is my go-to lawyer on any deal relating to Canada.” Sophie Lamonde (see p.317) regularly advises clients on corporate and private equity matters and demonstrates strong capabilities in cross-border transactions. She heads the firm’s mergers and acquisitions group in Montréal. “He is knowledgeable and efficient lawyer.” Head of the firm’s securities group in Montréal, Pierre-Yves Leduc (see p.115) has experience advising clients on mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and capital markets matters. “He is a very strong and well respected lawyer.” Montréal-based Maxime Turcotte (see p.122) is experienced in M&A and securities matters as part of a broad practice. “Maxime Turcotte is available, technically strong and efficient.” Aniko Pel- land (see p.118) joins the table this year on the back of positive market recognition. He advises clients on M&A transactions as well as corporate financing and capital markets mandates. “He is excellent.”

**Band 2**

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken operates a highly respected corporate practice recognised for its penetration of the corporate mid-market in Québec, offering notable expertise in private and public M&A and securities transactions. The firm is distinguished by its representation of a plethora of clients ranging from Québec-based start-ups to large international corporations, as well as insurance companies, private equity funds and other financial services clients. The team is a visible feature on public sector work within the province. It is also adept advising clients on cross-border work, including inbound US investments.

**Strengths** “Fasken can handle transactions in all sectors and industries due to the depth of its team in all practice areas. The law firm has the expertise to handle the most complex of M&A transactions.” “They know the Québec market and are well connected.” “The ongoing availability of Fasken lawyers and access to an international network provided us with a high level of service.”

**Work highlights** Fasken acted for Absolonnet on its acquisition by Valtech.

**Notable practitioners**

Montréal-based Robert Paré (see p.118) is a veteran corporate lawyer with a wealth of knowledge across a broad spectrum of securities issues, M&A and corporate governance work. “Robert Paré is definitely one of the top lawyers in Montréal over the past decade.” Montréal-based Michel Boislard (see p.110) is a highly respected lawyer who routinely assists clients with M&A, securities and corporate finance matters. His clients include tech firms as well as investment funds. “Michel Boislard is a good leading partner – he takes good care of clients, knows how to organise a team and he has the knowledge to be able to handle complex cases.” Montréal-based Marie-Josée Neveu (see p.117) is commended for her experienced counsel in the corporate sphere and demonstrates strong capabilities across private and public M&A and governance matters. “Marie-Josée Neveu is a seasoned partner that meets our expectations time and time again on quality of work and responsiveness.” Montréal-based Jean Michel Lapierre (see p.115) is adept at handling securities, capital markets and M&A transactions. He routinely assists domestic corporations as well as financial institutions. “He is an invaluable adviser for me and our company.” Caitlin Rose (see p.119) moves up the rankings this year and is an accomplished corporate lawyer who demonstrates strong capabilities in securities and M&A transactions. She serves as co-head of the firm’s private equity group in Montréal. “Caitlin Rose has good technical expertise in a wide variety of subjects.” Carl Bélanger (see p.109) operates a respected M&A practice and serves as co-president of the firm’s corporate/commercial group in Montréal. “Carl Bélanger is strategic and business-minded.” Carl Tremblay (see p.121) advises clients on M&A, private placements and financing matters. He serves as the managing partner for the firm’s Québec City office.
Band 3

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon operates a well-known national corporate practice with a foothold in Québec. The firm advises on M&A and private equity transactions, and demonstrates expertise in cross-border work. It is well placed to advise multinational clients in respect of their Canadian investments and represent local companies as well as mandates in the mining and financing transactions. The team is well regarded for its work on behalf of Montréal-headquartered pension plans, insurance companies and financial institutions, as well as for its capabilities in the infrastructure space. Its industry expertise also spans retail, manufacturing, natural resources, automotive and real estate.

Strengths
“We would not have been able to close this transaction in due time without their support.”

“The service level is great and they seem to be available anytime if the situation requires immediate attention.”

“The team is very business-oriented, good at understanding clients and able to communicate with people beyond just the legal world.”

Work highlights
Blake, Cassels & Graydon advised Desjardins Global Asset Management on the development of its CAD3 billion Global Private Infrastructure Fund to invest in renewable energy and infrastructure projects.

Notable practitioners
Montréal-based Howard Levine (see p.115) demonstrates broad corporate expertise acting for clients on corporate governance, M&A and capital market matters. He also offers considerable cross-border capabilities. “He is sharp, thinks ahead and provides good strategic advice. He is also excellent at explaining issues and designing tailor-made solutions.”

Montréal-based Philippe Bourassa (see p.110) is an experienced corporate lawyer with a wide-ranging practice that encompasses M&A as well as private equity. “Philippe Bourassa is very pragmatic, strategic and solution-oriented.”

Band 4

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais advises on commercial transactions across various industries in Québec, including telecoms, technology, life sciences and manufacturing. The law firm frequently services Montréal-based clients and benefits from the firm's integrated national platform.

The team's experience encompasses venture capital investment work and public and private M&A. It acts for international firms on the Canadian law aspects of cross-border M&A and capital markets transactions, as well as private equity and venture capital. The group also demonstrates a presence in infrastructure matters and projects.

Work highlights

Notable practitioners
Montréal-based Patrice Martin and Neil Ezra Hazan are key contacts for the group.

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for
Dentons is experienced across a range of mid-market transactions in Québec, particularly those within the manufacturing, technology and financial services spheres. The firm's broad skill set covers M&A, private equity and corporate financing. The Montréal group frequently advises clients on domestic matters and benefits from the firm's integrated international platform.

Other areas of notable activity include infrastructure, mining and telecommunications.

Work highlights
Dentons advised Aya Gold & Silver on its acquisition of Algold resources.

Notable practitioners
Montréal-based Charles Spector combines his role serving the firm's national lead for the corporate group with an active commercial practice.

Band 1

BCF LLP

What the team is known for
BCF is an entrepreneurial law firm with a widely felt presence in Québec which is recognised for its focus on transactions and clients within the province. The corporate team is best known for its involvement in mid-market M&A and private equity deals. It also advises on venture capital financings, financial partnership and equity arrangements. The group handles transactions across a wide range of industries including technology, construction and manufacturing. It has a particularly solid reputation for its representation of start-ups. It services clients from its offices in Montréal and Québec City.

Strengths
“The lawyers are very responsive and kept up well with a fast-paced transaction.”

“I trust their abilities to negotiate and resolve issues. It is a pleasure to work with them.”

Work highlights
BCF acted for Baylis Medical on the USD1.75 billion sale of part of its business to Boston Scientific Corporation.

Notable practitioners
Montréal-based André Morissette is an experienced corporate lawyer who is regularly sought out to advise on M&A transactions. He is active across the healthcare and media sectors. “André Morissette was a pleasure to work with, he is very skilled and strategic.”

Lavery, de Billy

What the team is known for
Lavery, de Billy is an independent law firm with one of the largest corporate departments in Québec and strong ties to the local business community. The team acts for institutional investors, public and private corporations and start-ups on transactions across a range of industries, including energy and resources, manufacturing and real estate. The practice is also active in the infrastructure sector and maintains a significant focus on private equity, venture capital and investment funds work. The law firm is based in Montréal and also has offices in Sherbrooke, Trois-Rivières and Québec City. It enjoys a strong reputation among domestic clients engaged in transactions overseas.

Strengths
“Lavery, de Billy is an excellent partner to navigate through difficult issues. The lawyers know beyond just the law, they understand our business.”

Work highlights
Lavery, de Billy advised a consortium of investors on the creation of a syndicate of lenders and an investment fund with a mandate to provide loans totalling CAD151 million for the construction and renovation of affordable housing.

Notable practitioners
Montréal-based Josianne Beaudry is a key contact in the firm's business law group.

Band 2

Lapointe Rosenstein Marchand Melaonçan LLP

What the team is known for
Lapointe Rosenstein Marchand Melaonçan is a notable Montréal law firm, acting for a large number of Québec-based clients on local M&A and securities transactions, corporate reorganisations and venture capital deals. The business law group often advises on outbound transactions, and has a strong profile for retail and banking. It also offers commercial advice in other

Corporate/M&A Québec
areas such as insurance and franchising, and assists non-Québec clients with provincial registrations. It is a member of law firm network Terralex.

**Notable practitioners**

Bruno Floriani is a key contact for the group.

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### General Business Law

**Stein Monast L.L.P.**

**What the team is known for** Stein Monast is a Quebec City law firm with an active practice and a good reputation in the local mid-market. The group offers a range of advice in relation to M&A, financing, securities law, bankruptcy and restructuring, as well as providing related tax expertise and advice on potential litigation. It regularly acts for small and medium-sized companies on securities transactions and for private and institutional investors on capital markets deals. The law firm is also seen representing the provincial government and its agencies.

**Notable practitioners**

Sophie Martin is the managing partner of the firm.

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### General Business Law

**Northern Canada and Arctic**

**Leading Firms**

**Band 1**

- Lawson Lundell LLP
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
- McLennan Ross LLP
- Band 3
- Dragon Toner Law Office
- Field Law

**Senior Statespeople**

- Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
  - Donhee John Wills & Sher Environmental Lawyers (ORL) *

**Leading Individuals**

**Band 1**

- MacPherson Sheila Lawson Lundell LLP *
- Band 2
- Chamberlain Adam Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
- Ferdinand Catlyn Ayanna FieldLaw
- Kowbel Christine Lawson Lundell LLP *
- Band 3
- Denroche Alan Denroche & Associates (ORL) *
- Dragon Leanne Dragon Toner Law Office
- Gullberg Ed McLennan Ross LLP
- Innes Larry Olthuis Kleer Townsend (ORL) *
- Kruger Toby Lawson Lundell LLP *
- MacKenzie Sandra Lawson Lundell LLP *
- McDermond Kathleen Borden Ladner Gervais LLP *
- Meadows Teresa Meadows Law (ORL) *
- Toner Sheldon Dragon Toner Law Office
- Up-and-coming individuals
  - Syer Tim Lawson Lundell LLP *

**Band 2**

- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
  - What the team is known for
  
  Borden Ladner Gervais is a national law firm with a dedicated ‘Team North’ practice group offering significant expertise throughout its national network, particularly in Ottawa and Montréal. The team is active across the Canadian Arctic, assisting clients with a wide range of matters, including in the energy and natural resources and telecommunications industries. Team members have notable experience handling labour and employment disputes. The firm can regularly be seen assisting the Government of Nunavut and its agencies, as well as other public sector clients.

  **Strengths** “The team has advised us on complex and sophisticated matters for many years and has consistently provided timely, responsive and high-quality legal advice.”

  “The lawyers are quick to respond and usually available to take work on short notice.”

  **Work highlights** Borden Ladner Gervais assisted the Northwest Territories Power Corporation with access to information requests.

  **Notable practitioners**

  - Kathleen McDermond (see p.117) often represents clients in employment and insurance matters, acting for public and private sector clients on contentious matters. She also assists with contractual disputes and human rights litigation. “She has a deep and broad knowledge of business in the North and the unique needs of Northern-based clients.”

- Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
  - What the team is known for
  
  Operating through a network of teams across the country, Gowling WLG’s ‘Canada North’ practice group provides corporate and commercial representation across the Canadian Arctic. The firm is further noted for its counsel on Aboriginal matters, and has notable expertise acting on behalf of governmental bodies. Team members often act on contentious matters, including intellectual property disputes, construction arbitration and access to information requests.

  **Strengths** “The lawyers are very prompt in responding to our communication.”

  “All of the associates and partners have a very strong knowledge of the law and the skills necessary to accomplish the work required.”

  **Work highlights** Gowling assisted the Nunasi Corporation with the sale of a stake in Malca-Amit.

  **Notable practitioners**

  - Sophie Martin is the managing partner of the firm.
Toronto-based Adam Chamberlain is a specialist in environmental and Aboriginal law. He frequently represents firms from the mining and power sectors, as well as government institutions in a suite of regulatory and administrative law matters. “He understands the Northern environment and the legal issues.”

McLennan Ross LLP
What the team is known for: McLennan Ross is a strong regional law firm with an impressive Yellowknife offering, backed by additional expertise in Edmonton and Calgary. Active in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and the Yukon, the team is recognised for its commitment to the North. The firm typically acts on corporate and commercial and real estate mandates for a client base that includes several municipalities, government entities, real estate developers and energy companies. It also offers a broad litigation practice, with experience in insurance and general commercial litigation. The team is also recognised for handling employment law matters.

Notable practitioners
Ed Gulberg operates a long-standing commercial and construction practice throughout Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. Based in the firm’s Yellowknife office, he has notable experience representing clients from the energy and transportation sectors. “He has a lot of practical and deep knowledge.”

Field Law
What the team is known for: Field Law assists the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board with regulatory compliance issues and corporate governance.

Notable practitioners
Ayanna Ferdinand Colyn has a particular focus on real estate matters, including the sale of assets, construction projects and real estate financing. She also assists public and private sector clients with governance and compliance matters. “I feel confident in her ability to handle any questions or tasks that have arisen.” “She is knowledgeable, personable, responsive and able to see the big picture.”

General Business Law

Saskatchewan

Band 1

MLT Aikins LLP
What the team is known for: MLT Aikins is widely recognised as the most prominent law firm in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. It is particularly highly regarded for its M&A work on behalf of clients in the transportation, natural resources and agribusiness sectors and also often acts for Crown corporations and government entities. The firm has considerable presence in management-side labour matters, handling a wide array of work ranging from collective bargaining to occupational health and safety and human rights law. It is also highlighted for its expert handling of commercial dispute resolution mandates, as well as offering representation in a number of specialist areas such as banking, wills, trusts and estates, property, construction and tax litigation. The firm has offices in Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

Notable practitioners
Douglas Hodson KC is held in high regard in Saskatchewan for his first-class handling of commercial disputes. He is particularly well recognised for his work in the transportation and construction sectors, with considerable experience in class action litigation. He is based in Saskatoon. Shaunt Parthev KC is renowned for his handling of multiparty claims and class action suits. He holds notable experience acting in the mining, insurance and construction industries on various claims and disputes. He is based in Saskatoon. Kevin Wilson KC is widely considered to be a leader in the Saskatchewan labour and employment market. Based in Saskatoon, he regularly acts for clients in both unionised and non-unionised environments, most significantly in the mining, construction and education sectors. Alain Gauker KC focuses his practice on corporate tax planning and tax disputes. His clientele ranges from small enterprises to large corporations and high

General Business Law

Leading Firms
Band 1
MLT Aikins LLP
Band 2
McDougall Gauley LLP
McKercher LLP
Miller Thomson LLP
Band 3
Kanuka Thuringer LLP
Robertson Stromberg LLP
Band 4
Stevenson Hood Thornton Beaubier LLP

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.
What the team is known for
Band 2
Lee Jeff
McKercher LLP
Quayle Amanda M. McDougall Gauley LLP
Sawatzky Murray McDougall Gauley LLP
Van Beselaere Rick Miller Thomson LLP
Band 3
Beckman John McKercher LLP*
Bergbusch Peter Miller Thomson LLP*
Cann Nicholas McKercher LLP*
Grubb Jeff Miller Thomson LLP
Hirschkfeld Colin McKercher LLP*
Kennedy Robert McDougall Gauley LLP
Kuski Gordon J. McDougall Gauley LLP
Mohrbutler Jason MLT Aikins LLP
Sutherland Ian McDougall Gauley LLP
Up-and-coming individuals
Clayards Jason McKercher LLP*

McKercher LLP

What the team is known for McKercher climbs a tier up due to strong market recognition. It is a well-established full-service law firm with a strong regional footprint. With offices in both Regina and Saskatoon, it offers impressive depth of expertise in commercial transactions, M&A and financing. The group represents a range of national and international clients across various sectors, including entertainment, construction and land use. It demonstrates additional expertise in the energy industry, notably in the renewable resources space.

Work highlights McKercher acted as counsel for Minds Eye Entertainment regarding the production of the film Dangerous featuring Scott Eastwood and Mel Gibson.

Notable practitioners
Patricia Warsaba KC (see p.122) is firmly positioned at the forefront of the corporate and commercial law market locally and nationally. She is based in Regina. She is active on construction projects for government bodies as well as financing for clients in the entertainment industry and has a deep M&A practice. John Beckman KC (see p.109) acts as counsel on a variety of disputes. Along with his handling of contractual and commercial disputes, he features on matters relating to tax as well as First Nations litigation. Nicholas Cann KC (see p.110) focuses his contentious practice on insurance defence. He handles a broad range of matters, including professional liability, construction losses and product liability. He often acts for clients in technical professions. He is based in Regina. Colin Hirschkfeld (see p.113) enters the rankings on the back of strong feedback. He is particularly well regarded for his expertise in construction law, including contentious matters. John Pringle (see p.119) advises clients on M&A transactions in the energy sector. He is based in Saskatoon. James Sproule (see p.121) is a respected corporate lawyer based in Saskatoon. He has particular expertise in the fields of construction and natural resources law. Jason Clayards (see p.111) is a litigation

Leading Individuals
Band 1
Ehmann James Kanuka Thuringer LLP
Hodson Douglas C MLT Aikins LLP
Parthev Shaunt MLT Aikins LLP
Band 2
Lee Jeff MLT Aikins LLP
Quayle Amanda M. McDougall Gauley LLP
Sawatzky Murray McDougall Gauley LLP
Van Beselaere Rick Miller Thomson LLP
Band 3
Beckman John McKercher LLP*
Bergbusch Peter Miller Thomson LLP*
Cann Nicholas McKercher LLP*
Grubb Jeff Miller Thomson LLP
Hirschkfeld Colin McKercher LLP*
Kennedy Robert McDougall Gauley LLP
Kuski Gordon J. McDougall Gauley LLP
Mohrbutler Jason MLT Aikins LLP
Sutherland Ian McDougall Gauley LLP
Up-and-coming individuals
Clayards Jason McKercher LLP*

McKercher LLP

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gator with a focus on contentious insurance and construction law cases. He is based out of McFercher’s Regina office. Christopher Masich (see p.116) enters the rankings on the back of market support. He is known as an environmental law specialist and assists companies with transactions and project development in energy and agriculture.

**Miller Thomson LLP**

**What the team is known for** Miller Thomson climbs a tier up due to strong market support. It is a full-service law firm operating out of Saskatoon and Regina, with the ability to draw upon the firm’s resources across Canada. It provides expert guidance to corporate clients across a range of business matters, including refinancing, M&A, debt recovery and CCAA proceedings. The firm is sought after by industry heavyweights in the banking, agribusiness and healthcare sectors and its recent workload includes IPO mandates, reorganisations and project financing in the real estate sector. It also operates a disputes practice in Saskatchewan, assisting clients especially with distribution rights claims.

**Strengths** “They are very good at relationship building and not only deliver legal advice but also understand our business goals and our approach.”

**Work highlights** Miller Thomson advised National Bank of Canada on the refinancing of an office and light industrial property in Regina, involving new credit facilities. 

**Notable practitioners**

- **Eric Johnson** handles a wide range of transactions, including M&A but is also active in litigation. He has clients in the real estate sector. He is managing partner of the Regina and Saskatoon offices.
- **Rick Van Beselaere** is best known for his expertise in bankruptcy and insolvency matters. He is based in Regina. 
- **Peter Bergbusch** handles a range of contentious mandates, from class actions and shareholder disputes to insurance defence and wrongful dismissal litigation. His clients include corporations and technical professionals from the engineering and medical spaces. He is based in Regina.
- **Jeff Grucci KC** is a well-regarded civil litigator with notable experience in the agricultural sector. Based in Regina, he handles contract disputes in the space, as well offering corporate and governance advice.
- **Glen Lekach** receives recognition for his deal expertise, frequently handling M&A and corporate reorganisation transactions. He is also adept at handling financing mandates. He is based in Regina.

**Kanuka Thuringer LLP**

**What the team is known for** Kanuka Thuringer operates a respected business law practice in Saskatoon. The business services team provides expert advice on M&A, corporate finance and securities as well as insolvency and restructuring matters. It represents a broad clientele ranging from small and mid-sized businesses to major financial institutions and national corporations. The team offers expertise in natural resources, construction, transportation and gaming matters. The firm is also acknowledged for its dispute resolution capabilities, with lawyers experienced in commercial trials, regulatory litigation, class actions, mediation and arbitration. It is also noted for its expertise assisting clients with construction litigation. The firm has offices in Regina and Swift Current.

**Notable practitioners**

- **James Ehmann KC** is respected for his handling of complex disputes in the construction, energy and insurance spaces. He is regularly mandated in navigating alternative dispute resolution, commercial litigation and class action suits. 
- **Warren Sproute KC** advises a wide range of clients on corporate and commercial transactions, with a particular focus on insolvency and restructuring. He is based in Regina.
- **Ronald Warsaba** is an experienced business lawyer with a broad-based practice that includes a focus on oil and gas transactions and real estate development matters. He operates his practice out of the firm’s Regina office.

**Robertson Stromberg LLP**

**What the team is known for** Robertson Stromberg is a well-established Saskatoon-based law firm with standout experience advising on commercial lending, acquisitions and divestitures as well as corporate finance. Its further areas of expertise include bankruptcy and insolvency, insurance and taxation law. The team regularly advises clients within the financial services, municipal and agricultural sectors. It is well known for its representation of small business owners.

**Notable practitioners**

- **Christopher Donald KC** is well versed in M&A, commercial real estate and corporate governance matters. His practice encompasses expertise in the agribusiness and energy sectors, among others. He is based in Saskatoon. “He has a good combination of academic and practical skills.”
- **Leslie Prosser KC** is held in high esteem for his corporate practice. Based in Saskatoon, he routinely advises clients on M&A, secured financing and lending transactions. “She is a first-class, incredibly hard-working lawyer.”
- **Melvin Gerspacher** is a well-regarded corporate lawyer with notable expertise handling tax matters. His clients include small businesses and First Nations organisations. He is based in Saskatoon.

**Stevenson Hood Thornton Beaubier LLP**

**What the team is known for** Stevenson Hood Thornton Beaubier is a Saskatoon-based law firm with a solid corporate offering and notable strength in mid-market M&A and securities work. The firm also offers experience pertaining to tax planning and disputes. Its expertise cuts across sectors including agriculture, insurance and real estate. They have a strong reputation in the tax field in particular.

**Notable practitioners**

- **Beaty Beaubier** is well regarded for and regularly advises clients on a wide range of tax matters, including in relation to both planning and disputes. He is based in Saskatoon.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

- **Larry Seifering KC** is the founding partner of Seifering Law. He commands a longstanding track record in labour relations, most significantly in the construction sector. He is senior counsel, based in Saskatoon.
MLT Aikins LLP
What the team is known for
MLT Aikins is widely recognised as the most prominent law firm in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. It is particularly highly regarded for its M&A work on behalf of clients in the transportation, natural resources and agribusiness sectors and also often acts for Crown corporations and government entities. The firm has a considerable presence in management-side labour matters, handling a wide array of work ranging from collective bargaining to occupational health and safety and human rights law. It is also highlighted for its expert handling of commercial dispute resolution mandates, as well as offering representation in a number of specialist areas such as banking, wills, trusts and estates, property, construction and tax litigation. The firm has offices in Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Regina, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

Notable practitioners
Esteemed lawyer James Ferguson KC possesses deep experience advising on corporate and commercial transactions. His practice features particular strength in the agricultural sector, alongside broader expertise in finance and energy type matters. He is based in Winnipeg. Winnipeg-based Milton Christiansen is an employment and labour lawyer who is acclaimed for his skills in union matters including formations, certifications and strikes. He is also experienced in employee terminations and advising on workplace policy. Winnipeg-based David Filmon is an experienced lawyer who advises clients on a broad range of corporate matters, including M&A, securities and corporate governance, among other areas of expertise. He currently serves as the chair of the firm. Winnipeg-based Milos Numnik enjoys a sterling reputation for his representation of financial clients on a wide range of business law matters. The firm is regularly called upon to handle a broad range of commercial litigation matters. He has notable complementary experience in construction law.

Fillmore Riley LLP
What the team is known for
Fillmore Riley is a prominent Winnipeg-based business law firm offering clients an array of dispute resolution and corporate services. The group acts for clients of all sizes on general business disputes before Manitoba’s courts, as well as on tax-related disputes. Jonathan Kroft is an experienced litigator with substantial expertise in an array of complex commercial disputes. “Jonathan enjoys a strong reputation in all aspects of civil and commercial litigation. He is a highly respected and skilled advocate who is well known for his strategic approach to litigation.”

Notable practitioners
Winnipeg-based Gregory Fleetwood has a notable presence in the Manitoba courts, with expertise in corporate and banking-related litigation. He is also commended for his professional malpractice defence work and has advocated on behalf of clients before a range of provincial courts, administrative tribunals and boards. “Gregory is a thorough lawyer who presents really well in court.” Longstanding litigator Thor Hansell enjoys a sterling reputation for his representation of financial clients on a wide range of business law matters. He is also noted for expertise in labour and employment matters. Michael Weinstein is regularly called upon to handle a broad range of commercial litigation matters. He has notable complementary experience in construction law.

Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP
What the team is known for
Thompson Dorfman Sweatman is a respected Manitoba law firm with a deep bench and ten office locations across the province and an additional office in Saskatchewan. It is regularly mandated to provide advice on tax, securities, banking, corporate governance, M&A, debt restructuring and reorganisations. The firm also frequently handles commercial dispute resolution, offering expert advice on contentious cases relating to construction, insurance, tax, wills, estates and trusts and general commercial matters. Furthermore, it operates an esteemed labour and employment practice.

Notable practitioners
Winnipeg-based Greg Tallon enjoys a sterling reputation for his transactional practice, which includes work on cross-border deals. He routinely advises clients on M&A and securities matters, as well as real estate development and leasing. Bruce Taylor is held in high regard for his representation of financial clients on a diverse range of bankruptcy and insolvency proceedings. He is based in the firm’s Winnipeg office. Lisa Stiver chairs the firm’s management committee.
McInnes Cooper is a well-regarded Manitoba law firm with significant experience advising on corporate governance, M&A transactions, restructuring and securities matters. It is particularly well known for its real estate practice, with noteworthy expertise in secured lending matters and commercial leasing. The corporate and commercial department supports its business clients by working closely with the firm’s tax and employment groups as well as its dispute resolution specialists.

**Notable practitioners**
- William Gardner leads the labour and employment practice group at Pitblado. Based in Winnipeg, his experience includes advising clients on human rights, workers’ compensation and occupational health and safety matters. Bruce King is a seasoned corporate lawyer benefiting from over three decades of experience in transactional work. He routinely advises clients throughout Manitoba on mergers and acquisitions, shareholder agreements and commercial real estate matters, among others. Winnipeg-based Scott Ransom regularly advises clients in the banking and agriculture sectors on a range of transactions, including financing and M&A. He is also highly adept at handling commercial real estate matters.
- Jeff Bagnie is a well-regarded litigator who brings substantial experience acting in a wide range of complex commercial disputes.

Taylor McCaffrey LLP

What the team is known for
Taylor McCaffrey is valued for its longstanding expertise in business law in the province, regularly advising on M&A, public and private financing, commercial real estate and bankruptcy. It is further noted for its tax practice, with additional capabilities in IP, IT and insurance defence. Its client base features local, national and international companies, with notable experience acting for government agencies, banks, financial services and insurance companies. The team is also widely acclaimed for its notable strength in employment and labour law, where its lawyers act for clients from both the public and private spheres as well as from unionised and non-unionised environments. It is especially well versed in union certifications, strike management and workplace accidents. Taylor McCaffrey is a member of law firm network SCG Legal. It has offices both in Winnipeg and in various locations throughout rural Manitoba.

**Notable practitioners**
- David Jackson has longstanding experience advising on a broad spectrum of transactional work, with particular expertise in the financial services sector. He also handles commercial litigation in Manitoba. Winnipeg-based Norman Snyder combines his position as the firm’s chairman and managing partner with an active corporate practice. He advises national and multinational companies on securities, corporate finance and governance issues. He is also admitted to the Ontario Bar. Timothy Kurbis handles M&A and corporate governance work, and is also held in high regard for his work on commercial real estate and financing matters in Manitoba. Kevin Williams is a well-regarded litigator with substantial experience acting in complex insurance disputes relating to matters including professional liability and property claims.

### Corporate/Commercial

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### Employment & Labour

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Pitblado LLP

What the team is known for
Pitblado is a well-regarded Manitoba law firm with significant experience advising on corporate governance, M&A transactions, restructuring and securities matters. It is particularly well known for its real estate practice, with noteworthy expertise in secured lending matters and commercial leasing. The corporate and commercial department supports its business clients by working closely with the firm’s tax and employment groups as well as its dispute resolution specialists.

**Notable practitioners**
- William Gardner leads the labour and employment practice group at Pitblado. Based in Winnipeg, his experience includes advising clients on human rights, workers’ compensation and occupational health and safety matters. Bruce King is a seasoned corporate lawyer benefiting from over three decades of experience in transactional work. He routinely advises clients throughout Manitoba on mergers and acquisitions, shareholder agreements and commercial real estate matters, among others. Winnipeg-based Scott Ransom regularly advises clients in the banking and agriculture sectors on a range of transactions, including financing and M&A. He is also highly adept at handling commercial real estate matters. Jeff Bagnie is a well-regarded litigator who brings substantial experience acting in a wide range of complex commercial disputes.

Taylor McCaffrey LLP

What the team is known for
Taylor McCaffrey is valued for its longstanding expertise in business law in the province, regularly advising on M&A, public and private financing, commercial real estate and bankruptcy. It is further noted for its tax practice, with additional capabilities in IP, IT and insurance defence. Its client base features local, national and international companies, with notable experience acting for government agencies, banks, financial services and insurance companies. The team is also widely acclaimed for its notable strength in employment and labour law, where its lawyers act for clients from both the public and private spheres as well as from unionised and non-unionised environments. It is especially well versed in union certifications, strike management and workplace accidents. Taylor McCaffrey is a member of law firm network SCG Legal. It has offices both in Winnipeg and in various locations throughout rural Manitoba.

**Notable practitioners**
- David Jackson has longstanding experience advising on a broad spectrum of transactional work, with particular expertise in the financial services sector. He also handles commercial litigation in Manitoba. Winnipeg-based Norman Snyder combines his position as the firm’s chairman and managing partner with an active corporate practice. He advises national and multinational companies on securities, corporate finance and governance issues. He is also admitted to the Ontario Bar. Timothy Kurbis handles M&A and corporate governance work, and is also held in high regard for his work on commercial real estate and financing matters in Manitoba. Kevin Williams is a well-regarded litigator with substantial experience acting in complex insurance disputes relating to matters including professional liability and property claims.
and benefits, human rights matters and workplace health and safety. Its industry expertise cuts across sectors including energy, construction and property, mining, shipping and aviation. Additionally, the firm’s litigation team offers support across the full range of business files, from securities, shareholder disputes and wrongful dismissal to real estate and natural resources litigation, and also offers comprehensive support on contentious administrative matters. The firm is the exclusive member firm in Atlantic Canada for Lex Mundi. It has offices in Halifax, Charlottetown, Saint John, St. John’s, Fredericton and Moncton. Work highlights A McInnes Cooper team led by Saint John-based Jeffrey Hoyt advised Premium Brands, in conjunction with a consortium of First Nations, on its acquisition of Clearwater Seafoods for USD1 billion.

Notable practitioners

Halifax-based Michelle Awad KC is a leading lawyer and litigator with particular expertise in mandates concerning product liability, securities, defamation and insurance. She frequently advises clients on general commercial disputes and arbitration. Malcolm Boyle KC is a Halifax-based lawyer who possesses a broad range of expertise in the labour and employment space. His practice includes representing employers before labour tribunals as well as advising on wrongful termination and occupational health and safety matters. Jack Graham KC is based in Halifax where he is widely recognised for his skills in labour arbitrations, collective bargaining and occupational health and safety. Suzan Frazer acts for publicly listed companies on a variety of securities and finance transactions ranging from public offerings and private placements to M&A, equity financings and takeover bids. She is based in Halifax. Saint John-based Beth McGrath acts for a varied roster of clients which includes financial institutions, oil and gas companies, public authorities and construction firms. She regularly advises on M&A transactions, structured asset and share purchases, commercial financings and securities matters. Brad Proctor has garnered an increasingly notable reputation as a labour and employment lawyer with strong capabilities in human rights, workers’ compensation and wrongful dismissal mandates. He is the firm’s office lead partner in Halifax. Darren Stratton is adept at handling a range of labour and employment matters. He is based in St. John’s and handles issues centred around health and safety, union-management relations and employee discharge, among others.

Stewart McKelvey

What the team is known for Stewart McKelvey is a Fredricton-based law firm which is well regarded throughout Atlantic Canada and beyond for its expertise in corporate finance, M&A, reorganisations, lending, banking, securities and insolvency. It is noted for its wide-ranging client base featuring national and international corporate entities, companies and family-owned enterprises across various industries, including energy, environment, aquaculture and construction. The firm also offers extensive experience of REITs and PPP deals. Its first-class labour and employment law team services both public and private sector employers; its lawyers are sought after to advise on wrongful dismissal claims and human rights complaints as well as workplace safety and workers’ compensation issues. It also inspires praise for its experience of labour board proceedings, collective bargaining and grievance arbitrations as well as its advice in relation to pensions and employee benefits. Additionally, the firm excels in matters of corporate and commercial litigation, insurance defence and tax dispute resolution. It stands out as a significant player for oil and gas and marine transportation disputes, regularly advising on insurance and admiralty claims. Its lawyers also frequently handle class action disputes, arbitrations and matters relating to professional regulation. Its six offices are spread across Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Notable practitioners

Saint John-based managing partner Clarence Bennett is a highly esteemed management-side labour, employment and human rights lawyer. He represents a broad range of clients stemming from the education, manufacturing and construction sectors. Robert Grant KC is a top lawyer in Atlantic Canada for all types of dispute resolution. Based in Halifax, he possesses a wealth of experience advocating both commercial and administrative cases, with notable expertise in energy, environment and project-related matters. Halifax-based Brian Johnston KC is widely considered by sources to be a market leader in the field of employment law. He is particularly skilled in labour relations, collective agreements and drug and alcohol workplace policy. He also most notably acts for clients in construction, healthcare and financial services. Halifax-based Lawrence Sturdy KC has substantial experience advising on M&A deals. He advises clients hailing from a wide range of sectors on transactional matters and the day-to-day challenges facing companies, their boards and their shareholders. Halifax-based Christine Pound provides strategically driven, client-oriented advice on M&A transactions, shareholder agreements and financings. Her clients are based in a variety of sectors including construction, environmental services, shipbuilding and banking. Twila Reid is based in St. John’s and has a robust labour and employment practice. Her practice covers negotiating collective bargaining agreements and litigating harassment cases, among other matters. Saint John-based lawyer Maureen Ryan advises on a broad range of M&A and commercial transactions. She assists various clients with matters arising from the construction, technology, and oil and gas sectors. “She is very highly skilled,” Rebecca Saturley is the firm’s managing partner in Halifax. She is renowned for representing clients in human rights and occupational health and safety matters. Colm St. Roch Seviour possesses considerable expertise in disputes relating to the resources sector, as well as environmental and product liability litigation and arbitration. He is based at the firm’s St. John’s office. Paul Smith focuses on trust law and corporate finance. Based in Saint John, he advises national and international clients in relation to their Canadian operations, as well as acting for institutions and private clients regarding trust structures and the formation of transnational trust organisations. Rory Rogers KC is an experienced litigator who is based in Halifax. He often works on corporate disputes and professional liability cases. “He is excellent.” Nancy Rubin KC is a well-established litigator in the commercial space. She is based in Halifax.

Band 2

Cox & Palmer

What the team is known for Cox & Palmer operates a well-established practice with a strong footprint across Atlantic Canada, with ten offices across the region including four locations in PEI. The firm predominantly acts on behalf of clients in the energy, banking and telecommunications sectors, handling a wide array of corporate and commercial matters, including M&A, secured transactions, IPOs, joint ventures and corporate governance. It also draws on the firm’s full-service resources to advise on insolvency and restructuring, real estate and tax law. In addition to commercial disputes and ADR, its clients benefit from its specialist teams in construction, estates, health, insurance and maritime litigation as well as advice relating to breach of contract, product liability and shareholder disputes. The team facilitates registrations and incorporations by providing enhanced direct access to corporations branches maintained by the governments of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Newfoundland and Labrador. The firm also fields an extensive labour and employment practice and is often a top choice for referral work from national law firms, advising employers on both contentious and non-contentious matters in both union and non-union settings. The team’s expertise ranges from contract drafting and wrongful dismissal claims to the employment-related aspects of restructuring matters and M&A.

Strengths “The firm has excellent lawyers.”

Notable practitioners

Based in Saint John, Peter Forrestell KC provides counsel to both leading domestic and international clients. He advises on corporate reorganisations, share and asset transactions, and general corporate and commercial matters. Jamie Eddy is a Fredericton-based lawyer who is well regarded for his strengths in grievance arbitrations and collective bargaining agreements. He is also adept at employment law, with his practice encompassing human rights and wrongful dismissals.
is Cox & Palmer's managing partner in Halifax. He is a longstanding figure with experience in collective agreements, employee terminations and workplace investigations. He also possesses expertise in employment-related litigation. Halifax-based Colin Clarke KC assists his clients with a range of contentious issues. He is particularly well known for his medical malpractice litigation work. Michelle Kelly is noted for her skills in complex disputes. She often works on contract, construction and property disputes. "She is an excellent lawyer, very smart and strategic."

**Patterson Law**

What the team is known for: Patterson Law is a highly regarded Nova Scotia law firm offering extensive experience in banking and finance, M&A, securities, corporate governance and insolvency. Its further areas of expertise include commercial and residential real estate development, taxation matters for both corporations and individuals, and trusts and succession planning. The group also provides businesses with support in commercial litigation matters and operates a solid advocacy group at the trial and appellate levels. The team is able to handle a range of files, from civil litigation and class proceedings to professional negligence, property disputes, insurance defence and arbitration. Additionally, it wins recognition for its well-established agricultural law practice. The firm has offices in Halifax, Truro, New Glasgow and Bridgewater.

Notable practitioners

Kate Harris has developed a wealth of experience advising owner-manager clients on trusts and estate planning, business structuring and tax minimization. She is based in Halifax. "She is very highly regarded, insightful and knowledgeable." Halifax-based firm managing partner Dennis James is a notable lawyer with a strong standing in the market. He is proficient handling all manner of disputes, from commercial litigation to professional liability, as well as administrative and Aboriginal disputes. Halifax-based George White elicits recognition for his agriculture practice. He focuses primarily on supporting agrifood, forestry, industrial and manufacturing clients during M&A, joint ventures, corporate reorganisations and shareholder agreements. Jennifer Hamilton Upham is co-managing partner of the firm and based in Truro. She handles matters such as acquisitions, mergers and joint ventures.

Band 3

**Boyne Clarke LLP**

What the team is known for: Boyne Clarke is a full-service law firm operating out of Dartmouth and providing counsel across the full spectrum of corporate and commercial matters. The business law team provides clients with informed counsel on transactions, joint ventures, capital investment and taxation, among other areas, as well as resolving related commercial disputes. The firm also advises on property development projects, with a focus on waterfront matters. It services a broad client base consisting of small businesses, large multi-shareholder companies, banks, trusts and individuals.

Notable practitioners

Halifax-based Brian Casey KC is an experienced lawyer in the litigation sphere. He advises his clients on a range of civil and commercial disputes. David Coles is an experienced lawyer who advises on commercial litigation, as well as insurance matters. He leads the firm’s business litigation group in Nova Scotia.

**Washington & Mahody Barristers**

What the team is known for: Washington & Mahody is a well-established litigation boutique based in Halifax which is regarded as a popular choice for commercial dispute resolution. Its attorneys have experience at all trial levels, as well as capability in ADR and regulatory litigation.

Notable practitioners

William Mahody KC handles a range of dispute work. His practice covers insurance, commercial and employment cases. "He is a very capable litigator."

**Pink Larkin Lawyers**

What the team is known for: Pink Larkin Lawyers is a Halifax-based team widely recognised as a dominant firm in the Atlantic provinces for union-side representation. It is acclaimed for its expertise in union certification matters and collective agreement negotiations across a wide range of industries, including in the maritime, agriculture and education sectors. The firm offers counsel to trade unions and professional organisations on a diverse array of employment and labour issues, including human rights, occupational health and safety, wrongful dismissals and pensions and benefits. It is also noted for its alternative dispute resolution and mediation capabilities. The team in Nova Scotia is supported by an office in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

Notable practitioners

Gordon Forsyth is renowned as a leader in union-side labour law across Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador. He represents clients before a variety of administrative tribunals and is best known for advising unions in the construction sector. Ron Pink KC possesses a longstanding track record of representing unions in the healthcare, education and construction sectors in collective bargaining agreements and certifications. He is based in Nova Scotia.

**Blenchells LLP**

What the team is known for: Burchells LLP is a full-service law firm operating out of Dartmouth and providing counsel across the full spectrum of corporate and commercial matters. It offers strong capability in commercial real estate, matters pertaining to the oil and gas and mining industries, and related commercial and civil litigation, frequently acting for clients on asset recovery, product liability and insurance disputes. The team regularly acts as local counsel to national and international clients.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Benson KC acts as Newfoundland counsel to a range of financial, manufacturing, healthcare, petrochemical and transport clients, offering advice on securities, banking and secured financing, M&A and health law. He is the co-managing director of Benson Buffett and a former president of the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Blosi, Nickerson & Bryson LLP**

What the team is known for: Blosi, Nickerson & Bryson is a Nova Scotia-based law firm recommended for its disputes practice, capable in commercial trials, administrative advocacy and alternative dispute resolution.

Notable practitioners

Bruce Outhouse KC is sought after for his commercial litigation, arbitration and mediation expertise. He is based in the firm’s Halifax office.

**Burchells LLP**

What the team is known for: Burchells LLP is a Halifax-based law firm with a sizeable team which has considerable experience advising on a variety of corporate transactions. The group is well equipped to advise on banking and insolvency matters, as well as estate planning and immigration law.

Notable practitioners

Bruce Clarke KC and Kelly Greenwood are key contacts.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Kelsey Bingham is regularly called upon to assist with corporate matters. She often works on deals such as acquisitions and dispositions.

Tara Erskine KC has extensive experience of employment law in Atlantic Canada as well as Alberta and Ontario. She is a highly skilled lawyer in grievance arbitrations, wrongful dismissals and sexual harassment matters.

Mark Murray is best known for his labour and employment practice. He has extensive experience in representing unions on a host of matters. "He is very experienced."

Kyle Rees is an up-and-coming practitioner who is building an impressive practice in the union-side arena. He acts on a host of commercial disputes. Halifax-based lawyer Geoffrey Saunders is commended for his ability to handle construction disputes. He is frequently mandated on litigation concerning environmental and municipal issues as well as bankruptcy and insolvency. "He is well regarded, smart and practical."
ALLARD, David
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
604.631.9108
dallard@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Agriculture & Rural Affairs (Canada) (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Agriculturists & Rural Economic Development, Forest Products, Mergers & Acquisitions, Technology

ARCHER, Marcus
Norton Rose Fullbright, Calgary
Marcus.Archer@nortonrosefullbright.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Marcus Archer focuses on public and private debt and equity financings, mergers and acquisitions, restructuring, reorganizations and purchases and sales of businesses and assets, acting for corporations, private equity, investment banks and creditors. He also assists clients with corporate governance, regulatory compliance, continuous disclosure and general corporate matters. Mr. Archer joined our Calgary office as an articling student in 1998 and became a partner in 2006.

ATKINSON, Aaron J
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
416.367.6907
aakinse@dwpv.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Aaron’s practice focuses on public and private mergers & acquisitions, shareholder activism, private capital markets, and corporate governance. He advises Canadian and international businesses, investors and other market participants spanning a wide range of industry sectors, including mining, technology, life sciences and financial services. A seasoned and strategic practitioner, Aaron has advised on some of the country’s most high profile domestic and cross border transactions, including contested matters such as unsolicited takeover bids and proxy contests, with wide-ranging experience advising bidders/activists as well as targets and target boards. Well versed in corporate governance, Aaron is also regularly called upon to advise boards and board special committees on transactional matters and complex governance issues. Select Highlights: Chambers Canada: [FLR1000]; The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert Special Editions on Agribusiness & Cannabis, Finance and M&A, Mining and Technology; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert’s “Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40.”

BACHYNSKI, Jared
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631-1430
jabchynski@stikeman.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Jared Bachynski is a partner in the Corporate and Securities Group and is also a member of the Technology Group. Jared advises clients on a range of Canadian and cross-border transactional matters, including public and private M&A, public and private equity financing, growth equity investments, joint ventures and general corporate and securities law matters. He also has experience advising private equity funds on completing investments and managing portfolio companies across a range of industries. In addition, Jared works with founders of startup companies in formation and financing of new ventures.

BAXKER, Jeff
Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary
403.260.9682
jfbakker@blakes.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Jeff has a strong solutions-oriented practice and has represented clients in corporate and securities law, including mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, public company, fund governance and continuous disclosure compliance. Acting on several domestic and cross-border transactions, Jeff represents both private companies and publicly traded issuers listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange and the TSX Venture Exchange. As a trusted adviser, Jeff has acted on behalf of issuers, underwriters and dealers in both public and private m&a transactions as well as offerings of equity, debt and hybrid securities as well as assisting clients with corporate governance matters and continuous disclosure compliance obligations.

BAUGH, Jennifer
Torys LLP, Calgary
jbaugh@torys.ca
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Jennifer’s practice focuses on corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions in established and emerging industries, such as technology, biotechnology and life sciences. Jennifer represents emerging to large domestic and international private and public companies, as well as investment dealers, in connection with various corporate and commercial transactions, including reverse takeovers and other going public transactions, public and private equity and debt financings, listings on Canadian stock exchanges, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate reorganizations. She also advises public companies on general corporate/commercial law issues, areas of legal risk, regulatory matters, continuous disclosure obligations and corporate governance matters.

BECKMAN, John
McKercher LLP, Saskatoon
jbeckman@mckercer.ca
Featured in Litigation (Saskatchewan)
Practice Areas: Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Receivership Civil Litigation, Corporate and Commercial Litigation Education Law First Nations and Aboriginal Law Human Rights Labour and Employment Law Privacy and Information Protection Taxation Law

BELANGER, Carl
Fasken, Montréal
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cbelanger@fasken.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Quebec)
Practice Areas: Carl Belanger is a partner and co-president of the Corporate/Commercial Law group. He is based in Montréal and his practice focuses on commercial transactions and corporate structures, including mergers, acquisitions, ventures, capital and private equity financing, as well as setting up and funded partnerships. Over the years, Carl assisted clients at every step of their development in Canada and abroad. He has been especially active in transactions involving private equity funds and business succession through management and other buyouts. He has led a significant number of transactions involving private or public corporations from fields as diverse as information technology, health care and services, manufacturing and industrial production, agriculture and food, and real estate development. Carl is actively involved in the development of the venture capital and private equity industry. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of Realsea Capital, an organization including the main actors of Québec’s venture capital and private equity.

BELSER, Cameron
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
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cameron.belser@mcCarthyharry.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Recent experience acting as lead counsel includes: friendly and hostile mergers and acquisitions involving public and private companies (both domestic and cross-border); debt restructurings; going-private transactions; proxy contests for control; initial public offerings; other public and private equity financings; all aspects of private equity M&A; royalty trust acquisitions and restructurings; and acting as general counsel and strategic advisor to management teams and their Boards.

BENTLEY, Ross A.
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 9720
ross.bentley@blakes.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Ross specializes in merger and acquisition and capital markets transactions with extensive experience representing clients as buyers and sellers in domestic and cross-border take-over bids, plans of arrangement and mergers. He regularly advises issuers and dealers in equity and debt capital markets transactions and has extensive experience in a wide variety of transaction structures and products, including project financing and offerings of investment grade, subordinated and high-yield debt. He also assists issuers in establishing shelf financing programs both for domestic offerings as well as cross-border offerings under the Canada/US multi-jurisdictional offering requirements. He also advises issuers, underwriters and selling shareholders on capital markets transactions in the pipeline and energy infrastructure, agribusiness, airline, energy services, oil and gas exploration, transactions in the transportation and railroad sectors. He advises on shareholder activism situations and has acted for several issuers on high profile proxy contests. He regularly advises issuers in connection with corporate governance requirements, continuous and timely disclosure obligations, stock
exchange matters and general corporate matters. Ross has experience advising clients on ESG matters, including in respect of corporate governance and compliance, disclosure, and sustainable finance.

BHARMAL, Ally
Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies
(Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
See under Startups & Emerging Companies for profile.

BHASIN, (Ricco) A.
Torys LLP, Toronto
416.865.7329
rbhasin@torys.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: With sophisticated negotiation skills and a robust domestic and global M&A and advisory practice, Ricco brings a wealth of experience advising on some of North America’s largest transactions and transformational cross-border deals, particularly in financial services. Ricco is co-head of the firm’s Financial Services Transactions Group. Ricco focuses on public and private equity investments, joint ventures and partnerships, supporting clients in domestic, cross-border and international transactions. He has extensive experience acting in the financial services and technology sectors for banks, private equity/venture funds, insurance companies, asset managers and other financial sector participants. Ricco works with clients on some of their highest-profile and most sophisticated matters, including domestic, U.S. and international loyalty programs, partnerships, asset and wealth management, insurance, bank and bancassurance transactions. He also regularly advises senior management and boards on governance and sensitive matters. Ricco additionally acts for clients spanning a wide range of other industries, including industrial, diversified, food and beverage, and mining. With a dual call in New York and Ontario, Ricco routinely acts for clients in material cross-border and international deals involving New York or other U.S. or international law firms. Ricco is co-head of the firm’s Asian Lawyers Group and conversant in Punjabi and Hindi.

BOGDEN, John-Paul
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: John-Paul (J-P) is a partner in the Blake’s Corporate Group and focuses on M&A and private equity transactions. He serves as regular M&A counsel to a broad variety of acquisition-oriented U.S., private equity, and strategic acquirers in Canada, the U.S. and abroad, and is also frequently engaged as special outside M&A counsel in competitive auction processes. A significant portion of his practice involves working with private equity funds and their portfolio companies. J-P currently serves as co-head of the national Private Equity group, co-head of the Vancouver corporate group and as a member of the Firm’s compensation committee.

Professional Memberships: J-P is a member of the Canadian Venture Capital and Private Equity Association, the BC Technology Industry Association and the Vancouver chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth.

BRAITHWHAITE, William J Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto 416-869-5654 wbraithwaite@stikeman.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: William Braithwaite is senior counsel at the firm and was Chair of the firm from 2012 to 2018. He previously served on the firm’s Partnership Board and Executive Committee, and is the former Head of the Corporate Group in the Toronto office. Bill specializes in mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance. In addition to acting on some of the most significant cross-border M&A transactions, he has acted as counsel to major Canadian corporations, boards of directors, and institutional shareholders, as well as various governments and regulatory authorities. In 2018, Bill was recognized in Canadian Lawyer magazine’s annual peer survey as one of the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers in Canada with voting saying, “Bill is not only one of the most outstanding corporate commercial lawyers in Canada, he has lent his status in the legal and business community to help organizations that promote the fundamen- tals values of our profession.”

BROWN, James
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto 416.862.6647 jbrown@osler.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: James is a Partner of Osler’s Corporate Group and Co-Chair of the Mining Group. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and securities, and general corporate matters. He has experience acting for underwriters and issuers in public offerings, including shelf, short form, and “bought deal” financings, global private placements, as well as transactions involving under-listed companies. James also routinely provides ongoing advice to public and private corporations in a wide variety of industries on regulatory compliance matters, corporate governance, and continuous disclosure obligations, and he provides on-going securities law compliance advice to TSX and TSXV listed issuers, including regarding mineral project disclosure under National Instrument 43-101. James is a member of the Canadian Securities Administrators’ Mining Technical Advisory and Monitoring Committee, which provides guidance to the provincial securities commissions on technical mining matters.

BRAITHWHAITE, William J Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto 416-869-5654 wbraithwaite@stikeman.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: William Braithwaite is senior counsel at the firm and was Chair of the firm from 2012 to 2018. He previously served on the firm’s Partnership Board and Executive Committee, and is the former Head of the Corporate Group in the Toronto office. Bill specializes in mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance. In addition to acting on some of the most significant cross-border M&A transactions, he has acted as counsel to major Canadian corporations, boards of directors, and institutional shareholders, as well as various governments and regulatory authorities. In 2018, Bill was recognized in Canadian Lawyer magazine’s annual peer survey as one of the Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers in Canada with voting saying, “Bill is not only one of the most outstanding corporate commercial lawyers in Canada, he has lent his status in the legal and business community to help organizations that promote the fundamen- tals values of our profession.”

BROWN, James
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto 416.862.6647 jbrown@osler.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: James is a Partner of Osler’s Corporate Group and Co-Chair of the Mining Group. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and securities, and general corporate matters. He has experience acting for underwriters and issuers in public offerings, including shelf, short form, and “bought deal” financings, global private placements, as well as transactions involving under-listed companies. James also routinely provides ongoing advice to public and private corporations in a wide variety of industries on regulatory compliance matters, corporate governance, and continuous disclosure obligations, and he provides on-going securities law compliance advice to TSX and TSXV listed issuers, including regarding mineral project disclosure under National Instrument 43-101. James is a member of the Canadian Securities Administrators’ Mining Technical Advisory and Monitoring Committee, which provides guidance to the provincial securities commissions on technical mining matters.

CANN, Nicholas
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Featured in Litigation (Saskatchewan)
Joan is also experienced with corporate governance, transactions including corporate and investment banking transactions, restructuring and recapitalizations, and shareholder activism and defense. Keith has acted in respect of a number of contested and uncontested take-over situations, as well as in Ch. 11 and other cross-border insolvency proceedings, and in court-ordered restructurings and recapitalizations. Keith is also an active member of the Japan Group.

CAGLIANDO, John Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto 416-869-5235 jcagliando@stikeman.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: John Cagliando is the Managing Partner of the Toronto office where he is responsible for overseeing management, strategic direction and client service. He is also a member of the Partnership Board, Executive Committee, Management Committee and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee. He is the former Head of the Corporate Department and the Canada’s largest partnership, Mergers & Acquisitions Group. John has expertise in a broad range of corporate transactions and has led some of Canada’s most noteworthy domestic and cross-border M&A and restructuring transactions. He has significant experience advising Canadian boards, special committees, banks, regulatory authorities and governments on a range of matters, including compliance with legal, regulatory and fiduciary issues, crisis management and transactional matters such as acquisition and defence strategy. John’s stand-out M&A expertise is recognized by the legal industry’s most reliable and trusted sources. In 2021, John was the only Canadian named in the Top 50 Global M&A Lawyers by Global M&A Network, which identifies highly respected, successful and innovative lawyers from worldwide deal-making communities. Legal directories such as Chambers Global has described John as “unbelievably driven and results-oriented,” and noted that he “provides just pure legal advice but strategic and commercial advice as well,” “practical and solutions-oriented” and recognized by clients as “a brilliant, creative, likeable and a true businesswoman’s lawyer,” “a true deal maker” and “a trusted advisor.” The Legal 500 quotes John as a “strategic counsel steeped in business sense.”

CLARKE, Scott Black, Moms & Grantley LLP, Calgary 430-260-9712 scott.clarke@blakes.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta) Practice Areas: Scott focuses on mergers and acquisitions, power projects, corporate finance, private equity and governance matters, with a particular emphasis on renewable energy. He has extensive experience in a wide variety of domestic and cross-border acquisitions and financings. He has acted as counsel to issuers and underwriters across many sectors, including power, cleantech, alternative energy, oil and gas services, oil and gas exploration and development, high-tech, private equity and financial services. Scott regularly acts for Independent Power Producers (IPPs) to bring projects from greenfield opportunities through to their commercial operation date. This requires advice and negotiation on acquisition/disposition agreements, joint venture and partnering agreements, input on regulatory and environmental matters (including bidding into calls for power), oversight of EPC and O&M agreements and project financing involvement.

CORBETT, Leland P Stikeman Elliott LLP, Calgary +1 403 266 9046 lcortett@stikeman.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta) Practice Areas: Leland Corbett is a partner in the Banking & Finance, Mergers & Acquisitions and Capital Markets Groups. His practice focuses on the corporate-commercial area and he frequently acts in public and private financing and other capital markets transactions, including corporate and investment banking transactions, share and asset acquisitions and dispositions, securities transactions and other merger and acquisition activity. Leland has been senior counsel in many large and complex corporate transactions, and he has considerable expertise in corporate reorganizations, restructurings, spin-offs and large commercial matters. Leland has acted for a broad range of international, national and regional companies, financial advisors and underwriters in public and private debt and equity financings and mergers and acquisitions.
to acquire Ans Gold Corporation and US$300 million offering. - Acted for McFarlane Lake Mining Limited in numerous transactions including trading on the TSX Venture Exchange Inc., reverse takeover and concurrent private placements for $6.2 million.

DIPAOLO, Adrienne
torys@torys.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: With multifaceted skills across public and private mergers and acquisitions, securities law and corporate governance, Adrienne is a longstanding advisor to clients in executing their transactional, capital raising and other activities. Adrienne works closely with some of Canada’s largest companies and institutional investors in their capital markets, securities law and corporate governance matters. With deep experience in both public and private M&A, Adrienne frequently acts for bidders and targets in both negotiated and contested transactions. She also provides ongoing advice to companies, directors and shareholders on corporate governance and securities compliance matters. Adrienne also supports both issuers and investment banks in a variety of public offerings.

EMANOULIDIS, John
torys@torys.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: With extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance transactions and other significant corporate matters across industries, John is co-head of the firm’s M&A Practice and is widely recognized as one of Canada’s leading corporate and securities lawyers, with deep deal acumen and strong technical skill to advance clients’ business strategies. John has a broad range of experience in complex M&A, transactional, securities, private equity, regulatory, governance, activism and compliance matters. With an international range of clients, John represents domestic and foreign acquirors, private equity sponsors, targets, special committees, boards of directors and investment banks in all aspects of M&A (both public and private), including hostile takeover bids, strategic new processes, proxy contests, going-private transactions, private equity transactions and negotiated acquisitions. John regularly advises companies, directors and shareholders on corporate governance, crisis management, activism, compliance and other critical situations. John also has extensive experience in corporate finance transactions, representing public and private companies and investors in domestic and international debt and equity public offerings and private placements.

FEINER, Shlomi
blake@blakelaw.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: Shlomi’s practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions and public company advisory matters, as well as Canadian securities and corporate law. He has advised international purchasers, target companies and vendors on public and private M&A transactions. Shlomi also regularly provides corporate governance advice to Canadian public companies.

FELDMAN, Jonathan
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: Partner and heads a business law group at Goodmans. Practice focuses on corporate and securities law with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions (M&A). Extensive experience acting for buyers and sellers in a wide range of industries in both public and private M&A transactions. Jon’s market leading practice in Canada in the area of shareholder activism is highlighted by his involvement in a number of the most high profile proxy contests representing both dissident shareholders and boards of directors. Also provides strategic advice in litigation matters requiring corporate and securities law knowledge.

FERRARA, Justin
Norton Rose Fullbright, Calgary
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta) Practice Areas: Justin Ferrara’s main practice is in securities law, with a focus on mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance. Mr. Ferrara has represented a number of publicly traded and privately held clients in a broad range of matters, including mergers and acquisitions, public and private debt and equity financings, corporate reorganizations and corporate governance issues. Mr. Ferrara has also advised special committees regarding numerous types of strategic and related-party transactions.

FINLAY, Debra
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia) Practice Areas: Debra is actively involved in advising WPT Industrial REIT on its acquisition of WPT Energy Inc. She also represents clients in a broad range of matters, including mergers and acquisitions, public and private debt and equity financings, strategic investments, joint ventures, recapitalizations, restructurings, takeover bids, reverse takeovers, asset acquisitions and divestitures, share purchases and dispositions, plans of arrangement, spin-offs and other forms of business.

GIANTASPOLIUS, Dan
BBS, Toronto
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: Dan has an expansive practice with a multi-faceted focus on corporate and securities law, as well as estate planning and administration, and domestic tax. He represents owners and operators of businesses of various sizes and types, including numerous national and international corporations, as well as advising various high-net worth individuals and families considering new business ventures. He also advises clients on structuring and executing tax-driven corporate reorganizations. Dan has represented numerous clients with the purchase and sale of a wide variety of businesses in many industries including construction, commercial and industrial real estate, financial services, restaurants, professional services and consulting, veterinarian and health care services, advertising, engineering, employment and staffing services, information technology, hospitality, and insurance. He works not only with Canadian residents, but also with a large number of US public and private companies who want to establish and grow successful Canadian business operations. Dan is known for establishing strong relationships with his clients. He works to understand each client’s individual needs so that he can help them to develop the best structure to meet their business goals.

GILL, Sony
stikeman@stikeman.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta) Practice Areas: Sony Gill is a partner in the Capital Markets and Mergers & Acquisitions Group. His practice focuses on public and private company creation, growth, restructuring and value maximization. He has extensive experience in the negotiation, structuring and consummation of a broad range of corporate finance, securities and M&A transactions, including public and private debt and equity financings, strategic investments, joint ventures, recapitalizations, restructurings, takeover bids, reverse takeovers, asset acquisitions and divestitures, share purchases and dispositions, plans of arrangement, spin-offs and other forms of business.
GOLDMAN, Alyson
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Calgary
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agoldman@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
Practice Areas: Experienced in advising on public and private issuers, investment banks and investors in the technology, forestry, distribution, retail and manufacturing sectors. He also represents issuers in cross-border transactions and has advised clients in transactions involving a broad range of industries including mining, technology, forestry, distribution, retail, and manufacturing.

HORN, Blair
Fasken, Vancouver
bhorn@fasken.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Blair Horn is a leading M&A and securities lawyer based in the Vancouver office. Blair works with both public and private companies on domestic and cross border M&A transactions, public and debt financings, venture capital and private equity financings, and corporate governance matters. Blair has advised a number of clients including technology companies, agribusiness, food and beverage companies, industrial and mining concerns, banks, independent committees of boards, underwriters, private equity and venture capital providers and financial advisors. Blair is active in continuing legal education and regularly presents on developments in M&A and securities law on topics such as hostile takeover bids, proxy contests, ethical issues in contested transactions, due diligence and special committees.

HONEYMAN, Jennifer
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Jennifer is a partner in the Corporate and Securities Practice Group. She has a broad practice advising both public and private companies on a wide range of transactions and corporate matters, with a focus on mergers and acquisitions, private equity, equity capital markets and joint ventures. Jennifer has extensive experience in cross-border transactions and has advised clients in transactions involving a broad range of industries including mining, technology, forestry, distribution, retail, and manufacturing.
finance and strategic transactions such as joint ventures, partnerships and significant investments. Ben regularly acts for issuers, boards of directors, special committees, management teams, institutional investors, private equity sponsors, financial advisers and other transaction participants in a wide range of M&A transactions, both public and private, as well as issuers, selling shareholders and securities dealers in corporate finance transactions. He also regularly advises clients on corporate governance and securities law compliance matters, shareholder activism and take-over preparedness. Ben has been involved in the negotiation, formation and development of a number of projects in the midstream and infrastructure sectors. Ben is recognized for his expertise in various national directories, including being awarded for his involvement as one of the lead counsel in the “Infrastructure and Projects Deal of the Year” as recognized by the 2021 Canadian Law Awards.

HUOT, Jean Marc
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
(514) 397-3276
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)

Practice Areas: Jean Marc Huot is a partner in the Corporate Group. His practice is focused primarily in the areas of securities and mergers & acquisitions.

JAWANDA, Pavan
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Pavan Jawanda is a partner in McCarthy Tétrault’s Business Law Group in Vancouver. His practice is primarily focused on advising public and private companies and private equity firms on domestic and international M&A transactions, capital markets, corporate finance, venture capital and other corporate and commercial transactions. Prior to joining McCarthy, Pavan was a lawyer with one of New York’s leading international law firms, where he was based in its New York office from 2008 to 2012 and in its Hong Kong office from 2012 to 2014. Pavan is also a Certified Public Accountant. Pavan has advised on corporate transactions originating in over 25 countries, with a particular focus on Canada, the U.S., China, India and other parts of Asia.

Career: British Columbia Bar, 2014 / New York Bar, 2009 Adjunct law professor at the University of British Columbia.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, the Law Society of British Columbia, the American Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Personal: Pavan is the founder of a pro bono program with community partners that provides pro bono assistance to asylum seekers from conflict zones who have young children.

JUGNAUTH, Neville
Torys LLP, Calgary
403.776.3757
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)

Practice Areas: With significant corporate experience and a long track record of advising leading institutional investors and businesses in their deal activities, Neville brings deep market insight to help move his clients’ goals in the oil and gas industry and beyond. Neville practices corporate and securities law with a focus on M&A, private equity and corporate finance transactions. With over 20 years of experience in both Canada and the United States, Neville has significant experience working with financial sponsors on their M&A activity, private equity investments, joint venture transactions and arranging arrangements in the upstream and midstream sectors of Canada’s oil and gas industry. Neville also regularly advises clients on public offerings, securities law and stock exchange compliance issues, and corporate governance matters.

KARY, Olga
Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP, Calgary
403-260-9700
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Olga is an experienced corporate and securities lawyer who provides strategic and technical guidance on a wide variety of transactions. She specializes in the areas of M&A, corporate restructuring, going private transactions, proxy contests, corporate governance and continuous disclosure, and has advised on a number of high-profile complex domestic and cross-border M&A transactions, as well as public and private capital markets offerings. She is highly trusted by her clients and plays a valuable role in the success of clients’ transactions. She has taken a leading role on sophisticated transactions, including securities lead on Kinder Morgan’s CDN$4.35 billion acquisition of KML, and the Cochin pipeline system by Pembina Pipeline Corporation. The Riverside Company on its take private acquisition of PFBC Corporation and concurrent sale-leaseback transaction, as well as Waterous Energy Fund on its take-over acquisition of Osm Oil Sands Corp.

KATZ, Warren
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)

Practice Areas: Warren Katz is Managing Partner of the Montréal office and a member of the firm’s Partnership Board and Executive Committee. Former Head of the Corporate Group in Montréal, Warren specializes in Canadian and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, private equity and corporate finance transactions, including representing buyers, sellers and public and private corporations across many industries. He offers over 20 years of extensive experience, including strong cross-border capabilities, providing legal counsel to significant Canadian and international clients on complex transactions. His experience spans across the most active sectors and his practice includes divestitures, investments, public offerings, private placements and going-private transactions.

KELLY, Stephen
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)

Practice Areas: Stephen Kelly is the Canadian national chair of our business law group. He practices corporate and securities law, with particular emphasis on corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions. He regularly acts for large public companies, underwriters and investors in public offerings, including initial public offerings, bought deal transactions and cross-border offerings as well as private placement transactions. Mr. Kelly frequently advises on public and private mergers and acquisitions both nationally and internationally and has advised numerous boards of directors and independent committees in the context of M&A, compliance, corporate investigations and governance matters generally. He also advises clients on corporate reorganizations, continuous disclosure obligations, corporate governance matters, preparing shareholders’ meetings and other ongoing securities law questions.

KEOHANE, Peter
Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP, Calgary
(403) 260-9663
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Peter has broad experience in many areas of business law. His practice focuses on domestic and international commercial transactions, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, project development and structured commodity off-take and supply transactions. Among others, Peter’s practice is actively involved in the energy (oil, gas, power, renewables and alternative fuels) and agricultural sectors. Peter has advised some of Canada’s and the world’s leading energy and agriculture firms on domestic and international matters and transactions.

KOFFMAN, Ted
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 643 7907
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Partner in the firm’s Business Law Group and Technology Group in Vancouver. Practice focuses on providing general counsel to businesses, with a particular emphasis on mergers & acquisitions, private equity, venture capital, outsourcing, as well as the formation and financing of business ventures and corporate reorganizations. Regularly advises various technology companies, venture capitalists and investors in numerous equity and debt financings. Extensive experience in cross-border transactions. Lecturer at various programs and conferences on the legal aspects of buying and selling businesses, outsourcing agreements, and the formation of business ventures.

Career: British Columbia, 1987

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association

KOWBEL, Christine
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in General Business Law (Northern Canada and Arctic)

Practice Areas: Climate Change, Environmental & Regulatory, Indigenous Law, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Mining, Northern Business Law, Project Permitting, and Regulatory Compliance.

Career: Christine Kowbel practices environmental and Indigenous law, providing advice for a range of projects including project development, environmental assessment, permitting, operational matters and acquisition and sale of industrial projects. She provides mining industry advice, representing lenders and developers in respect to permitting and regulatory aspects of exploration, development, operation and closure of mining projects. A significant amount of Christine’s practice is focused on advising clients with projects in Canada’s North. Through her work, Christine has developed an understanding of the political, cultural and business dynamics in the Canadian North, which provides her with rare insight into the various players’ perspectives, including Inuit, government and industry. Christine’s other clients include energy, ports, forestry and other natural resource sector companies, as well as banking institutions and real estate developers. Christine is admitted to the bars of British Columbia (2002), Northwest Territories (2009), Nunavut (2011) and Yukon (2012).

Professional Memberships: Prospector and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), Lands Committee Member. Canadian Bar Association: Environmental Law, Administrative Law, Natural Resources, Member. Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Member.

KRUGER, Toby
Lawson Lundell LLP, Yellowknife
+1 867 669 5534
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Featured in General Business Law (Northern Canada and Arctic)

Practice Areas: Energy; Environmental & Regulatory; Indigenous Law; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; Mining; Northern Canada.

Career: Toby Kruger advises private and public sector clients on litigation and regulatory matters. He provides advice on environmental, energy, mining, land, construction, public utility and Indigenous law issues. Based in Yellowknife, Toby advises clients throughout western Canada and the North, including all three Territories. Toby also provides strategic advice to government and private sector proponents on public law and project matters, including environmental assessment, consultation with Indigenous communities and public sector permitting. Toby also has an interest in defamation law, in that it poses a limitation on freedom of speech. Toby also appears before courts, tribunals and arbitration panels to assist his clients in government and the electricity, mining and oil & gas industries in administrative hearings, judicial review, trial, appellate and arbitration proceedings. He has appeared as counsel before various administrative tribunals, superior courts, appellate courts, and
three times before the Supreme Court of Canada. Toby is a member of the bars of Yukon (2019), Alberta (2015), Northwest Territories (2014), and Nunavut (2014).

Professional affiliations: Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories Rules Committee; Canadian Bar Association of Northwest Territories – Member of Environmental, Energy and Resources law section; Appointed as NWT Representative to roster of dispute resolution panelists under the Canada Free Trade Agreement; Law Society of Northwest Territories Admissions Committee.

KRUSE, David  
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: Corporate & Securities  
Practice Group Leader of the Corporate & Commercial group in Toronto. He also leads the Firm’s Automotive group. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial law, providing strategic advice on many of Canada’s largest and most complex asset and share transactions. David has over 20 years of experience advising clients on complex regulated transactions. He also regularly advises foreign companies on establishing and structuring their Canadian operations. His experience includes structuring and negotiating various domestic and cross-border commercial arrangements, including joint venture, shareholder, partnership and commercial agreements.

LAMONDE, Sophie  
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lamonde@stikeman.com  
Featured in Private Equity (Québec) 
Practice Areas: Corporate (Québec)  
Chief of the Business Law Group. Mr. Labrecque is Montréal chair of purchasing and leasing real property in developers and industrial tenants in Canada, the United States and Latin America. His experience includes numerous private transactions including businesses, transactions, in addition to advising on corporate governance matters. He serves as Co-Chair of the Montréal office’s Associates Committee and is active in the recruitment, development and retention, and promotion of associates. Pierre-Yves’ strong corporate commercial practice is recognized by many legal directories such as Chambers Canada and The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory.

LEHMANN, Troy  
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto  
(416) 597-4129  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)  
Practice Areas: Corporate/Governance  
Partner of Stikeman Elliott’s Automotive Group. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial law with a leading expertise in corporate finance, mergers & acquisitions and securities law. Jean Michel has acted on behalf of issuers, financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and share transactions. David has over 20 years of extensive experience advising issuers and underwriters in public offerings and private placements, and corporations in acquisitions and divestitures. He also has a solid track record of advising both buyers and sellers on numerous take-over bids, going-private and restructuring transactions, in addition to advising on corporate governance matters. He services clients in many industries, including agribusiness, hospitality, food & beverages, manufacturing, pharmaceutics and paper. He acts extensively for both corporate and financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and all related matters with a client base that spans the globe.

LEWIS, Howard  
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec) 
Practice Areas: Corporate/Governance  
Partner of McCarthy Tétrault’s Corporate/M&A Practice Group. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial finance with a broad and vast experience in cross border transactions. He acts extensively for both corporate and financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and all related matters with a client base that spans the globe.

LEVINE, Howard  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)  
Practice Areas: Corporate/Governance  
Partner of Stikeman Elliott’s Automotive Group. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial law with a leading expertise in corporate finance, mergers & acquisitions and securities law. Jean Michel has acted on behalf of issuers, financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and share transactions. David has over 20 years of extensive experience advising issuers and underwriters in public offerings and private placements, and corporations in acquisitions and divestitures. He also has a solid track record of advising both buyers and sellers on numerous take-over bids, going-private and restructuring transactions, in addition to advising on corporate governance matters. He services clients in many industries, including agribusiness, hospitality, food & beverages, manufacturing, pharmaceutics and paper. He acts extensively for both corporate and financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and all related matters with a client base that spans the globe.

LAMPE, Jonathan  
Goodmans LLP, Toronto  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) 
Practice Areas: Partner, past Co-Chair of the Corporate/Securities Group, and member of the Executive Committee at Goodmans. Advises Canadian and International clients on M&A, strategic relationships, financings, disssident shareholder activities, governance, and regulatory matters and investigations. Also advises entrepreneurial families and their faro on an strategic and structure matters. Former Ontario Securities Commission General Counsel, Past Chair, OSC Securities Advisory Committee, and past member; OSC Enforcement Advisory Committee. Engaged frequently in the context of mergers and acquisitions by Canadian and international acquirers and boards and special committees of potential targets, as well as their financial advisors. Also regularly provides advice to various constituents in matters relating to the governance of public entities in the context of their ongoing operations, strategic initiatives, investigations and disssident shareholder activities. Career: Recognized regularly in publica

LAPIERRE, Jean Michel  
Fasken, Montréal  
(514) 397 7750  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)  
Practice Areas: Jean Michel Lapierre practices business law, with a leading expertise in corporate finance, mergers & acquisitions and securities law. Jean Michel has acted on behalf of issuers, securities dealers and institutional investors in various securities issuings. He has also acted for financial institutions in connection with issuances of structured products. Jean Michel has been involved in several major acquisition, sale, merger or going-private transactions of private and public companies, often with a cross-border component. He has also been involved in a large number of private & M&A transactions.

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Featured in Private Equity (Québec) 
Practice Areas: Corporate (Québec)  
Partner of Goodmans’ Corporate & Securities Group. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial law with a leading expertise in corporate finance, mergers & acquisitions and securities law. Jean Michel has acted on behalf of issuers, financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and share transactions. David has over 20 years of extensive experience advising issuers and underwriters in public offerings and private placements, and corporations in acquisitions and divestitures. He also has a solid track record of advising both buyers and sellers on numerous take-over bids, going-private and restructuring transactions, in addition to advising on corporate governance matters. He services clients in many industries, including agribusiness, hospitality, food & beverages, manufacturing, pharmaceutics and paper. He acts extensively for both corporate and financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and all related matters with a client base that spans the globe.

LEVINE, Howard  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec) 
Practice Areas: Corporate/Governance  
Partner of McCarthy Tétrault’s Corporate/M&A Practice Group. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial finance with a broad and vast experience in cross border transactions. He acts extensively for both corporate and financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and all related matters with a client base that spans the globe.

LEWIS, Howard  
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec) 
Practice Areas: Corporate/Governance  
Partner of McCarthy Tétrault’s Corporate/M&A Practice Group. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and commercial finance with a broad and vast experience in cross border transactions. He acts extensively for both corporate and financial sponsor clients in both public and private company transactions and all related matters with a client base that spans the globe.
Small Business Advisory Committee. Former Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law.

Mayr, Clemens
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
302-476-8402
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Quebec)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on securities and corporate law, concentrating on mergers and acquisitions, private equity, corporate governance and public financings, both domestic and cross-border.


Professional Memberships: Honorary Member and past President of the Institute of Corporate Directors (Québec).

Publications: Navigating the Pandemic and looking ahead: Questions for the (virtual) Boardroom “(2020 and 2021); ‘Making the Decision to Go Public: Key Factors to Consider’ (2020); ‘Proposed Amendments to Takeover Bid Rules’ (2015 and 2016).

Personal: Fluent in English, French and German.

Mcdormand, Kathleen
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
613.787.3556
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Featured in General Business Law (Northern Canada and Arctic)

Practice Areas: Practices in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, private equity, corporate finance, governance and sensitive and complex transactions. He provides superior service and expert legal advice to public and private issuers, underwriters and private equity funds in a broad range of industries including mining and natural resources, technology and industrials. Grant has an extensive corporate practice providing general legal and strategic advice to corporate clients, their senior management and boards of directors with regard to many aspects of their business affairs, including regulatory compliance and governance, providing solutions to meet their business objectives and providing special committee advice. Grant has extensive experience with complex corporate transactions, including public offerings and private placements, insolvent-based transactions and reorganizations and domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions. In 2011, Grant was appointed by the Ontario Securities Commission to the Securities Advisory Committee for a three-year term. The committee advises the Ontario Securities Commission on legislative and policy initiatives, and capital market trends.

Mercier, Vincent A.
Davis Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
1-416-863-5579
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Recognized by peers and clients as one of the leading M&A lawyers in Canada, Vince has acted on many of Canada’s most important transactions, including the recent $26 billion sale of Shaw Communications to Rogers Communications and Kansas City Southwestern’s $553.6 billion merger with Canadian National Railway. His practical and methodical approach achieves client success for public and private clients in transactions of all sizes, domestic and international. Vince represents acquirers, targets, controlling shareholders and committees of independent directors in public company acquisitions, both negotiated and hostile. He also acts for strategic and private equity buyers in private M&A transactions. He has extensive experience in cross-border transactions and across all industries, including financial services, communications and media, technology, mining and energy. Vince advises public company Boards on activism defence and other corporate governance issues. Select Recognitions: Chambers Global; LFI/1000; The Legal 500 Canada; The Lexpert/LexPERT American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert Special Edition: Energy, Finance, M&A and Technology; The Best Lawyers in Canada’s Toronto Mergers and Acquisitions Law Group of the Year 2018; Who’s Who: Legal Canada.

Miller, Sven
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1-604-643-7125
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Managing Partner of the firm’s B.C. Region. Advises Canadian, U.S. and international public and private companies and investors in a wide range of industries regarding mergers & acquisitions, securities offerings, joint ventures and corporate governance matters. Recognized as a leading lawyer in the areas of Mergers & Acquisitions, Corporate Finance, Private Equity and Energy. Formerly a senior associate at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP in New York.

Career: British Columbia Bar, 2005; New York Bar, 2000

Montagne, Hadrien
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)

Practice Areas: Hadrien Montagne is a partner in the Business Law group in Montréal. His practice is primarily focused on mergers & acquisitions, securities laws matters, corporate finance, private equity, and corporate and commercial law. Hadrien has participated in numerous going-private transactions of publicly listed issuers and Canadian and cross-border mergers & acquisitions across a wide range of industries. In the course of these transactions, he has acted for a diversified range of clients, including the selling companies as well as strategic and financial buyers. Hadrien has also acted as counsel to issuers and underwriters in various public offerings (including initial public offerings) and private placements of publicly listed issuers.

Career: Quebec Bar, 2007

Moore, Alex
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Alex’s practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, joint ventures, private equity, corporate and trust reorganizations and corporate governance. Chris’ practice involves providing general legal and advisory assignments, representing, among others, oil and gas exploration entities, oilfield service entities, investment funds and investment dealers in Canada, the U.S., Europe and Asia.

Nixon, Christopher
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Christopher Nixon is a partner in the Capital Markets and Mergers & Acquisitions Groups and Head of the China Group. His practice focuses on business law, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, joint ventures, private equity, corporate and trust reorganizations and corporate governance. His practice includes representing companies and investors in relation to public offerings or private placements. Marie-Josée has specific expertise in hostile takeovers and represents large corporations in high-profile complex transactions. She also advises boards of directors, special committees, executives and major shareholders on various transactions and matters involving disclosure, shareholder proposals, private contests, corporate governance and other corporate issues in general. She often delivers training seminars and presentations on subjects falling within her areas of practice.

Noce, Angelo
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)

Practice Areas: Angelo provides legal services to a broad range of domestic and international clients in relation to complex transactions, as well as specialized aspects of corporate and commercial law. His practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions, private equity, venture capital, energy, joint ventures, capital investments and divestitures, and infrastructure projects. Angelo has acted as counsel to numerous foreign entities in establishing, financing and expanding their business in Canada. He has over 25 years of experience on complex share and asset based transactions for both strategic and private equity clients, including companies in such industries as aerospace, defence, automotive parts, food and agribusiness, high tech, energy production, e-learning, software, publishing, oil and pulp and paper. His key clients include Hydro-Québec, Domtar, Marelli,
PARADIS, François
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
Practice Areas: François’ practice covers many areas of corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on cross-border corporate finance, M&A and governance matters. He has experience acting for public issuers, financial institutions, investment banks and in-house counsel as well as industry leaders in a range of sectors including technology, pharmaceutical and biotech, and natural resources. He has been nationally recognized as a leading capital markets lawyer and has been involved in numerous recent going public transactions, including Lightspeed, Alithya, Milestone Pharma and DavidsTea. He also regularly acts for public issuers and other leading institutions on significant M&A or financing transactions, including CAE, Neptune Wellness and Acacia Pharma.

PELLAND, Aniko
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
Practice Areas: Aniko Pelland is a partner in the Montreal office of Stikeman Elliott where she advises a broad range of clients on their mergers and acquisition transactions, friendly and contested take-over bids, proxy fights, corporate restructurings and reorganizations, as well as issuers and their directors with respect to corporate governance matters. She has represented numerous public and private companies in numerous transactions across a broad spectrum of industries, including manufacturing, construction, automotive, consumer goods, technology, natural resources and real estate. In addition, she regularly acts for investment dealers, financial institutions, private equity and venture capital firms and merchant banks. Troy frequently counsels participants in both domestic and cross-border public offerings and private financings, merger and acquisition transactions, friendly and contested take-over bids, proxy fights, corporate restructurings and reorganizations, as well as issuers and their directors with respect to corporate governance matters. Troy has also been involved with include: • Acted for NED in its acquisition by Cobe Global Markets, Inc., a leading provider of global market infrastructure and tradable products. • Acted for Framework Venture Partners in numerous transactions including the formation of its second venture capital fund and its investments in Countingup, Paper Education Company, MaxSold, CardDoor, FlipGive and Hypatos. • Acted for the shareholders of New Directions Aromatics Inc. in connection with its sale to New York-based private equity firm, TruArc Partners. • Acted for certain of the selling shareholders with respect to Wattpad Corp’s US$800 million acquisition by Naver Corporation. • Acted for the selling shareholders of Plant Powered Ventures Ltd. and Fresh秒钟 in their acquisition by Recipe Unlimited Corporation, Canada’s largest full-service restaurant chain.

PINCUS, Stephen
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Stephen PinCUS is a partner in Goodmans’ corporate and securities group where he practises corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on cross-border public offerings and private financings, mergers and acquisitions and private equity mandates. Steve represents a broad range of public and private companies in numerous transactions, as well as issuers and their directors with respect to corporate governance matters. Steve focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, corporate governance and securities for more than 30 years. He has extensive experience and was responsible for handling the legal aspects of a number of transactions that have marked the Canadian economic landscape. Robert is recognized for his ability to handle multi-faceted files, and he thoughtfully and rigorously leads work teams dealing with complex issues, particularly in relation to takeover bids. He also advises financially struggling companies about their recapitalization alternatives.

Paskaran, Janan
Torys LLP, Calgary
+403 776 3728
paskaran@torys.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: With a track record helping domestic and multinational organizations execute investments in Canada and around the world, Janan is a leading corporate lawyer advising clients on their M&A and capital markets transactions. Janan’s practice focuses on corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on international transactions. He has an efficient, practical approach that comes from an extensive background of experience representing public and private issuers in a variety of financing, business combination and public and private M&A transactions. Janan also regularly counsels clients across sectors on their securities compliance matters, commercial transactions, and corporate governance, procedures and governance. Janan is the co-leader of Torys’ Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

P丁LOW, Michael
Torys LLP, Calgary
mpedlow@torys.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: With a rigorous approach backed by significant experience across corporate and capital markets transactions, Mike Pedlow brings broad perspective to his work alongside clients in their most important transactional and securities matters. Mike counsels public and private companies across a broad range of industries in the structuring and implementation of financings, mergers and acquisitions, corporate sales and recapitalization and reorganization transactions. He regularly advises syndicates of underwriters and agents in the structuring and the implementation of financings and related due diligence efforts. Mike also works closely with clients to provide them with comprehensive guidance on compliance and best practices with respect to stock exchange requirements, corporate governance matters and reporting obligations.

Pelland, Aniko
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
Practice Areas: Aniko Pelland is a partner in the Montreal office of Stikeman Elliott where she advises a broad range of clients on their mergers and acquisition transactions, friendly and contested take-over bids, proxy fights, corporate restructurings and reorganizations, as well as issuers and their directors with respect to corporate governance matters. She has represented numerous public and private companies in numerous transactions across a broad spectrum of industries, including manufacturing, construction, automotive, consumer goods, technology, natural resources and real estate. In addition, she regularly acts for investment dealers, financial institutions, private equity and venture capital firms and merchant banks. Troy frequently counsels participants in both domestic and cross-border public offerings and private financings, merger and acquisition transactions, friendly and contested take-over bids, proxy fights, corporate restructurings and reorganizations, as well as issuers and their directors with respect to corporate governance matters. Troy focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, corporate governance and securities for more than 30 years. He has extensive experience and was responsible for handling the legal aspects of a number of transactions that have marked the Canadian economic landscape. Robert is recognized for his ability to handle multi-faceted files, and he thoughtfully and rigorously leads work teams dealing with complex issues, particularly in relation to takeover bids. He also advises financially struggling companies about their recapitalization alternatives.

Paskaran, Janan
Torys LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: With a track record helping domestic and multinational organizations execute investments in Canada and around the world, Janan is a leading corporate lawyer advising clients on their M&A and capital markets transactions. Janan’s practice focuses on corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on international transactions. He has an efficient, practical approach that comes from an extensive background of experience representing public and private issuers in a variety of financing, business combination and public and private M&A transactions. Janan also regularly counsels clients across sectors on their securities compliance matters, commercial transactions, and corporate governance, procedures and governance. Janan is the co-leader of Torys’ Diversity & Inclusion Committee.
mergers and acquisitions, and a range of corporate transactions and restructurings. His clients have included Constellation Brands, The Estate Lauder Companies, Entertainment One, Magna International, Blackstone, TPG Capital, KingSett Capital, Vector Capital, New Mountain Capital, and Fairfax Financial. Manny is widely and repeatedly recognized as among the country’s leading M&A practitioners. In 2020, he was recognized by IFLR as M&A Lawyer of the Year (Canada) and, in 2019, as one of Canada’s Top 25 Most Influential Lawyers by Canadian Lawyer annual peer survey. A frequent speaker at conferences relating to M&A, he has guest lectured at leading law schools and the IBA Mergers & Acquisitions Conference in New York. Among his community involvement, Manny serves on the board of the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation.

Career: Mr. Pressman is an elected Fellow of the American College of Governance Counsel. He is also a frequent speaker at conferences relating to mergers and acquisitions, and has guest lectured at the McGill University Faculty of Law, the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, and the IBA Mergers & Acquisitions Conference in New York; and was the co-author of the Canada chapter of the International Mergers & Acquisitions Review for 10 years. Among his community involvement, Mr. Pressman currently serves on the Board of the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital Foundation.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association, Law Society of Ontario

Publications: Co-author of the Canada chapter of the International Mergers & Acquisitions Review for the past 10 years.

Sébastien is a partner at Davies in Montréal. He advises on cross-border and international mergers and acquisitions, and corporate finance. He advises public companies, financial institutions, underwriters, investment funds, private equity funds, real estate investment trusts and income trusts, alternative trading systems and regulatory and self-regulatory organizations. He also advises on corporate governance and executive compensation matters. Sébastien is instrumental in the structure and launch of several special purpose acquisition companies (SPACs) in Canada. As a knowledgeable lawyer with over 30 years of experience, Simon is known to take on the most complex and technical legal challenges in Canadian capital markets. He is highly regarded for his extensive expertise, as recognized by national and international legal directories.

Practice: Mergers & Acquisitions Review for the past 10 years.
and foreign corporations, private equity firms, pension funds and financial advisors on public and private cross-border M&A. Known for her expertise in corporate governance, Ms. Shishler regularly advises boards of directors, special committees, senior management and shareholders on a wide range of transactions, public disclosure issues and corporate governance matters. Translated is a director of Saputo Inc., La Fondation Le Chaloin and The Institute of Corporate Directors, Québec Chapter. She is also a member of Davies’s Management Committee. Select Recognitions: Chambers Global; IFLR1000; Legal 500 Canada; Lexpert AML 500; Lexpert Special Edition: Finance and M&A; Lexpert Guide to US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyers in Canada; Best Lawyers in Canada: Corporate Governance Practice Lawyer of the Year 2018, Montréal, Corporate Law Lawyer of the Year, 2017 and 2020, Montréal, Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law Lawyer of the Year 2019, Montréal, M&A Law Lawyer of the Year, 2018 and 2021, Montréal, Securities Law (Transactional) and Venture Capital Law.


SANANES, Solomon Norton Rose Fullbright, Montréal +1 514-847-4411 solomon.sananes@nortonrosefullbright.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec) Practice Areas: Solomon Sananes practises corporate finance and securities (including both private placements and public financings), mergers and acquisitions, and corporate governance. In corporate finance, he has acted in numerous Canadian and Canadian/US cross-border offerings of debt, equity and derivative instruments on behalf of issuers, selling shareholders and underwriters. In mergers and acquisitions, he participates in a variety of significant transactions, acting for both buyers and sellers of public and private companies. He also advises a number of Canadian public companies on continuous disclosure obligations, governance issues and the conduct of shareholders’ meetings.

SCHNEIDER, Chad C. Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary +1 403 260 9660 chad.schneider@blakes.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta) Practice Areas: Chad focuses on corporate and securities matters, particularly in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, private equity, restructurings, corporate governance, continuous disclosure compliance. Chad has assisted buyers and acquired companies in M&A transactions involving domestic and foreign parties and complex joint venture and similar arrangements, and has extensive experience representing public issuers listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange and the TSX Venture Exchange, as well as public companies and private equity investors. He has acted on behalf of underwriters and dealers in domestic and foreign public and private offerings of equity and debt. Chad also assists clients with general corporate and commercial matters and his practice involves a variety of industry sectors, including the oil and gas industry.

SCOTT, Trevor Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Vancouver 604 692 2765 tscott@osler.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia) Practice Areas: Trevor has extensive experience advising senior public and private companies, institutions, investment dealers, boards of directors and special committees on mergers & acquisitions (hostile and negotiated), equity and debt financings, restructurings, corporate governance and shareholder activism. Trevor is the Past Chair of the Canadian Bar Association’s National Business Law Section and a former Chair of the Securities Law Subsection of the Canadian Bar Association (BC). He is also a past member of the Securities Law Advisory Committee, which is a committee of leading lawyers and authors on mergers & acquisitions, corporate finance and shareholder activism, “Canadian Private Company Acquisitions: Recent Trends in Deal Terms” – Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada (2016) “Strategies to Protect M&A Deal Value” – Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory (2016) Personal: University of British Columbia J.D. Simon Fraser University B.B.A.


SEIFRED, Brett Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto +1 416.863.5531 bseifred@dwpv.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: Brett is a partner in the Mergers & Acquisitions, Corporate and Capital Markets & Securities practices at Davies. He acts for clients in a broad range of transactions, including the sale and acquisition of public and private companies, public offerings of debt and equity, private placements, going-private transactions and corporate reorganizations. Brett advises public companies on Canadian securities regulation and corporate governance matters on an ongoing basis. He works with clients across a variety of industries, including telecommunications and media, manufacturing, energy, mining and private equity. Brett previously taught an advanced course in corporate law at Queen’s University’s Faculty of Law. Select Recognition: IFLR1000, The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory.

SHEA, Patrick M. McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal (514) 397-4246 pshea@mccarthy.ca Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide-Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Québec) See under Private Equity for profile.

SHISHLER, Melanie Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto 001 416 863 5510 mshishler@dwpv.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide-Canada) See under Energy & Natural Resources for profile.

SHOULDICE, Robert Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver +1 604 640 4145 rshouldice@blg.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia) Practice Areas: Senior Counsel in Vancouver’s Corporate Year 2019 Commercial Group. Practises corporate and commercial law in the areas of acquisitions, mergers and divestitures, energy and transportation transactions and projects, public infrastructure projects, corporate reorganizations and corporate governance matters. Also advises boards of directors and executive officers on corporate governance issues and best practices. Career: British Columbia Bar, 1988. Alberta Bar, 1983. Professional Memberships: Deans Advisory Council, University of Alberta Faculty of Law; Member, Canadian Institute of Energy, Canadian Energy Law Foundation, Rocky Mountain Mineral Institute, Vancouver Board of Trade, Recent Chair, BLG Partnership Board; former director, private/public companies and various community and industry organizations.

SINGER, Jeffrey Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto +1 416 869 5656 jsinger@stikeman.ca Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario), REITs (Nationwide-Canda) See under Investment Funds for profile.

SMITH, John Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver 604 631 0950 jsmith@lawsonlondell.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia) Practice Areas: Administration, Pension Governance & Investment, Corporate Commercial Law, Corporate Finance & Securities, Mergers & Acquisitions, and Mining. Career: John Smith’s practice has covered substantial transactions and projects and increasingly focuses on ongoing advisory work to business clients ranging from large corporations to family businesses to fiduciaries. A significant portion of John’s current work relates to advising on business succession strategies for larger organizations. John has also had significant experience in directing major litigation for clients. John has advised clients operating in a range of industries, including bulk terminal operations, retail operations, mining, forestry, and transportation, and in the private investment and energy sectors. John has recently been extensively involved in advising a municipal government, and has been involved in privatization and P3 projects. Personal: Practitioner of the bar of British Columbia (1982).

SOLIMAN, Waled Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto +1 416 216 4820 waled.soliman@nortonrosefullbright.com Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario) Practice Areas: Waled Soliman is the Canadian chair of Norton Rose Fullbright and co-chair of the Special Situations team. He is widely regarded as one of Canada’s leading lawyers in his field, having been involved in some of the most significant and complex M&A transactions and proxy battles in the country, advising buyers and sellers, boards, hostile bidders and shareholder activists. In addition, his practice focuses on restructurings, corporate finance, governance and structured products. Mr. Soliman was mandated in 2020 by the government of Ontario to chair the Capital Markets Modernization Taskforce. In 2019, Mr. Soliman was chosen by the United Nations Association in Canada to be its Global Citizen Laureate for his professional merit and service to the community. He was the only lawyer featured in The Globe and Mail’s Report on Business Magazine.
**M&A} Group and the Chair of the Ontario**

**STEVENS, Sean**

involved for many years in various charitable

Stevens was a recipient of Lexpert’s “Top

past 20 years concentrated his practice

accounting and finance, he has over the

Practice Areas:

Norton Rose Fulbright, Montréal

tion industries.

and domestic transactions. He has advised

has extensive experience in Canada-US

transactions that have won ACG British

General Corporate Law Matters. Mr. Steiner

restructuring and initial public offerings.

offerings, shelf prospectuses, private

acquisitions and corporate governance.

and venture capital funds, mergers and

capital markets offerings, private equity

securities law, including public and private

and mineral tenure. Tim also advises both

real estate, construction, joint ventures

and commercial law in Lawson Lundell’s

Career:

Northern Canada; Real Estate; Banking.

Tim Syer practices corporate

business law. With a bachelor’s degree in

accounting and finance, he has over the

past 20 years concentrated his practice on

mergers and acquisitions, corporate

private companies, private equity funds

and their investors, and private equity firms and their portfolio companies, midstream companies and investment

bankers. Craig has been counsel to issuers,

advising both public and private companies,

and commercial law. In addition, Tim

advises public and private buyers, sellers

and issuers, as well as boards of directors and

special committees. Extensive experience in
cross-border transactions involving private

equity buyers and sellers. Craig has

served on the Advisory Board of ACG Canada and the ACG Canada

Partnership and is a recipient of the ACG

North American ‘Leadership Award’ and

‘Outstanding Young Professional Award’.

Craig advises clients and Special

Committees with respect to numerous types

of mergers and acquisitions and other

strategic transactions. Representative

clients include energy companies, service and

infrastructure companies, private equity firms and their portfolio companies, midstream companies and investment

bankers.

Craig has provided strategic advice to clients on

transformational transactions. Clients rely on

Syrer for creating and pragmatic advice in

structuring, negotiating and completing critical

business transactions. Sean has

led deals across a wide range of industries

including communications, infrastructure,

energy, manufacturing, technology and

logistics, to name a few.

**STIMPSON, Stephanie C.**

Torys LLP, Calgary

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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta) Practice Areas: As a leading corporate lawyer, Stephanie supports clients across all aspects of their operations, from strategic advice on corporate governance to the complexities of large, international

transactions. Stephanie manages a diverse corporate and transactional prac-
tice, working with oil and gas companies in Canada and internationally to support all aspects of their business, including board and governance matters, securities and regulatory compliance, mergers and acquisitions, debt and equity financings, corporate structuring, labour matters and commercial arrangements, including joint ventures and contractor arrangements. Throughout each stage of a transac-
tion, from strategic discussion to deal completion, Stephanie is actively involved, often coordinating the roles across a large team of advisers in many jurisdictions and managing the government and partner approval processes. Her transactional ex-
perience extends beyond Canada and the United States to the Middle East, Turkey, Argentina, Africa, China, Colombia, Ireland, the Netherlands and other jurisdictions. At the board level, Stephanie advises on best practices in corporate governance, fiduciary duties, disclosure, compliance, corporate ethics and social responsibility, anti-corruption and other legal matters. She often acts in the role of in-house counsel and as corporate secretary for international oil and gas companies.

**STORY, Craig A.**

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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta) Practice Areas: Craig Story is a partner in the Capital Markets and Mergers &

Acquisitions Group. He has served on the

firm’s Partnership Board, as well as on the

management group for the Calgary office.

Craig’s practice focuses on corporate and

securities law, including public and private
capital markets offerings, private equity

and venture capital funds, mergers and

acquisitions and corporate governance.

His corporate finance practice includes

advising issuers, major investors and

underwriters in both the public and

exchanges. Specific transaction experience

includes bought deals, MIDS offerings,

shelf prospectuses, private equity and

venture capital fund creation, restructuring and initial public offerings.

real property issues. He has experience
drafting and negotiating a wide range of

corporate and operational agreements

including service agreements, supply

agreements, master agreement, joint

venture agreements, shareholders agreements and leases.

Clients turn to Tim for business-critical

transactions and issues. Tim’s clients

rely on him for strategic advice on
doing business in the North. In addition to
dividing both public and private companies,

Tim advises territorial and municipal

governments on corporate matters. Tim is

a member of the bars of Alberta (2014),

Nunavut (2016), and Yukon (2017).

**Professional Memberships:**

Canadian Forces Liaison Council – Northern Chair

Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce – Past President

and Director Institute for Circumpolar Health Research – Co-Chair

Yellowknife Airport Economic Advisory Council – Member

Wounded Warriors Canada - Northern Ambassador

**TABBAKH, Karl**

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal

514-397-2326

ttabakh@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec) Practice Areas: Karl is a leading lawyer in the Capital Markets and Mergers &

Acquisitions practice at McCarthy Tétrault. He advises on public and private transactions and issues. His clients include
government authorities, infrastructure operators, public and private companies, private equity firms and their

portfolio companies, midstream companies and investment bankers. Karl has a strong

track record of working with clients on a wide range of mandates.

Karl has worked on a number of high profile and strategic transactions in North America and internationally.

His clients include municipalities, public sector bodies, infrastructure operators, and private equity firms.

Karl has advised numerous public and private companies on a range of matters, including:

- Securitization and asset-backed securities
- Public and private offerings
- Corporate restructuring and other strategic transactions
- takeover bids and proxy contests
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Operational restructuring
- Public and private offerings on Canada’s stock exchanges
- Cross-border and domestic transactions
- Corporate governance

Karl’s clients and transactions have been featured in the Financial Post, the Globe and Mail, and other publications.

Karl is a member of the Firm’s International & Business Strategy. Karl is also a member of McCarthy Tétrault’s Senior Leadership Team determining and implementing the firm’s overall strategy. In addition, Karl maintains a formidable practice focusing

on complex financings and transactions, including both domestic and international private equity and M&A deals for some of the firm’s most significant clients. Karl led and participated in the negotiation and structuring of some of the most high profile and strategically critical transactions in Canada, the Middle East and globally.

With over 20 years of experience structuring, negotiating, executing and closing critical business transactions in Quebec and around the world, Karl uses his deep knowledge and extensive global experience to ensure clients are well-served and equipped with an understanding of both legal and business implications during complex transactions.

**Career:** Bar admission Quebec, 1998; Supreme Court of England and Wales, 2002.

**Professional Memberships:** Chairman of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and director on the boards of the National Circus School and the Canada Arab Business Council.

**TREMBLAY, Carl**

Fasken, Québec

+1 418 640 2055

tremblay@fasken.com

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec) Practice Areas: Carl Tremblay is Managing Partner for the Quebec City office. A leader in the Quebec City business community, he is recognized for his expertise in corporate and commercial law. He focuses in particular on mergers and acquisitions and financing. Carl’s experience and professional skill ensure that clients receive tailored services. He has been listed in several legal directories, including Chambers, Best Lawyers in Canada and Lexpert. Carl regularly takes part in mergers and acqui-
sions transactions, private placements and strategic agreements. He also acts on behalf of investors in private placements and has participated on, the behalf of several high profile corporate clients in Québec City area, in the establishment of companies for spin-off purposes.

TURCOTTE, Maxime
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
514-397-2421
mтурcotte@stikeman.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
Practice Areas: Maxime Turcotte is a partner in the Corporate Group and a member of the firm’s Partnership Board. He has significant experience in complex and strategic transactions including private & public mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and other corporate transactions. Maxime has been recognized as a leading lawyer in these areas by various industry directories such as the Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada. The Best Lawyers in Canada and the IFLR 1000. Maxime has developed industry experience in various sectors including in professional services, infrastructure and renewable energy, financial services and insurance. He is committed to offering clients with the best tailored expertise we have to offer, and provide them with proactive, practical and practical advice to meet their business needs. He is a member of the Montréal GBI Committee (Gender Balance Initiative).

TURNER, Frank
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 7017
fturner@osler.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Frank is Co-head of Osler’s Asia Pacific initiative and is the former National Co-Chair of the Firm’s Corporate Group. Frank practices from Osler’s Calgary office in mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance. He also serves as a leader of Osler’s emerging company practice in Alberta. Frank routinely advises companies and other enterprises in the resource, financial services and technology sectors on matters involving acquisitions, dispositions, strategic alliances, governance and corporate finance. Frank has particular expertise advising clients in Asia, the Middle East, Africa and other parts of the world, including sovereign wealth funds, state-owned enterprises and public and private companies, on acquisitions and investments in Canada. Career: Former Co-chair of the Firm’s Strategic Planning Committee and member of its Operations Committee. Director on the boards of a number of public and private entities.

Professional Memberships: International Bar Association; Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation; Law Society of Ontario; Law Society of Alberta; Canadian Bar Association, Inter Pacific Bar Association

URBANI, Michael
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
+1 (604) 631-1340
murbari@stikeman.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Michael Ubari is a partner in the firm’s Corporate and Securities Group. Michael has a diversified corporate practice focused on corporate finance, securities, mergers and acquisitions and corporate governance. He is also a member of the firm’s Professional Ethics Committee. Michael acts for public and private entities and investment dealers in public financings and private placements in Canada and the United States, as well as on take-over bids, and mergers and acquisitions involving public and private companies, pension funds, boards and independent committees, underwriters, venture capital funds, private equity funds and entrepreneurs. Niko’s transactional resume shows the depth of his experience and connections with some of the most high profile corporate clients in Québec, Canada and internationally.

VANDEPOL, Sean
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
416-869-5523
svandepol@stikeman.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Sean Vandepol is a corporate partner in the Toronto office. He is a member of the Management Committee and is the former Co-Chair of the Capital Markets and Public Mergers & Acquisitions Groups in the Toronto office. He is also a member of the Firm’s Professional & Ethics Committee. His practice is focused on public companies and mergers and acquisitions, with emphasis on public M&A transactions (takeover bids, mergers and plans of arrangement), as well as public corporate finance transactions and public governance and compliance issues.

VAUX, Robert A
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
416-597-6265
rvaux@goodmans.ca
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Partner and Co-Chair of the Mergers and Acquisitions Group at Goodmans. Also serves on the firm’s Compensation Committee. Focuses on all aspects of corporate and securities law, with particular emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, including initial public offerings and follow-on financings, and contested governance matters, including proxy contests. Represents a variety of public companies, private equity funds and high net worth families. Also regularly represents boards and special committees in connection with significant M&A transactions. Developed a reputation for assisting in the structuring of novel and sophisticated transactions and dealing with complicated issues in a results-oriented manner.


WARSABA, Patricia
McKercher LLP, Regina
p.warsaba@mckercer.ca
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Saskatchewan)
Practice Areas: Agriculture and Agribusiness, Banking and Financial Services, Corporate/Commercial, Corporate Finance, Corporate/M&A, Real Estate, Securities, Technology, Trademark

WHYTE, Andrea
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
514.841.6533
awhyte@osler.com
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Andrea’s practice focuses on corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, executive compensation and general corporate matters. Andrea has extensive experience in domestic and cross border equity and debt financings. She also has significant mergers and acquisitions experience, in take-over bids, proxy contests, negotiated mergers and acquisitions and a range of corporate transactions and restructurings. She is a frequent advisor to boards and special committees. Andrea routinely advises companies in the mining and energy sectors. Andrea’s practice includes corporate governance matters such as the preparation of disclosure and advising on best practices.


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association Law Society of Alberta Member of Securities Advisory Committee (Alberta Securities Commission)
Leading Individuals

Corporate / M&A


Personal: Calgary Economic Development, Board Member Calgary Drop-In & Rehab Centre, Board Member Alberta, 2000 University of Alberta, LL.B. McGill University, B.Sc.

WOODER, Bob J. Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver 604-631-3330 bob.wooder@blakes.com

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

See under Energy & Natural Resources for profile.

WOOLLCOMBE, David E McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 361 2930 dwoollcombe@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)

Practice Areas: David’s practice is focused on mergers and acquisitions and public company advice. David has vast experience in capital markets matters, having acted for issuers and investment dealers in a wide variety of cross-border and domestic public offerings and private placements. David has experience across a broad range of industries, including financial services, natural resources, technology, manufacturing, consumer products and telecommunications.

Career: Ontario Bar, 1991

WORTZMAN, Rob Wildeboer Dellelce LLP, Toronto 416 361 2930

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Rob is a partner at Wildeboer Dellelce LLP. Rob’s practice focuses on securities regulation, corporate finance matters and mergers & acquisitions. Rob has significant experience on a wide range of public equity and debt offerings, private placements and M&A transactions and regularly assists issuers, investment dealers, and institutional and private investors on equity and debt financing transactions, ranging from start-up investments, venture capital and private equity investments, to larger public offerings including cross-border offerings. Rob also advises issuers, investment dealers and other securities industry participants on various regulatory compliance matters, including listings, governance and disclosure issues. He works with both established and emerging companies world-wide, primarily in the technology, life science, industrial and investment management and dealer sectors. Rob is a current member of the Registration Advisory Committee to the Ontario Securities Commission and was a former member of the Securities Advisory Committee to the Ontario Securities Commission. He is the past chair of the board of directors of Variety Village and sits on a number of board of directors of companies in the life sciences industry. Firm mandates that Rob has been involved with include:

• Acted for Lisi Mechanical Inc., one of Canada’s leading providers of full-service mechanical solutions for hi-rise structures and buildings, on its sale to Ethel Capital Corporation.
• Acted for AdvisorStream, a leading provider of digital engagement and marketing solutions for the global wealth and insurance industries, on its sale to Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc., a global Fintech leader.
• Acted as independent legal counsel to the Special Committee of Shaw Communications Inc. in their proposed merger with Rogers Communications Inc. and lead counsel to ARC Resources Ltd. in connection with its merger with Seven Generations Energy Ltd. Grant is the Director of a number of public and private issuers including NuVista Energy Ltd., PrairieSky Royalty Ltd., Spur Petroleum Ltd., and Whitecap Resources Inc. He also serves as the Corporate Secretary of ARC Resources Ltd.
• Acted for Flow Beverage Corp., a premium alkaline spring water company, in its reverse takeover transaction and trading on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

ZA W ALSKY , Grant A Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP, Cambridge +1 403 260 0376 gaz@bdplaw.com

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Grant’s practice involves advising clients on public and private financings, mergers, acquisitions and takeover bids, corporate governance, shareholder activism and stock exchange listing matters and regulatory compliance. Grant recently acted for the Special Committee of Shaw Communications Inc. in their proposed merger with Rogers Communications Inc. and lead counsel to ARC Resources Ltd. in connection with its merger with Seven Generations Energy Ltd. Grant is the Director of a number of public and private issuers including NuVista Energy Ltd., PrairieSky Royalty Ltd., Spur Petroleum Ltd., and Whitecap Resources Inc. He also serves as the Corporate Secretary of ARC Resources Ltd.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta; Canadian Bar Association; Calgary Bar Association.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Criminal Law
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/instinct, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Crime Nationwide

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Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Ranked Lawyers

Toronto-based Frank Addario of Addario Law Group LLP is widely admired for the breadth of his criminal law experience, covering both serious traditional criminal offences and financial crime. Giuseppe Battista of Battista Turcot Israel Corbo Avocats is a highly rated criminal defence lawyer. He also has experience in professional discipline. He is based in Montréal.

Scott Fenton of Fenton, Smith Barristers is a highly respected Toronto-based criminal lawyer. His skills cover a range of traditional criminal offences, including homicide and sexual assault, as well as financial and white-collar matters. Brian Greenspan of Greenspan Humphrey Weinstein remains one of Canada’s most accomplished criminal lawyers. Based in Toronto, he has an impressive track record representing clients in matters ranging from drug offences to corruption charges. “Brian is profoundly experienced and talented.”

Marie Henein of Henein Hutchison LLP is a distinguished criminal defence lawyer, operating at both provincial and nationwide levels. She is particularly well known for her representation of clients in some of Canada’s most high-profile and controversial criminal cases. Vancouver-based Richard Peck KC of Peck and Company is a long-standing criminal defence lawyer, renowned for his wealth of experience acting on extremely high-profile defence cases.

Toronto-based Mark Sandler of Cooper, Sandler, Shime & Bergman LLP is recognised as a highly capable criminal defence lawyer, with significant strengths in traditional crime matters. Richard Wolson of Gindin Wolson Simmonds Roitenberg enjoys a strong reputation for his criminal defence practice, with clients benefiting from his deep experience in criminal trials. He is based in Winnipeg.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Employment & Labour
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

Employment & Labour Nationwide

The Norton Rose team is equally well experienced in provincial, national and international scope occurring in transactions. Its workload comprises matters of provincial and federal clients alike in a regular caseload of occupational health and safety issues, ranging from strikes and lockouts to union certification defence. Hicks Morley is well known within Ontario as a leading employment and labour law firm with a strong focus on the representation of management in human resources law. Its industry expertise covers construction, education, financial services and hospitality among other sectors.

Notable practitioners

Stephen Shamie is based in Toronto and is a key contact.

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP

What the team is known for Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark is a specialist employment and labour law firm providing valued support on either side of the country, with a particularly strong practice in Toronto and support in Vancouver and Calgary. The firm also has an office in Halifax, providing a wealth of employment and labour expertise to clients in Atlantic Canada. Mathews enjoys a solid reputation for its representation of provincial and federal clients.

Notable practitioners

Primary contacts include Mark Contini for Ontario, Keith Murray for British Columbia and Tara Erskine KC for Nova Scotia.

McLennan Ross LLP

What the team is known for McLennan Ross is a significant law firm for management-side labour and employment issues in the Alberta market. It is respected throughout the country, with offices in Calgary, Edmonton and Yellowknife affording it considerable coverage in Western Canada and the Northwest Territories. The team is further recognised for its prowess in labour relations and its notable expertise in the natural resources, broadcasting and communications industries, including transportation, finance, energy and communications.

Notable practitioners

include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

Leading Firms

Employment & Labour

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais offers stellar coverage across labour and employment law in Canada, with superb practices in Quebec and Ontario, as well as providing strong support in both British Columbia and Alberta. The firm possesses in-depth knowledge of federally regulated industries and is well versed in a wide range of matters, from collective bargaining to transaction-related labour relations, human rights and grievance arbitrations. Nationally, the firm also assists with employment policies, dismissals and occupational health and safety issues. It has further expertise representing clients before various courts and tribunals, and has an enviable client roster featuring noted players from the retail, construction, healthcare, education and transportation sectors.

Notable practitioners

Key employment and labour practitioners at BLG include national practice leader André Royer as well as Montréal-based Danny Kauffer, Ad E.

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken operates a full-service employment and labour group with market-leading practices in Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia. The firm’s lawyers are regularly sought out for their experience advising federally regulated employers on matters of national significance. The labour, employment and human rights team advises on a broad range of mandates, including occupational health and safety, labour relations, collective bargaining and issues stemming from mergers, takeovers and disposals. In the fields of employment and labour, Fasken also has a strong track record of appearances before arbitrators, labour relations boards, tribunals and the Supreme Court of Canada. The firm represents clients from a wide range of industries, including transportation, finance, energy and communications.

Notable practitioners

Stephen Shamie is based in Toronto and is a key contact.

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP

What the team is known for Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark is a specialist employment and labour law firm providing valued support on either side of the country, with a particularly strong practice in Toronto and support in Vancouver and Calgary. The firm also has an office in Halifax, providing a wealth of employment and labour expertise to clients in Atlantic Canada. Mathews enjoys a solid reputation for its representation of provincial and federal clients.

Notable practitioners

Primary contacts include Mark Contini for Ontario, Keith Murray for British Columbia and Tara Erskine KC for Nova Scotia.

McLennan Ross LLP

What the team is known for McLennan Ross is a significant law firm for management-side labour and employment issues in the Alberta market. It is respected throughout the country, with offices in Calgary, Edmonton and Yellowknife affording it considerable coverage in Western Canada and the Northwest Territories. The team is further recognised for its prowess in labour relations and its notable expertise in the natural resources, broadcasting and education sectors, among others. Its lawyers often provide high-level strategic advice to clients in the context of labour planning for industrial projects and
other matters in the construction industry.

**Notable practitioners**

Tom Ross KC, Damon Bailey KC and Tim Mitchell, all based in Calgary, are key contacts.

**Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

**What the team is known for**

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt operates a well-respected employment and labour team in Toronto supported by an impressive practice in Calgary. The firm is frequently called upon to advise national and international companies across various industry sectors such as retail, finance and mining. Its specific areas of expertise within employment and labour include executive compensation, workplace investigations and workplace restructurings. The Osler team also advises clients on retention arrangements, privacy law and terminations. It is further noted for its regular assistance with employment issues arising from acquisitions, compensation matters and sensitive executive hiring and severance issues.

**Notable practitioners**

Allan Wells and Sven Poysa lead Osler’s Toronto employment and labour group, while Brian Thiessen KC is a leading lawyer in Calgary.

**Roper Greyell LLP**

**What the team is known for**

Roper Greyell wins recognition as a prominent Vancouver-based boutique working exclusively in employment, labour and related areas. The firm is noted for its expertise representing national companies in relation to their Western Canadian operations, as well as for its experience in the public sector. Other areas of expertise include management-side labour law, human rights law, wrongful dismissal litigation, privacy law and workers’ compensation. Its work spans a broad range of industry sectors, including healthcare and energy.

**Notable practitioners**

The firm’s leading practitioners include Thomas Roper KC and Delayne Sartison KC, both based in Vancouver.

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

**What the team is known for**

Stikeman Elliott is a prestigious full-service law firm respected for its provision of day-to-day employment advice to national and international companies. It houses able employment and labour lawyers across its offices in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta. The firm operates extensively at both the federal and provincial levels, advising on individual employment relationships and matters relating to unionised environments. The team is well versed in assisting with the employment aspects of major transactions and restructurings as well as litigation and arbitration. Its experience covers all areas of employment and labour law, including occupational health and safety, executive employment agreements, restrictive covenants and labour standards issues. Stikeman acts for employers hailing from a range of industries including energy, technology and retail.

**Notable practitioners**

Gary Clarke and Lorna Cuthbert are Stikeman’s key employment lawyers in Calgary and Toronto respectively.

**DLA Piper (Canada) LLP**

**What the team is known for**

Lawyers in DLA Piper’s Calgary, Toronto and Vancouver offices are regularly engaged to advise on provincially and federally regulated labour relations, executive employment and occupational health and safety matters. In all provinces in which it acts, the firm demonstrates strong expertise in representing private sector employers across the energy, telecoms and healthcare sectors. The DLA Piper team also has notable expertise in collective bargaining, wrongful dismissals and human rights law. The firm leverages its considerable global footprint and extensive client base to good effect in this field.

**Notable practitioners**

Calgary-based Michael Ford KC and Toronto-based Richard Nixon are the primary leaders of DLA Piper’s Canadian employment practice.

**Filion Wakely Thorup Angeletti LLP**

**What the team is known for**

Filion Wakely Thorup Angeletti is an Ontario-based boutique with a dedicated labour and employment focus. The firm regularly represents national and federally regulated clients in contentious and non-contentious labour matters. It has experience of heavyweight labour relations work – including collective bargaining negotiations – as well as arbitration and litigation. Filion Wakely acts for a wide range of executives, managers and human resources professionals in both the private and public sectors, with the team’s industry expertise covering healthcare, construction, utilities and hospitality. The firm is also noted for its work on numerous eye-catching cross-border mandates as well as for the broad bench of specialised practitioners based across its Toronto, Hamilton and London offices.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based managing partner James Knight is a key contact.

**Harris & Company**

**What the team is known for**

Harris & Company is a Vancouver-based boutique that is a popular choice for employment and labour law advice in Western Canada. The firm frequently advises on federal matters under the Canada Labour Code and regularly assists clients with issues arising in both union and non-union workplaces. The Harris team advises several significant clients in both the public and private sectors on issues including wrongful dismissal litigation, workplace human rights and workers’ compensation. It also offers considerable knowledge of the healthcare, financial services and education sectors, as well as a growing litigation practice, and is well versed in representing clients before labour relations boards and human rights tribunals.

**Notable practitioners**

Eric Harris KC and Geoffrey Litherland in Vancouver are leading lawyers within Harris & Company.
Employment & Labour: Labour for Unions

British Columbia

Leading Firms

Band 1

Koskie Minsky LLP
Victory Square Law Office LLP

Band 2

Black Gropper
Hastings Labour Law Office
Moore Edgar Lyster

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Rogers John Victory Square Law Office LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Boris Craig Victory Square Law Office LLP
Buchanan Chris Hastings Labour Law Office
Glavin Anthony Koskie Minsky LLP
Gordon Charles Koskie Minsky LLP

Band 2

Clements William Koskie Minsky LLP
Edgar Richard Moore Edgar Lyster
Fries E Murphy Koskie Minsky LLP
Gould James Hamilton Howard Bain & Gould (ORL)
Howell Nicole Hamilton Howard Bain & Gould (ORL)

Rogers Steven Victory Square Law Office LLP
Tarsaoff David Hastings Labour Law Office

Waddell Lindsay Moore Edgar Lyster

Band 1 Employment & Labour British Columbia

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is an esteemed national law firm with a highly respected employment and labour practice in Vancouver. It is appointed by employers ranging from regional companies to national and multinational corporations in sectors as diverse as retail, technology and energy. The firm advises on a broad array of matters, including collective bargaining agreements, labour relations and wrongful dismissal complaints. It possesses further expertise in human rights issues, including in relation to allegations of sexual harassment, and regularly handles matters relating to the employment aspects of large M&A transactions.

Strengths “The team has helped navigate many conversations pertaining to employee relations and has helped provide us with the right balanced legal guidance.” “All of their lawyers are the best in their respective disciplines.”

Work highlights Fasken represented Air Canada in litigation before the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal following a discrimination complaint made by an employee.

Notable practitioners

David McDonald (see p.151) is based in Vancouver. He acts for federal clients both in BC and across Western Canada, most significantly on collective agreements, strike actions and judicial review. A significant number of his clients originate from the aviation and retail sectors. “He is a very responsive, practical and knowledgeable lawyer.” Clayton Jones (see p.149) is a prominent lawyer in Vancouver when it comes to labour arbitration, most significantly acting for clients in the forestry and mining sectors. He exhibits further strengths in advising on the employment aspects of corporate restructurings. “Clayton is sophisticated in his approach and such a pleasure to work with.” Lorene Novakowski (see p.152) is based in Vancouver and is particularly highly regarded for her expertise in privacy law. Her recent work also includes wrongful dismissal litigation and advisory work on behalf of various educational institutions in BC. “She did a fantastic job on a super complicated matter.” David Wong (see p.155) is based in Vancouver and has developed a notable reputation for his capabilities in a variety of employment issues, from labour relations and collective bargaining to grievance arbitrations and human rights cases. Stephanie Gutierrez (see p.148) has fast become a go-to lawyer for numerous national and provincial clients in collective bargaining and contentious labour matters. She is based in Vancouver.

Harris & Company

What the team is known for Harris & Company is a first-rate boutique law firm with a deep bench of experienced lawyers. Based in Vancouver, it specialises in employment and labour law and offers a well-honoured practice that caters to high-profile public institutions and private employers, notably in the healthcare and education sectors. The team is capable of handling a variety of matters ranging from collective bargaining agreements to human rights and wrongful dismissals. It also handles matters involving allegations of discrimination, including on the basis of sex and disability, and the firm is well recognised for its dynamic litigation practice.

Strengths “They are savvy to business issues and the practical impacts of the law on business.” “Harris & Company have strong counsel who are able to provide advice on highly sensitive, delicate and complex legal matters related to employees. We always appreciate their advice and support.”

Work highlights Peter Csiszar led a Harris team in successfully representing the BC Public School Employers Association/Board of Education of School District No. 68 in an arbitration relating to a wrongful dismissal grievance.

Notable practitioners

Gavin Hume KC is based in Vancouver and is highly esteemed for his experience representing employers before labour relations boards, arbitration panels and the BC Supreme Court. He is particularly valued for advising clients on the strategic aspects of workplace employment issues. Geoffrey Litherland is well respected for his capabilities in contentious labour matters and collective bargaining agreements. Based in Vancouver, he regularly represents both provincial and national clients in these areas, most notably in the aviation industry. “Geoffrey is excellent, he is always available.” Peter Csiszar is based in Vancouver, where he is highly esteemed for his strengths in human rights issues and collective agreement negotiations. He often represents clients from the healthcare and education sectors. Colin Gibson is a Vancouver-based lawyer who is highly skilled in collective bargaining and human rights complaints. He is best known for acting on behalf of clients in the education sector, with additional expertise in healthcare.
Roper Greyell LLP

What the team is known for
Roper Greyell is a top-tier employment and labour law firm with a stellar reputation in British Columbia. Its accomplished bench of lawyers have expertise in areas such as collective bargaining, wrongful dismissals, occupational health and safety and employment contracts. The firm regularly represents public and private sector employers in high-profile mandates. It is experienced in dealing with unions and advising on matters involving unions, including strike applications. The firm is also experienced in collective bargaining and representing employers in workplace human rights and wrongful dismissals. It is also well-versed in appearing before the courts, labour relations boards and human rights tribunals.

Strengths
“The team at BLG has the depth I need for complex work. They get to quicker outcomes and avoid unnecessary litigation.”

Work highlights
A Roper Greyell team led by James Kondopulos acted for TST Overland Express in a termination case before the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.

Notable practitioners
Delaney Sartison KC (see p.153) is based in Vancouver and is distinguished for her strength in management-side labour law, with wide-reaching experience across the public and private sectors. She is especially skilled in human rights issues as well as labour relations in the healthcare sector. Gregory Heywood (see p.149) is based in Vancouver and is best respected as a labour litigator whose practice encompasses wrongful dismissals, grievance arbitrations and human rights tribunals. His recent work also includes union certifications and discrimination cases on the basis of family status.

Thomas Roper KC (see p.153) is a widely revered, longstanding Vancouver lawyer with extensive experience in labour relations and employment strategic planning. His practice also sees him act on matters involving unions, including strike applications. James Kondopulos (see p.150) is highly proficient in workplace disputes, frequently representing clients in human rights litigation and administrative tribunals.

A Vancouver-based lawyer, he has appeared before all levels of the BC courts, including the Court of Appeal. Gabriele Scorer (see p.154) has a broad range of skills covering grievance arbitrations, human rights issues and workplace discrimination matters. She is based in Vancouver and also excels in court actions and matters brought before labour boards.

Band 2 Employment & Labour

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais maintains a dynamic employment and labour practice in Vancouver which is aided by the firm’s strong national footprint. The firm offers a range of employment and labour-related services, advising on human rights issues, labour relations, terminations and other litigation. The team also has expertise handling the employment aspects of mergers and acquisitions. It represents public and private companies hailing from sectors such as manufacturing, healthcare and construction. The firm retains extensive knowledge of federally regulated industries such as banking, railways, airlines and shipping.

Strengths
“The team at BLG has the depth I need for complex work. They get to quicker outcomes and avoid unnecessary litigation.”

“They listen closely to the business situation and are precise in their advice of what can be done.”

Work highlights
A BLG team led by Steve Winder advised Ensemble Travel Group on numerous wrongful dismissal matters.

Notable practitioners
Shelley-Mae Mitchell (see p.151) is based in Vancouver, where she is now the team’s practice leader. She has extensive experience across the full employment spectrum, including collective bargaining, union certification and occupational health and safety. She is a seasoned advocate and has extensive experience representing employers from the food production and construction sectors in labour relations matters, and has also assisted with large-scale terminations as a result of restructuring.

Strengths
“We are extremely satisfied with the legal team we have been provided. They are very aware of both our industry and the current labour terrain.”

Notable practitioners
Keith Murray is Mathews Dinsdale’s managing partner in Western Canada, dividing his time between Vancouver and Calgary. He is especially experienced in handling matters involving unions, including grievance arbitrations. “I rely on Keith’s counsel and appreciate the value he brings both in and out of arbitration.”

I feel extremely confident in the answers I receive from Keith.”

Gradin Tyler has an impressive reputation in matters such as termination agreements and union certification applications. He is based in Vancouver and is particularly experienced in appearing before the BC Labour Relations Board. “Gradin is a pragmatic and hard-working lawyer.” “He is responsive, creative, experienced and knowledgeable.”

Band 3 Employment & Labour

British Columbia

Pulver Crawford Munroe LLP

What the team is known for
Pulver Crawford Munroe is an esteemed labour and employment boutique in Vancouver with a growing presence in the market. The team is adept at drafting employment agreements and has significant further capabilities in wrongful dismissals. Its sizeable team of lawyers has a wide range of experience in matters relating to unions, such as collective agreement negotiations and labour disputes. The firm is also proficient at handling matters before the Human Rights Tribunal, including sexual harassment claims.

Notable practitioners
Patricia Gallivan KC is a distinguished senior lawyer based in Vancouver who is widely respected for her extensive experience in collective bargaining and labour arbitration. Her knowledge of labour relations is complemented by her strength in human rights law, wrongful dismissal claims and workplace policy issues. Craig Munroe frequently represents employers from the public and private sectors in labour dispute resolution. Based in Vancouver, he is well versed in appearing before the courts, labour relations boards and human rights tribunals.

Dean Crawford KC is a well-regarded, Vancouver-based lawyer who is best known for his skills in labour relations and employment litigation. He is particularly experienced in acting before courts and tribunals, including the British Columbia Labour Relations Board. Paul Pulver is an experienced lawyer who has amassed a significant reputation for his strengths in labour relations, regularly appearing before administrative tribunals. He also excels in labour arbitrations and is equally capable of representing clients from the public and private sectors. He is based in Vancouver.

Marino Sveinson is a Vancouver-based
A Farris team successfully managed labour relations and human rights matters. These include unionisations, wrongful dismissals, and human rights complaints. The team is adept at advising on the employment aspects of M&A transactions, including wrongful dismissal claims and human rights issues.

**Farris LLP**

What the team is known for: Farris offers a strong, full-service employment and labour practice in British Columbia. The firm has offices in Vancouver, Kelowna and Victoria, and is often selected to advise employers on both unionised and non-unionised workplace issues. It also frequently acts on employment contracts, strikes and lockouts, as well as unfair labour practice cases. The lawyers also have experience handling human rights complaints, notably when pertaining to allegations of discrimination. Telecommunications, real estate and education are among the diverse range of sectors from which the team’s client base originates.

**Strengths**

“We have been able to rely on Farris for any matter that may arise. Their service levels often exceed our expectations.”

**Work highlights**

A Farris team successfully defended ITB Marine Group from a constructive dismissal claim before the BC Supreme Court.

**Notable practitioners**

Michael Korbin is based in Vancouver and operates a robust contentious employment practice. He acts for clients based provincially and federally on a range of issues, from human rights discrimination claims to both unionised and non-unionised grievance arbitrations.

**Gall Legge Grant Zwack LLP**

What the team is known for: Gall Legge Grant Zwack is a highly regarded Vancouver-based labour and litigation law firm. It offers clients strong expertise in matters such as discrimination, workers’ compensation, drug and alcohol policy and occupational health and safety. The firm capably represents clients before both provincial and federal courts, as well as advising on alternative dispute resolution. The firm’s employment practice is complemented by remarkable capabilities in public law.

**Notable practitioners**

Peter Gall KC has acquired a stellar reputation in Vancouver as one of the leading figures in the BC labour market. With additional strengths in constitutional litigation, he is a regular feature before administrative tribunals and in high-profile employment cases. Andrea Zwack is a respected employment lawyer based in Vancouver. She acts for both public and private sector employers on human rights matters, unionisations and collective agreements.

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for: McCarthy Tétrault is a distinguished national law firm with an accomplished labour and employment team in Vancouver as one of the leading figures in the BC education, maritime, telecoms and mining and also benefits from its affiliation with Koskie Minsky in Toronto, which provides representation for unions in Ontario.

**Notable practitioners**

Anthony Glavin has an acclaimed practice focused on union-side labour law within Vancouver, with his work spanning across the public and private spheres. He regularly appears before labour relations boards and human rights tribunals, representing workers in the healthcare, education and municipal sectors.

**Victory Square Law Office LLP**

What the team is known for: Victory Square is a first-rate team of labour lawyers operating out of both Vancouver and Victoria. It regularly represents unions in certification matters, collective agreement negotiations and unfair labour practice complaints. The firm acts for public and private sector unions operating in sectors such as healthcare, mining and education. It is highly rated for its handling of arbitrations, injunctions, disciplinary hearings and class actions, and also has extensive experience in wrongful dismissal claims and pensions and benefits matters.

**Notable practitioners**

John Rogers KC is a well-established, highly distinguished union-side lawyer who possesses a formidable track record before labour board tribunals and all levels of the courts. He is based in Vancouver and represents unions across both the public and private spheres. Craig Bavis is based in Vancouver, where he offers notable experience representing unions in wrongful dismissals, human rights cases and disability benefit disputes. On such matters he has acted before the courts, arbitrators, human rights tribunals and labour relations boards. Steven Rogers is an increasingly well-regarded labour lawyer who is best known for advising unions on arbitrations and labour relations issues. Splitting his time between Vancouver and Victoria, he also demonstrates a prolific practice in wrongful dismissal litigation and human rights law.
Bennett Jones is a top law firm based in Vancouver that gains recognition across British Columbia for its experience handling traditional labour disputes. The firm’s lawyers are well versed in regulatory employment matters and are particularly experienced in handling mediations and arbitrations. Other areas of the team’s expertise include collective agreements and unfair labour practice claims.

Notable practitioners
Jessica Burke is a key contact.

Moore Edgar Lyster
What the team is known for Moore Edgar Lyster is a well-respected Vancouver law firm commended for its dedicated representation of trade unions and employees. It provides adept guidance on matters pertaining to labour relations in both the public and private sectors. The group garners particular recognition for its human rights practice and has significant experience acting for employees on wrongful dismissal cases.

Notable practitioners
Richard Edgar is well respected for his litigation practice and excels at representing trade unions in matters such as wrongful dismissals, defamation proceedings and insurance claims. Based in Vancouver, he also possesses a robust experience of the appellate courts. Vancouver-based Lindsay Waddell has gained considerable prominence in union-side labour law. She represents both public and private sector unions in litigation before all levels of the courts, with experience covering human rights law and judicial reviews.

Other Ranked Lawyers
James Gould is based in Vancouver and is managing partner of BC labour law firm Hamilton Howell Bain & Gould. He is experienced representing unions in arbitration and mediation, most significantly before the Labour Relations Board and Human Rights Tribunal, alongside his strengths in litigation before the provincial and Supreme Courts.

Michael Howcroft (see p.149) leads the Vancouver employment team at Blakes. He excels in a vast range of matters, from advising on drug policy and occupational health and safety to employment contract negotiations. He is also skilled in union relations and executive terminations. “I have greatly appreciated Michael’s insight and detailed explanations. He is a pleasure to work with.” “He was very commercial in his responses and discussions. He understands the markets and trends well.”

Nicole Howell is a skilled lawyer based in Vancouver who covers a wide range of labour and employment expertise including unfair dismissal claims. She has extensive experience representing clients before all levels of the courts.

Eleni Kassaris is based in Vancouver and leads the Employment & Labour practice at Dentons. She is a highly experienced lawyer who advises clients on a range of employment litigation including wrongful dismissals, union applications and grievance arbitrations. “Eleni is an excellent lawyer who is really practical but also legally talented and really has the confidence of her clients.”

Nazeer Mitha KC commands considerable respect for his wide-ranging experience representing both plaintiffs and employers before the courts and labour relations boards. Based in Vancouver, he has particularly significant experience concerning union-related matters such as strikes. “Nazeer’s ability to keep track of complex topics is fantastic. He shows a thorough understanding of each topic we bring to him.” “He is very knowledgeable in the law, practical, solution-oriented and fearless.”

Employment & Labour Alberta

Band 1 Employment & Labour Alberta

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for Bennett Jones is a top Calgary-headquartered law firm that maintains a robust employment and labour practice with noted expertise in high-level mandates arising from M&A transactions and restructuring proceedings. The team has further strengths in an array of other issues such as disability claims, privacy, health and safety, compensation and workplace investigations. The firm also handles union and labour issues. It offers advice to clients in sectors such as real estate, energy and natural resources and maintains a substantive level of activity in complex, high-value litigation.

Strengths “I was continually pleased by the commercial and practical nature of the advice the firm offered.” “Bennett Jones is our go-to firm for complex, high-level, sophisticated matters.” “I have found Bennett Jones to have a talented group of lawyers that are able to meet all of our needs.”

Work highlights A Bennett Jones team led by John Gilmore acted for TELUS Communications on a grievance relating to an employee’s termination.

Notable practitioners
John Gilmore has a significant reputation for his work advising on the employment aspects of large-scale M&A transactions and corporate restructurings. Based in Calgary, he has equally notable experience advising on labour relations, human rights and privacy law. “We rely heavily on John’s expertise and his confidence in tackling complex legal problems and issues. He is a fantastic strategic legal adviser.” “John provides exceptional service and relationship management.” “He makes himself available whenever needed to provide expert guidance and assistance.”

Christine Plante has established a strong reputation as a go-to lawyer in Alberta for wrongful dismissal claims and human resources matters. She is based in Calgary, where she has a prolific practice advising on employment matters arising from major M&A transactions. “Christine is responsive, knowledgeable and very pleasant to work with.”
McLennan Ross LLP

What the team is known for: McLennan Ross is a leading Alberta firm with top-tier offices in both Calgary and Edmonton. The firm houses a large and respected team of lawyers who cover a broad spectrum of labour and employment mandates on behalf of big-name management clients. The highly rated team handles numerous heavyweight matters addressing issues such as union certification and bargaining rights. It also has notable strengths representing clients in the construction, oil and gas and manufacturing sectors, with additional reach extending to the healthcare and education spheres. The firm is particularly well known for providing strategic labour planning advice in the context of major industrial projects. In addition to the firm’s dominance in Alberta, its Yellowknife office further contributes to its influence in Western and Northern Canada.

Strengths: “McLennan Ross is the best employment law firm I have worked with.” “The firm and all of the lawyers are very knowledgeable. They have a good understanding of local and national impact of developments in the sector.”

Work highlights: A McLennan Ross team led by Timothy Mitchell successfully represented the City of Okotoks in defeating a union certification application.

Notable practitioners: David Ross KC is based in Edmonton. He is a hugely influential figure in the field of labour relations in Alberta and continues to provide high-level strategic advice to employers on matters involving unions, such as collective bargaining and certifications. He has a proven track record acting for both provincial and federal clients. Damon Bailey KC is well respected for his labour relations practice, often advising on collective bargaining matters, union certifications and unfair practice complaints. Based in Calgary, he also acts for non-unionised employers on contract drafting and wrongful dismissals. His experience covers all levels of the Alberta courts as well as the labour relations boards. Damon Bailey KC is a superb employer-side counsel.”

Michael Ford KC is an acclaimed lawyer who is known for his strength in advising employers on labour relations strategy. Based in Calgary, he is frequently active on union certification matters as well as advising on issues of employment legislation. Chris Lane KC splits his time between Edmonton and Yellowknife. He has wide-ranging expertise in the field of labour relations and extensive experience handling union certification applications. He is also noted as a leading management-side lawyer for wrongful dismissal and collective bargaining matters.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for: DLA Piper operates a noteworthy regional employment team based out of Calgary. The firm leverages its considerable international capabilities to service employers from a diverse range of industries, including transportation. The Alberta employment and labour group has expertise in issues such as wrongful dismissal, health and safety, human rights and privacy. Moreover, it has experience concerning both unionised and non-unionised environments, as well as handling employment litigation at various court and tribunal levels. The firm is particularly renowned for its representation of clients in education and the public sector, working with universities and higher education institutions, and it is also singled out for its experience of labour relations within federally regulated industries.

Notable practitioners: Michael Ford KC is the senior employment and labour lawyer in DLA Piper’s Calgary office. He is acclaimed for his wide-ranging skills in labour relations, wherein he regularly advises on collective bargaining, strikes, employee terminations and discrimination litigation. He is also distinguished for his skills in advising on mass layoffs in both unionised and non-unionised environments. “Michael is an exceptionally pragmatic and effective labour and employment lawyer. His deep expertise combined with his strong commitment to knowing and understanding our operations results in practical and durable resolutions.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for: Borden Ladner Gervais LLP is a leading Alberta-based law firm operating from a well-established office in Calgary. It maintains one of the top labour and employment practices in the province and acts for a variety of major employers. The firm assists clients with a diverse array of issues, including collective agreements, labour-related matters, the drafting of employment contracts, executive terminations and wrongful dismissal cases. The employment and labour group also advises on transactional employment mandates and employment-related litigation. It is capable of representing defendants and plaintiffs alike.

Notable practitioners: Gina Ross (see p.154) is a Calgary-based lawyer who is best known for advising clients on the employment aspects of M&A transactions. She also advises on employee fiduciary matters and drug testing policy in addition to other areas of expertise. “Gina is a great resource for our employment law needs. She takes a pragmatic approach to employment issues and is very responsive in supporting our rapidly evolving employment demands.” Richard Steele (see p.154) is highly regarded for his assured handling of employment disputes. He is highly experienced representing clients in a wide variety of contentious proceedings, including before the Alberta Labour Relations Board. Based in Calgary, he also advises employers on termination strategy. Bob Graham (see p.148) is an increasingly prominent figure in employment law within Alberta. He is regularly mandated on terminations, downsizings and workplace human rights issues. He is based in Calgary and also excels in advising employers on retention agreements and drug and alcohol policies. “Bob is our go-to person for personnel related legal counsel and services.”
recommended for its representation of management interests, with its strengths including collective bargaining, arbitrations and health and safety matters. The team often represents government bodies and agencies, as well as a range of other public and private sector clients. It is active throughout Alberta as well as in Saskatchewan and Northern Canada.

Strengths "Individually and collectively, the firm has shown the ability to handle the most complex of labour relations issues." "The firm's top lawyers bring decades of extensive employer-side counsel experience, and they have strong junior lawyers to support the senior counsel."

Work highlights A Neuman Thompson team led by Craig Neuman successfully defended the City of Red Deer against an union grievance.

Notable practitioners
Hugh McPhail KC is lauded by sources for his capabilities in labour relations, which range from strategic advice to arbitrations covering human rights and wrongful dismissal claims. He is well known as one of the most experienced employment and labour lawyers in Edmonton and is particularly adept at representing government entities. "Hugh is a seasoned and strong litigator." Craig Neuman KC is a top-ranked Edmonton lawyer who demonstrates a wealth of expertise acting for employers from both the public and private spheres on collective bargaining mandates, employment standards claims and arbitration proceedings. In common with other Neuman Thompson lawyers, he is distinguished for his extensive experience of representing government entities. "Craig is one of the top employer-side labour lawyers in Alberta and Western Canada." "He is a very seasoned and skilled litigator," Dwayne Chomyn KC is based in Edmonton and is well versed in contentious labour matters, including rights arbitrations, labour relations board hearings and wrongful dismissal litigation. His clients stem from both the public and private sectors and include government entities at the provincial and municipal levels. "Dwayne has a keen sense of the market and how to position the firm within Alberta." "He is a leader within the firm and very strong on strategic advice."

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Notable practitioners
Hugh McPhail KC is lauded by sources for his capabilities in labour relations, which range from strategic advice to arbitrations covering human rights and wrongful dismissal claims. He is well known as one of the most experienced employment and labour lawyers in Edmonton and is particularly adept at representing government entities. "Hugh is a seasoned and strong litigator." Craig Neuman KC is a top-ranked Edmonton lawyer who demonstrates a wealth of expertise acting for employers from both the public and private spheres on collective bargaining mandates, employment standards claims and arbitration proceedings. In common with other Neuman Thompson lawyers, he is distinguished for his extensive experience of representing government entities. "Craig is one of the top employer-side labour lawyers in Alberta and Western Canada." "He is a very seasoned and skilled litigator," Dwayne Chomyn KC is based in Edmonton and is well versed in contentious labour matters, including rights arbitrations, labour relations board hearings and wrongful dismissal litigation. His clients stem from both the public and private sectors and include government entities at the provincial and municipal levels. "Dwayne has a keen sense of the market and how to position the firm within Alberta." "He is a leader within the firm and very strong on strategic advice."

Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP has a deep bench of experts. Among other areas of expertise, it is highly experienced in all forms of employment litigation; it also represents employers in arbitration proceedings and before employment tribunals. The firm offers complementary expertise in pensions and benefits and occupational health and safety.

Strengths "They are practical, thoughtful and have a deep bench of experts."

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP fields a comprehensive employment and labour practice in Calgary which covers a broad spectrum of issues. Its lawyers enjoy a strong reputation at both a provincial and national level, with the team advising clients hailing from both the public and private sectors. Its client list also features leading employers from the construction, retail, transportation, energy and healthcare industries. "BLG's Alberta team is highly experienced in all forms of employment litigation."

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for
Stikeman Elliott is a major national firm with an increasingly well-repected labour and employment team in Calgary. It frequently acts for both provincial and federal clients on transactional employment issues, including the employment aspects of M&A. Further areas of expertise include workplace harassment, constructive dismissals and collective agreements. Stikeman's client list for employment and labour matters features major employers from the energy, chemical and oil and gas sectors. Its lawyers also represent individual employees, including former executives.

Strengths "The lawyers have a wealth of experience and have offered practical and timely advice."


Notable practitioners
Gary Clarke (see p.147) co-heads Stikeman Elliott's national labour and employment group, dividing his time between Calgary and Vancouver. He is especially well practised in advising on the employment aspects of large-scale acquisitions, with additional strength assisting with various human resources issues and human rights law. "He is fantastic, highly responsive and easy to work with. "Gary is an outstanding HR attorney with very good commercial and practical awareness."

Kristopher Noonan (see p.152) is a prominent employment and labour lawyer with a robust and varied practice encompassing experience in collective bargaining, discrimination and harassment matters and occupational health and safety. Based in Calgary, he also provides strategic advice to several leading employers on termination litigation and drug and alcohol policies. "Kristopher is great to work with. He is practical and responsive."

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for
Dentons offers a well-regarded employment practice in Alberta with expertise based across both its Calgary and Edmonton offices. The team has experience in both litigation and advisory employment work, acting for clients in sectors such as oil and gas and education. It also offers counsel to a range of management-side clients on matters such as labour relations, the negotiation of labour agreements and workplace human rights issues. In these matters it regularly appears before all levels of courts and administrative tribunals, including the Supreme Court. Dentons’ Alberta team is also highly sought after for its experience in handling the employment aspects of M&A.

Strengths "Dentons has always provided me with assistance about anything from small day-to-day questions to complex matters. I know I can always rely on them."

Network partners
They have outstanding expertise in alcohol and drug testing in the workplace.

Work highlights A Dentons team led by April Kosten represented Imperial Oil in an arbitration relating to its drug and alcohol policy.

Notable practitioners
Fausto Franceschi is the managing partner of Dentons’ Edmonton office. He advises several leading multinational clients on the employment aspects of corporate transactions and M&A deals. April Kosten has a growing reputation in management-side labour work. Based in Calgary, she regularly advises employers on collective agreements, alcohol and drugs testing policies, workplace harassment and human rights issues. "April is knowledgeable, responsive and thorough. She is also an excellent litigator who has a lot of passion for her work."

Band 3 Employment & Labour Alberta

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais fields a comprehensive employment and labour practice in Calgary which covers a broad spectrum of issues. Its lawyers enjoy a strong reputation at both a provincial and national level, with the team advising clients hailing from both the public and private sectors. Its client list also features leading employers from the construction, retail, transportation, energy and healthcare industries.
Field Law

What the team is known for
The Calgary office of Field Law is a well-regarded law firm operating from offices in both Calgary and Edmonton. It maintains an experienced employment and labour practice whose notable areas of expertise include occupational health and safety, business immigration law and drug and alcohol policy, including in relation to the decriminalisation of cannabis. When it comes to employment disputes work, the team handles workplace human rights claims and internal investigations in addition to termination litigation.

Notable practitioners
Steve Eichler is applauded by sources for his extensive experience in occupational health and safety matters and drug and alcohol policy. Dividing his time between Calgary and Yellowknife, he also excels in administrative law and human rights issues in addition to employment-related work. Frank Malnar KG is based in Calgary, from where he operates a varied and longstanding practice dedicated to employment and labour in Alberta. His work includes a focus on workplace human rights issues as well as education law. Kelly Nicholson chairs the Field Law employment and labour group from his base in Calgary. He is best known for his capabilities in privacy law, wrongful dismissal claims, collective agreements and drug and alcohol policy.

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for
The Calgary office of Gowling WLG is home to a dynamic employment and labour practice which advises clients ranging from start-ups and SMEs to large international corporations operating in sectors such as oil and gas, transportation and technology. The firm is capable of advising on the full gamut of M&A-related employment mandates, including those with cross-border aspects. The team is also skilled at conducting grievance arbitration hearings, with further strength in business immigration law.

Strengths
"Gowling's team is incredibly detail-oriented but also has an appreciation for big-picture litigation strategy which has served us well."

Notable practitioners
Will Cascadden is highly experienced in advising management clients on employment issues entailed by corporate restructurings, including those that result in employee terminations. Based in Calgary, he also skilfully advises on wrongful dismissals and human rights claims. "Will is an expert in his field. He understands business realities and how they intersect with the law, allowing him to provide practical advice and reduce the risks. "Will is very thorough, responsive and practical."
Maxwell Brunette is based in Calgary where he leads Gowling’s employment and labour team in Alberta and British Columbia. He is especially well known for defending clients against human rights issues, wrongful dismissals and workplace policies. "Max is a great lawyer and he consistently delivers excellent service." "He has really good client management skills and is really strong in terms of advisory work."

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault’s Calgary office advises on a range of employment and labour matters, with particular areas of expertise including terminations and workforce reduction, occupational health and safety matters and collective agreements. The firm regularly acts as employment counsel on M&A transactions and also has expertise in human rights, data protection and regulatory compliance issues. The practice works on behalf of many employers in the energy and oil and gas sectors, as well as acting for education and hospitality clients. It is increasingly involved in drafting employment policies concerning the medical use of cannabis.

Strengths
"The breadth of their experience assisted us in finding solutions quickly."

Notable practitioners
Steve Eichler is applauded by sources for his extensive experience in occupational health and safety matters and drug and alcohol policy. Dividing his time between Calgary and Yellowknife, he also excels in administrative law and human rights issues in addition to employment-related work. Frank Malnar KG is based in Calgary, from where he operates a varied and longstanding practice dedicated to employment and labour in Alberta. His work includes a focus on workplace human rights issues as well as education law. Kelly Nicholson chairs the Field Law employment and labour group from his base in Calgary. He is best known for his capabilities in privacy law, wrongful dismissal claims, collective agreements and drug and alcohol policy.

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for
The firm regularly acts on collective agreements. The firm also represents individual employees, acting on a variety of matters such as wrongful dismissals and the drafting of contracts. Weil is well known in Edmonton and across Alberta, the firm also provides expert guidance on termination disputes, workplace harassment claims and pensions and benefits matters. It is regularly cited as one of the best labour law firms in the province and is well equipped to handle human rights and administrative litigation, regularly appearing before labour relations boards and tribunals as well as assisting with judicial reviews.

Notable practitioners
Kristan McLeod is based in Edmonton and is managing partner of Chivers Carpenter Lawyers. A seasoned labour practitioner, she is acknowledged by sources as one of the best union-side lawyers in Alberta. Her many years’ experience has seen her represent unions in proceedings at all levels of the courts and before numerous labour relations boards.

McGowan Cook

What the team is known for
McGowan Cook is a market-leading Calgary law firm with a focus on union-side representation in labour matters. The firm is in high demand, providing top-level advice to some of the best-known names in the market. Well known in Alberta, McGowan Cook’s lawyers advise unions on wrongful dismissals, union certification, collective bargaining and grievance arbitration, in addition to acting on human rights and workplace health and safety matters. The firm’s impressive strengths in these matters are reinforced by its experience of torts and constitutional law. It is further noted for its skilful representation of major unions in the courts of first instance and at the appellate level, in addition to appearing as advocates before labour relations boards and other administrative tribunals.

Notable practitioners
Clayton Cook is based in Calgary and has a substantial practice in the areas of human rights law and labour litigation. A leading labour lawyer in Alberta, his clients include both trade unions and individual employees, whom he represents before human rights tribunals, arbitration boards and labour relations boards.

Seveny Scott

What the team is known for
Seveny Scott is a highly respected union-side labour law firm based in Edmonton. Its much-praised team has extensive experience advising on grievance arbitrations, collective agreement disputes and workplace investigations. The group is well-versed in representing trade unions from both the public and private sectors and additionally advises individual employees on matters ranging from constructive dismissal claims to contract negotiations.

Notable practitioners
Dan Scott is based in Edmonton and is known for his accomplished practice representing unions in employment contracts, arbitration and labour relations boards. He also represents individual employees in wrongful dismissals and fiduciary duty matters. Karen Scott is based in Edmonton, where she regularly acts for unions in collective bargaining matters. She is deeply experienced representing union clients before all levels of the courts, with further proficiency appearing in arbitrations and before labour relations boards. She also advises individual employees on constructive dismissal claims and workplace investigations.
Other Ranked Lawyers

John Batzel is currently based at the Calgary office of Miller Thomson. He is particularly well known for providing employment advice in the context of M&A deals. He also advises on employment litigation, including appearances before the appellate courts.

"John is a strong support for our organisation."

Loretta Bouwmeester has a strong practice focus on occupational health and safety matters, also advising on workplace investigations, regulatory proceedings and privacy law. Dividing her time between the Calgary and Vancouver offices of Mathews Dinsdale, she represents employers before the labour relations board and at all levels of the Alberta courts.

"She is really great with clients and really easy to work with."

Laura Dunnigan has recently joined Mathews Dinsdale in Calgary and is recognised for acting for employers on advisory matters. She is also well versed in litigation, including wrongful dismissal and human rights claims. "She is really smart and strong on employment disputes."

de Lobe Lederman (see p.150) is a well-regarded associate based at Blakes in Calgary. He gains recognition for his expertise in handling contentious matters such as wrongful dismissals. "De Lobe is great at explaining things in a way that anyone can understand. He is always prepared, courteous, friendly and precise. "He was very resourceful and provided solutions to the issues at hand."

Birch Miller (see p.151) leads the Calgary employment practice at Blakes. She regularly provides employment counsel in the context of major M&A transactions, with further experience handling wrongful dismissal litigation and human rights complaints. "Birch is a great lawyer who provides practical advice to clients and always exceeds expectations."

"She has a strong balance of knowledge, expertise, awareness and empathy."

Lindsay Mullen (see p.152) is a senior partner of Norton Rose Fullbright Canada, based in Calgary. She is well versed in occupational health and safety matters and also well regarded for her experience assisting employers with workplace investigations and fatality inquiries, in addition to advising on wrongful terminations and regulatory compliance issues.

Patrick Nugent is the principal of Edmonton-based Nugent Law Office. He operates a stellar practice representing employees and trade unions in grievance arbitrations, human rights proceedings and matters before labour relations boards. Management-side lawyers regularly note him as one of their most frequent opponents, with sources agreeing he is a market leader for union-side labour law in Edmonton.

Jean Torrens is a key partner for employment and labour work at MLT Aikins. She is particularly capable at advising employers on collective bargaining, human rights claims and termination matters. Based in Calgary, her expertise also extends to occupational health and safety issues and matters relating to the use of recreational cannabis.

Jill Wilkie is national chair of the administrative law team at Miller Thomson. She is accomplished in a variety of labour matters ranging from collective bargaining strategy to grievance arbitrations. Based in Calgary, she is also highly experienced in workplace investigations. "Jill is an exceptionally talented individual and we love working with her." "Jill is outstanding in every area of her practice."

Employment & Labour Ontario

Leading Firms

Band 1

Fasken

Band 2

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Band 3

Miller Thomson LLP

Band 4

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

Dentons Canada LLP

Rubin Thomson LLP

Band 5

Emond Harnden

Stikeman Elliott LLP

Band 1 Employment & Labour Ontario

Fasken

What the team is known for

This highly respected employment and labour team operates on both a provincial and federal level. Fasken’s Toronto office has established a deep practice able to service high-profile national clients including private corporations and government entities. The group is active across a range of sectors, including transportation, telecommunications and banking, and often assists clients with international labour issues. It has extensive experience working with the government and employers on provincial labour and employment legislation, as well as handling significant mandates for noteworthy education and healthcare industry clients.

Strengths "The team is very efficient and has a good variety of specialties and knowledge.”

"The team is solution-focused and creative. Their strong focus on customer service is visible at every level of the organisation.”

Work highlights A Fasken team led by Karen Sargeant and Shane Todd acted for Toronto-Dominion Bank on a variety of litigation issues, including wrongful dismissals and human rights matters.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Brian Burket (see p.146) is a highly experienced senior employment lawyer who continues to advise high-profile federal clients on collective agreements and bargaining. He is also esteemed for providing companies with strategic employment advice, including on policy and legislative initiatives. “Brian is the absolute best of the best.” Douglas Gilbert (see p.148) continues to be widely respected for his skills in assisting federal clients with a broad range of labour and employment matters. Based in Toronto, his recent work includes advising on employment policy, collective agreements and other employment matters resulting from organisational changes or restructurings.

Karen Sargeant (see p.153) co-chairs Fasken’s labour and employment group in Toronto. She wins praise for representing both provincial and federal clients in the healthcare, education and industrial sectors and is particularly skilled in collective bargaining agreements, arbitration and employment-related litigation. She also advises on the employment aspects of corporate transactions. Christopher Pigott (see p.152) is a prominent labour lawyer who is well versed in collective bargaining and employment-related disputes, providing strategic advice to both federal and provincial clients. He is particularly skilled in human rights cases and advising on federal policy initiatives.

Jackie Van Der Meulen (see p.155) is a well-regarded labour and employment lawyer who has notable experience in contentious employment matters such as wrongful terminations and discrimination claims. She represents both provincial and national clients, and her expertise also extends to workplace human rights and collective bargaining issues. "Jackie provides excellent advice with a great client-centric focus.”

Filion Wakely Thorup Angelettii LLP

What the team is known for

Filion Wakely Thorup Angelettii is a large employment and labour law boutique which enjoys a stellar reputation in the Ontario market, with offices in Toronto, London and Hamilton. The firm handles high-profile work throughout the province, acting for a diverse client base ranging from SMEs to large multinational corporations, with an active presence in both the private and public sectors. It has notable expertise in collective bargaining, labour arbitration, wrongful dismissal cases and
human rights issues, acting for clients in the manu-
ufacturing, entertainment and retail sectors, among
others.

Strengths “The lawyers there are excellent. They are
customer-oriented with timely and practical advice.”
“The firm can handle any employment questions. They
have the right cross-section of expertise to handle any
matter.”

Notable practitioners
Firm managing partner James Knight is an employ-
ment lawyer who enjoys a stellar reputation and a
strong track record acting before the courts, labour
tribunals and arbitration boards. He is regarded for advising
employers on unionisation and considerable expertise in
Ontario. He is adept at human rights matters, wrongful
dismissals, workplace investigations and unionised
employment advice to both provincial and national
clients, as well as advising on collective bargaining.

Toronto-based Stephen Shawie is a senior labour
and employment lawyer with a formidable reputa-
tion in human resource law. He acts for both public
and private clients on collective agreements, human
rights hearings and labour board proceedings. He
also frequently acts as labour counsel on corporate
transactions. Henry Dinsdale provides accomplished
employment advice to both provincial and national
clients, as well as advising on collective bargaining.

Based in Toronto, he possesses notable experience
in several provinces across Canada alongside his
considerable expertise in Ontario. Craig Rix has a
wide-ranging employment and labour practice with
experience in collective bargaining negotiations and
rights arbitrations. He is also skilled in human
resources law and advising on statutory and regula-
tory matters. Toronto-based John Brooks is well
regarded for advising employers on unionisation and
collective bargaining. He is also respected for his
strengths in terminations, harassment and discrimi-
nation cases. “John is an excellent labour and employ-
ment counsel.” Donna D’Andrea is well regarded for
her work in the hospitality sector. Based in Toronto,
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault is a respected law firm noted for its employment practice in Toronto and nationally. The firm wins recognition for its strength in employment and labour issues relating to transactional work, as well as advising on a range of other matters including employment and labour disputes, collective agreement negotiations and compliance issues. It is particularly notable for its work in the transportation and education sectors. The group advises a variety of public sector clients, including provincial authorities, institutions and Crown corporations, and is highly reputed for its representation of the government of Ontario in major union negotiations.

Strengths “McCarthy’s team is experienced, strategic and responsive. They are always willing to jump into an issue and have the ability to push to a resolution.”
“Tim is fantastic. He comes up with practical and helpful solutions. We really like working with him and always highly recommend his services.”

Notable practitioners
Sunil Kapur (see p.149) regularly represents government entities in high-profile collective bargaining matters. He is also skilled in advising clients in the education and finance sectors on arbitrations concerning wages and benefits. “Sunil is an excellent lawyer.”
“Sunil Kapur is an outstanding lawyer. Sunil is highly regarded in arbitration, and collective bargaining. He is always focused on making the deal work and has the support team to ensure a successful outcome.”

Norton Rose Fullbright

What the team is known for
Norton Rose Fullbright is a robust law firm recognised for its strong national footprint in employment. Its Ontario team based in Toronto and Ottawa advises on a range of employment and labour mandates, including employment and labour issues arising from major M&A transactions. The team is involved in a substantial volume of alternative dispute resolution proceedings including arbitration, and possesses notable experience representing employers in the healthcare, education, retail and construction sectors. From collective bargaining to mental health, the team has experts across many areas. It is particularly experienced in representing clients before the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario.

Strengths “The lawyers at BLG provide excellent advice and keep us updated on new legislation.”
“The team is very knowledgeable, takes the time to understand our business and tailors advice to our needs.”

Notable practitioners
Matthew Certosino (see p.147) excels in representing employers across both the public and private sectors. Based in Toronto, he continues to represent major national clients in the full gamut of labour and employment matters. He is also adept at grievance arbitrations and collective bargaining. Clifford Hart (see p.149) is a Toronto-based lawyer who is widely respected for representing both provincial and national clients in labour and collective agreement arbitrations, with further skills in human rights issues. He also excels in providing strategic advice on wrongful dismissals and employment-related class actions. “Cliff can break down complex issues. He is very experienced and is able to apply that experience. He always drives his advice with a practical view of the country. He maintains a strong focus on the private sector, typically representing manufacturing, retail and construction clients, as well as advising government-owned companies. The team’s experience includes an array of employment and labour matters, from workplace investigation incidents to wrongful dismissals and collective bargaining negotiations. It also has expertise in occupational health and safety and compensation issues. The firm has offices in Toronto, Sarnia and Sault Ste. Marie.”

Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark LLP

What the team is known for
Mathews, Dinsdale & Clark is a management-side workplace law firm with a strong presence in Ontario and throughout the country. It maintains a strong focus on the private sector, typically representing manufacturing, retail and construction clients, as well as advising government-owned companies. The team’s experience includes an array of employment and labour matters, from workplace investigation incidents to wrongful dismissals and collective bargaining negotiations. It also has expertise in occupational health and safety and compensation issues. The firm has offices in Toronto, Sarnia and Sault Ste. Marie.

Notable practitioners
Mark Contini regularly advises employers on both union and non-union issues before appellate courts and human rights tribunals. He possesses further strengths in collective bargaining and grievance arbitrations. Toronto-based John Craig is a prominent labour lawyer who acts for both federal and provincial clients. Alongside his strengths in bargaining and collective agreements, he also acts on tribunals, arbitrations and appeals arising from employee complaints. Senior partner Cheryl Edwards is especially skilled in occupational health and safety, in which she has represented major employers in trials and appeals. She is also experienced in workers’ compensation matters, with further expertise in employment litigation. Based in Toronto, she is also a former OHS prosecutor.

Employment & Labour

Ontario

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

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McCarthy Tétrault is a respected law firm noted for its employment practice in Toronto and nationally. The firm wins recognition for its strength in employment and labour issues relating to transactional work, as well as advising on a range of other matters including employment and labour disputes, collective agreement negotiations and compliance issues. It is particularly notable for its work in the transportation and education sectors. The group advises a variety of public sector clients, including provincial authorities, institutions and Crown corporations, and is highly reputed for its representation of the government of Ontario in major union negotiations.

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Notable practitioners
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Employment & Labour

Ontario
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
What the team is known for
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt’s employment department advises a range of regional, national and international clients from various sectors, including software, manufacturing, retail and food and drink. Lawyers from its Toronto and Ottawa offices regularly assist employers with workplace investigations, severance and compensation arrangements and employment-related litigation. The team is noted for its experience advising on employment and labour issues stemming from corporate transactions and internal restructurings, including workforce reductions.
Strengths “The team always provides great support and direction.”
“Osler provide practical advice and are helpful on sophisticated matters.”
Work highlights
An Osler team led by Sven Poya and Allan Wells continued to act for Toronto East Health Network on a number of matters, including grievance arbitrations and workplace investigations.
Notable practitioners
Allan Wells (see p.155) often acts for clients on the employment aspects of corporate restructurings, and also regularly represents employers before the Ontario Labour Relations Board. His experience also includes advising on wrongful dismissal claims and executive terminations. “He is fantastic. He has exceptional technical skills that bring value, but is also extremely commercial and able to provide tailored advice.” “Allan is very knowledgeable in every facet of employment law.” Sven Poya (see p.153) is recognised for his work on the labour and employment aspects of company restructurings, having advised on several high-profile insolvency matters in Ontario. He has further capabilities in grievance arbitrations and executive terminations and also demonstrates strength in health and safety and employee benefit disputes.

Band 3 Employment & Labour
Ontario
Miller Thomson LLP
What the team is known for
Miller Thomson provides a full-service employment law offering, acting for both provincial and national employers from industries such as healthcare, food and beverages, retail and finance. Its expertise spans labour relations, occupational health and safety, collective agreements, grievances, workplace safety and pay equity, among other matters. Additionally, the team offers expertise in restructuring, insolvency and alternative dispute resolution, representing clients in a variety of contentious employment matters, and is equipped to advise clients on the employment aspects of M&A. The firm has a suite of offices across Ontario, in Toronto, London, Kitchener-Waterloo, Guelph, Vaughan and Markham.
Strengths “I have always been impressed with their ability to address our needs and be flexible with their time.”
“They are continually on top of the latest case law. They are very flexible and respond in a timely manner.”
Work highlights
A Miller Thomson team advised Dare Foods regarding the decertification of a union and the certification of another in its place.
Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Hugh Dyer is best known for advising clients in the healthcare industry on union grievance arbitrations. He also excels in collective agreements and acting before the Ontario Labour Relations Board. “Hugh has worked with us on some very complex matters, and we appreciate his advice and ability to understand our environment.” Lisa Goodfellow is an accomplished labour and employment lawyer who acts on both provincial and national matters from Toronto. She frequently advises on the employment and labour aspects of corporate transactions and is also capable of acting on grievance arbitrations and human rights complaints. “We have a strong, trusting relationship with Lisa; she is very responsive and accessible.”

Rae Christen Jeffries LLP
What the team is known for
Rae Christen Jeffries is an increasingly prominent employment and labour boutique based in Toronto. It represents major provincial and national employers in collective agreement negotiations, and is also well placed to advise on grievance arbitrations, most significantly concerning labour relations in the construction industry. The firm’s employment practice covers severance negotiations and employee benefits.
Strengths “The firm has been exceptional in its service levels and giving us timely responses whenever we require. I appreciate their results and willingness to go the extra mile to meet our business requirements.”
“The team is very sophisticated and capable. There is always strong counsel available with broad expertise.”
Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Angela Rae possesses considerable strength in the field of collective bargaining. She is also highly experienced in grievance arbitrations and labour board proceedings, with particular skills in wrongful dismissal and human rights issues. “Angela is at the top of her field in terms of experience, expertise and street savvy when resolving complex matters.” “Angela is an experienced adviser who we love working with.” Toronto-based Brett Christen is a widely respected labour lawyer who acts for major national clients in relation to collective bargaining and mass lay-offs. He is also seasoned in defending employers against union grievances. “I have complete trust in Brett’s ability to handle matters with a high degree of expertise.” Daryn Jeffries is an increasingly prominent lawyer based in Toronto who offers clients extensive support on grievance arbitrations and collective bargaining. He is experienced in representing a variety of public and private entities. “Daryn is a very experienced, knowledgeable and well-rounded lawyer. He is very thoughtful and fact-based in his approach.”
Nancy Ramalho is well respected for advising clients on the employment aspects of corporate transactions. She also excels in employment matters ranging from terminations to human rights cases. “Nancy is an exceptional resource to our company. She is responsive, reliable and presents her expert recommendations in a way that resonates.” “Nancy is a trusted adviser to handle very complex matters.”

Sherrard Kuzz LLP
What the team is known for
Sherrard Kuzz is a Toronto-based employment and labour law boutique often chosen by commercial and municipal clients for advice on a wide range of issues affecting their Ontario operations. It offers expertise in a wide range of issues including workplace investigations, labour relations, employment litigation, occupational health and safety and human resources law. The firm is recognised for its strength in the specialist area of construction labour law. It also services clients from the manufacturing, transportation, retail and defence sectors.
Notable practitioners
Michael Sherrard (see p.154) is equally capable of acting for employers in both the public and private sectors in Toronto and across Canada. His broad ranging practice incorporates collective bargaining, employment standards and grievance arbitrations.

Erin Kuzz (see p.150) is an accomplished employment and labour lawyer based in Toronto who is well versed in grievance arbitrations and workplace investigations. She also excels in labour relations and collective bargaining matters.

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for
Stikeman Elliott is a full-service national firm with a solid bench of employment experts in Toronto who service an impressive list of domestic and multinational clients. The team has worked on significant mandates for well-known employers in the food production, consumer products and e-commerce sectors. It advises on a broad range of employment litigation, including workplace disputes and wrongful termination claims, and also advises on the employment aspects of M&A transactions.
Strengths “I have full confidence in Stikeman to provide a thoughtful and thorough response to any query. The team understands the complexities of our business.”
“The are a trusted adviser to handle very complex matters.”
Work highlights
Stikeman continued to conduct and supervise workplace investigations on behalf of Industrial Alliance Insurance and Financial Services.
Notable practitioners
Lorna Cuthbert (see p.147) is a well-established lawyer based in Toronto who is prominent in advising major national clients on the labour and employment aspects of corporate transactions. She is particularly skilled in advising international companies entering and establishing themselves in Canada. “Lorna is able to problem-solve complex issues with ease. She is excellent.”
Toronto-based Nancy Ramalho (see p.153) is a well respected for advising clients on the employment aspects of corporate transactions. She also excels in employment matters ranging from terminations to human rights cases. “Nancy is an exceptional resource to our company. She is responsive, reliable and presents her expert recommendations in a way that resonates.” “Nancy is a trusted adviser to handle our business and employee matters.”

Band 4 Employment & Labour
Ontario
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a stellar national firm with a compact, highly effective employment team based in Toronto and Ottawa. It provides significant capabilities in both transactional and contentious employment matters for a range of provincial, federal and international clients. It is capable of advising on all employment aspects of M&A, including drafting contracts and handling occupational health and safety mat-
A team led by Waterloo-based Andrea York (see p.155) is head of the firm’s national employment and labour practice and the co-chair of its privacy group. She is well respected for advising on the employment aspects of corporate and M&A transactions, and is equally capable of representing clients in disputes as well as providing strategic employment advice. “Andrea consistently provides very thoughtful employment law advice, all the while considering overall trends and the business environment within Canada.” Andrea is well respected for her expertise assisting clients with harassment and misconduct allegations in the workplace and also excels in advising on the employment aspects of corporate transactions. “Andrea has been an excellent adviser and lawyer for us on several employment matters. She’s an exceptional attorney,” “Holly is extraordinary, she is very strategic and thoughtful in her approach.”

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell is a large Toronto-headquartered firm with a significant employment and labour practice group. The team regularly advises clients from the finance, aviation and food and drink sectors on the employment aspects of corporate transactions. It also handles human resources issues, employee relations, and employment standards compliance, and employment litigation involving wrongful dismissal claims.

Strengths “They are perceived as strong business advisers who understand their clients’ ventures.”

“the team was comprised of experienced members, each with their own areas of expertise who worked extremely well together.”

Work highlights A Cassels team led by Laurie Jessome continued to act for medical technology company Becton Dickinson Canada, most notably on its restructuring and compliance issues related to COVID-19.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based Kristin Taylor (see p.154) is recommended for her skills in both contentious and transactional employment matters. She is especially well versed in employee terminations and harassment cases, and serves as the firm’s managing partner. “Kristin is one of the brightest lawyers that I have worked with. She is smart, knowledgeable, practical and fearless.” “She is a valued and trusted legal adviser. She understands the complexities of our business and provides thoughtful, practical advice.”

Toronto-based Laurie Jessome (see p.149) advises provincial and national clients on issues ranging from human resources to harassment claims and workplace investigations. She regularly advises companies on employment matters stemming from corporate transactions. “Laurie is great to work with and always provides a balanced perspective.” “She has very good knowledge of the law and is pragmatic.”

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for Dentons is a major international firm with notable employment capabilities based in Ontario, with partners in both Toronto and Ottawa. The department provides a broad offering with experience ranging from wrongful dismissal litigation to labour arbitration. Its non-contentious practice includes advising major national clients in the transport and life science sectors on employment matters relating to corporate transactions. The team is also accomplished in health and safety matters.

Strengths “The team is focused on finding a pragmatic and commercial outcome to complex issues while being mindful of constraints.”

“They are extremely knowledgeable and have a wide depth of experience.”

Work highlights A Dentons team led by Andrew Pushalik successfully represented RAIN Carbon in an arbitration hearing related to a series of grievances.

Notable practitioners Toronto lead Andrew Pushalik is an increasingly prominent lawyer in the field of employment law, with particularly notable experience advising clients on compliance and health and safety regulations. He is also well versed in labour arbitrations and wrongful dismissal litigation. “Andrew provides very practical legal advice. He is very knowledgeable and approachable.”

Rubin Thomlinson LLP
What the team is known for Rubin Thomlinson is a Toronto-based boutique employment practice particularly renowned for its advice in the area of workplace and institutional investigations and assessments. Its expertise in harassment and misconduct includes experience advising on workplace human rights issues and wrongful dismissals cases. The firm acts for a varied client base that includes healthcare providers, public sector entities and private corporations.

Notable practitioners Janice Rubin acts as co-managing partner of Rubin Thomlinson in Toronto and is widely considered to be one of the best-respected workplace investigators in Canada. She is particularly experienced in high-profile workplace harassment cases. Toronto-based Christine Thomlinson is co-managing partner of the firm and demonstrates strong expertise in workplace investigations and assessments. She regularly engages with clients on significant workplace harassment cases.

Band 5 Employment & Labour Ontario

Emond Harnden
What the team is known for Emond Harnden is a well-respected Ottawa-based labour and employment boutique with experience ranging from employment arbitration to wrongful dismissal. It offers particular expertise in collective bargaining negotiations, in which the firm capably provides both strategic advice and contentious mediation, as well as arbitration counsel. The team is highlighted for its work on behalf of public sector clients and demonstrates key strength in the education, aviation and hospitality sectors.

Notable practitioners Jacques Emond is an esteemed senior lawyer based in Ottawa. He is adept at acting for both public and private sector employers before administrative tribunals. He is also experienced in advising on collective agreements and wrongful dismissal disputes.

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for Gowling WLG is an international firm commanding an impressive provincial footprint, with offices in Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton and Waterloo. The team acts as employment counsel to both major provincial and national clients on international corporate transactions. It is equally skilled in employment disputes, most significantly in wrongful dismissal litigation. Its expertise cuts across industry sectors including healthcare, insurance and food and beverages.

Strengths “They have a very strong and deep team and were very responsive in time-sensitive situations.”

“They are excellent counsellors and advisers as well as litigators.”

Work highlights A team led by Waterloo-based Christopher Andree provided advice to Thales Canada on a variety of matters, including pre-termination strategy, human rights matters and workplace investigations.

Notable practitioners Andrew Chatt enjoys an increasingly notable reputation for his experience providing employment advice on high-profile corporate transactions. He is also highly skilled in advising on employment litigation covering wrongful dismissal, workers’ compensation and human rights. Based in Toronto, he leads the firm’s national employment, labour and equality practice. “Andrew is an exceptional counsellor and adviser. “He gets involved in the business, understands what we do and provides us with clear advice.”

Torys LLP
What the team is known for Torys fields a well-regarded group from its Toronto office that provides coverage on the full range of employment and labour matters. The team regularly advises clients on discrimination and harassment claims as well as collective bargaining agreements. Its lawyers also provide counsel to companies on employment issues relating to acquisitions or sales.

Strengths “Every matter we bring to them is handled well and beyond our expectations.”

“We benefit tremendously from their advice on complex matters.”

Work highlights A Torys team is representing Canada Cartage in a national overtime class action.

Notable practitioners Darryl Hiscocks (see p.149) is an increasingly prominent lawyer based in Toronto who advises clients on a range of employment issues relating to corporate transactions. He is also experienced in acting on wrongful dismissal litigation. “Darryl is excellent to work with. He provides great advice and balances it with being straight to the point.” “He has extensive knowledge of the law.” Lisa Talbot (see p.154) is based in Toronto and is best recognised for her skills in employment litigation, most notably in class actions and wrongful dismissals. As well as appearing before the courts, she regularly advocates for clients in front of human rights tribunals. Her recent work includes advising on allegations of workplace harassment and bullying.
**Band 1 Employment & Labour: Labour for Unions Ontario**

**CaleyWray**
What the team is known for CaleyWray is a respected labour law firm based in Toronto which offers counsel to trade unions on a range of labour-related issues, including certification attempts, grievance arbitrations, collective bargaining and workers' compensation matters. The team provides skilled representation before labour boards, tribunals and courts and is notably active handling human rights claims and workplace health and safety cases. It is active in a variety of key sectors, including construction, transportation and healthcare.

**Notable practitioners**
Douglas Wray is widely considered a market leader in union-side labour law in Toronto. He has represented a number of trade unions in front of several courts, including the Superior Court of Ontario and the Supreme Court of Canada. He offers notable experience of construction labour relations. Michael Church is a deeply respected and highly experienced lawyer who has represented unions in a variety of matters including drug and alcohol testing, judicial reviews and benefit plans. He is equally adept at acting in front of courts, labour boards and tribunals. He is based in Toronto. Toronto-based Denis Elickson is the managing partner of CaleyWray and excels in a wide range of issues concerning labour relations. He is well known for his work on grievance arbitrations, human rights and wrongful dismissals. Melissa Kronick is renowned for her representation of unions in litigation, including termination and certification applications. She also acts on non-contentious labour matters in both the public and private sectors, most notably in the construction sphere.

**Cavalluzzo LLP**
What the team is known for Cavalluzzo is an acclaimed Toronto-based law firm which is regarded as a leader in union-side representation. The team advises professional associations and non-unionised employees from sectors such as healthcare, construction and education as well as federally regulated industries. Its expertise covers a wide range of labour and employment matters including collective bargaining, wrongful dismissals, class actions, grievances and civil liberties. The firm is recognised for its robust pensions practice and leading expertise in occupational health and safety and workers' compensation issues.

**Notable practitioners**
Paul Cavalluzzo boasts a formidable track record in labour law alongside his strengths in administrative law. He has appeared before the Ontario courts and the Supreme Court of Canada, as well as acting before a series of labour tribunals. Bernie Hanson is best known for his strengths in union-side representation in labour arbitrations in both the public and private sectors. He is especially well versed in the education sector, where his work includes advising teacher federations on collective agreements. David Bloom possesses strong experience representing public sector unions in arbitrations and agreement advice. He is particularly skilled in education law matters. His further areas of expertise include human rights and collective agreement rights.

**Goldblatt Partners LLP**
What the team is known for Goldblatt Partners is an eminent union-side law firm with offices in Toronto and Ottawa. Advising clients on both provincial and federal matters, it is often cited as a leading practice and is noted for its vast capacities across a range of contentious and non-contentious employment and labour matters, such as grievances, class actions and human rights law. The firm is notably active in construction labour relations, and is also well respected in the pensions and benefits space. Its clients include numerous trade unions, labour federations and employee associations. The team is additionally well versed in administrative and constitutional law as well as in appellate and judicial review matters.

**Notable practitioners**
Howard Goldblatt is a widely respected senior labour and employment lawyer who possesses a strong track record in grievance arbitrations. He also acts for trade unions on matters before labour relations boards, ranging from unfair labour practices to illegal strikes. Steven Barrett is the managing partner of Goldblatt Partners. He excels in representing various trade unions in collective bargaining, grievance arbitrations and labour relations board applications; his experience also includes representing non-unionised employees in class actions.

**Koskie Minsky LLP**
What the team is known for Koskie Minsky operates a top-tier employment practice which services unions, employees and professional groups. The team represents both public and private sector clients in sectors such as retail, entertainment and education in grievance and interest arbitrations, class actions and civil litigation. It is particularly renowned for its expertise in construction labour relations and highly rated for its handling of labour board proceedings and internal union disputes. Clients further benefit from the firm’s stellar pensions and benefits practice. Based in Toronto, the firm benefits from its affiliation with Koskie Glavin Gordon in Vancouver, which provides representation for unions in British Columbia.

**Notable practitioners**
Alan Minsky KC is a highly experienced Toronto-based lawyer who continues to act on construction labour relations. He has regularly appeared before courts and employment tribunals on behalf of both public and private sector trade unions. Craig Flood is well versed in representing both employees and trade unions across a range of labour law matters, including bargaining rights, disciplinary issues, unfair practice and health and safety. He is based in Toronto and is experienced in appearing before a number of tribunals, including the Ontario Labour Relations Board and the Canada Labour Relations Board. Ernie Schirru is an increasingly prominent lawyer in labour relations with a notable track record representing trade unions from both the public and private sectors. Based in Toronto, he also excels in matters concerning human rights, collective agreements and grievance arbitrations. Nancy Shapiro is an accomplished lawyer in the field of non-unionised employment law. She is based at Koskie Minsky in Toronto and has represented employees in a range of disputes from human rights matters to discipline and termination issues. She is highly experienced in employment litigation, most notably in wrongful dismissals, discrimination and breaches of contract.

**Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP**
What the team is known for Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein is an outstanding Toronto litigation boutique recognised for its first-rate employment and labour practice. The team services trade unions, employers and employees in a variety of sectors including law enforcement, education, energy and construction. It offers sought-after guidance on a range of issues, including termination disputes, labour arbitrations, collective bargaining and pension law. The firm is noted for its advice on human rights issues and on the labour and employment aspects of insolvencies. It further boasts a robust civil litigation practice and has notable experience handling class action cases. Its lawyers are experienced in appearing before all levels of the court, labour and human rights tribunals and disputes boards.

**Notable practitioners**
Chris Paliare (see p.152) is an experienced Toronto-based lawyer who represents both unions and non-unionised employees in contentious employment matters. Sources appreciate that his strengths in labour law are enhanced by his prolific practice in administrative law and civil litigation. Ian Roland (see p.153) is well versed in labour law, especially regarding contentious matters. He is an experienced litigator and is also recognised by peers in Toronto for his capabilities in public and administrative law. Donald Eady (see p.148) represents trade unions in labour relations matters, with particular strength in union disputes, grievance arbitrations and workers’ compensation matters. On these issues he frequently appears before both trial and appellate courts as well as administrative tribunals.

**Band 2 Employment & Labour: Labour for Unions Ontario**

**Dewart Gleason LLP**
What the team is known for Dewart Gleason is a prominent union-side law firm based in Toronto that represents clients across collective bargaining matters and litigious issues. Its experience includes acting before arbitrators, labour relations boards and courts including the Supreme Court of Canada. The team’s areas of expertise range from regulatory matters to workers’ compensation and health and safety, as well as representing individual employees in dismissal cases.

**Notable practitioners**
Ligation lawyer Timothy Gleason enjoys an excellent reputation for both labour litigation and collective bargaining for unions. Having appeared before the Supreme Court, he is also skilled in administrative and civil proceedings. Megan Reid is an increasingly prominent union-side labour lawyer who has considerable experience in collective bargaining for trade unions and labour relations boards. She also advises on employee benefits and representation rights, and previously served as counsel for the Air Canada component of CUPE.

**Urself Phillips Fellows Hopkinson LLP**
What the team is known for Urself Phillips Fellows Hopkinson is a respected employment and labour boutique law firm, specialising in the representation of trade unions, professional bodies and individual employees. Its experience
covers a broad range of mandates, from health and safety to employment benefits issues, to disciplinary proceedings and dismissal disputes. The lawyers also possess extensive knowledge and expertise in the area of business human rights. The firm has particular strength advising educational institutions and the institutional sector, and on issues within the police force.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Susan Ursel is widely considered to be a leader in the field of human rights. With experience representing trade unions across both the public and private sectors, she has acted on arbitrations, judicial reviews and labour board issues. She is particularly proficient in representing unions in the education sector. Ian Fellows is a prominent figure in union-side labour relations who frequently acts on labour board hearings and arbitrations. He is also highly capable in labour injunctions and judicial reviews. Josh Phillips is the managing partner of Ursel Phillips Fellows Hopkinson and is well regarded for his strengths in labour and appellate law, having appeared before administrative tribunals and courts including the Supreme Court of Canada. He is particularly active in the education and policing sectors and is also skilled in human rights issues such as workplace drug and alcohol testing.

Wright Henry LLP

What the team is known for

Wright Henry is a prominent Toronto-based firm that fields market-leading practitioners with considerable experience acting for unions on collective bargaining and grievance arbitrations. Furthermore, it possesses significant capabilities representing individual employees and senior executives. Its lawyers are accomplished in employment litigation, most notably concerning pension and benefit plans.

Notable practitioners

Michael Wright founded Wright Henry in 2019, having previously practised with another prominent union-side law firm in Toronto. He is acclaimed for representing unions in collective agreement negotiations and arbitrations, and is noted by commentators for his recent appearances before the Supreme Court. Firm co-founding partner Tracey Henry is well versed in representing unions in grievance arbitrations before labour relations boards and administrative tribunals. Based in Toronto, she also regularly acts on collective agreement negotiations and human rights matters.

Band I Employment & Labour:
Non-Unionised Employees

Ontario

Whitten & Lublin PC Employment Lawyers

What the team is known for

Whitten & Lublin is an acclaimed boutique in Toronto that specialises in acting for employees as plaintiffs in a range of employment matters. The firm’s lawyers notably excel in litigation that involves wrongful and constructive dismissals as well as human rights cases. It also excels in negotiating in employment contracts and termination packages.

Notable practitioners

Daniel Lublin is a co-founder of Toronto-based employment law firm Whitten & Lublin. He is an adept litigator with significant experience representing both employers and employees. Demonstrating particular skills in human rights matters such as discrimination litigation, he is also well equipped to advise in relation to employment agreements, wrongful dismissals and severance.

David Whitten is a co-founder of Whitten & Lublin in Toronto. He operates a robust employment practice and has experience representing both employers and employees. On the employee side, he has acted on matters ranging from compensation agreements and severance packages to constructive dismissals.

Other Ranked Lawyers

George Avraam is based at Baker McKenzie in Toronto and is distinguished for his representation of provincial and national clients in employment litigation. He regularly appears before provincial and appellate courts and is also experienced in arbitration. “George is simply outstanding. He’s a highly talented, intelligent and exemplary lawyer.” “He’s calm in a crisis, thoughtful in his advice and measured in his actions.”

Lisa Cabel (see p.147) is a seasoned lawyer who leads KPMG’s labour and employment practice in Toronto. She regularly advises clients on drafting workplace policy and is particularly well regarded for her experience in negotiating collective bargaining agreements. “She was very responsive and knowledgeable. She guided us through difficult negotiations with ease and class.” “Her expertise and rapport is exemplary and a testament to her commitment to excellence.”

Hugh Christie is a longstanding employment lawyer based at Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart in Toronto. He is acclaimed for representing employers both in the public and private sectors. He is particularly strong in drafting agreements, terminations, disciplinary matters and post-employment obligations.

James Heeney is a founding partner at Heeney Vokey in Toronto who is widely recognised by the market for his representation of plaintiff employees in litigation. His expertise covers employment agreements, human rights matters and workplace investigations. He is also notably experienced in representing employers. “He is exceptional in representing employees in litigation and also conducts thorough and thoughtful workplace investigations.”

Nini Jones is a well-versed union-side labour lawyer who is especially praised for her skills in human rights issues. Sources commend her for her representation of police associations in labour relations and collective bargaining. She is also strong in employment standards and health and safety matters.

Lorenzo Lisi is a Toronto-based employment lawyer based at Aird & Berlis. He is accomplished in representing clients against unionised and non-unionised employee claims. He is also highly capable in collective bargaining and grievance arbitrations. “Lorenzo has a thorough understanding of labour and employment law as well as our business. He consistently provides timely and practical advice.”

Richard Nixon is based in Toronto from where he co-chairs DLA Piper’s employment and labour group in Canada. He is experienced in acting for both provincial and national clients on contentious employment matters before courts, human rights tribunals and labour relations boards.

Matthew Sammon (see p.204) is an acclaimed litigator at Lenczner Slaght in Toronto who is especially well regarded for his strength as counsel to both employers and plaintiffs in employment disputes. With particular skill in representing executives, his experience encompasses wrongful dismissal claims and breaches of contract. “Matthew is highly effective and capable.” “He is one of the best litigators I have come across.”

Andrew Shaw is an increasingly recognised employment lawyer based at Baker McKenzie in Toronto. He regularly counsels employers on wrongful dismissals, workplace investigations and collective bargaining matters. “Andrew is responsive and practical. He has a wealth of experience and is a trusted adviser.” “Andrew is a pleasure to work with. He is extremely knowledgeable and provides excellent advice.”

George Vassos is based at Littler Mendelson in Toronto. He is highly regarded for representing clients in contentious employment matters before trial and appellate courts and labour relations boards. He also frequently defends employers against human rights claims.

Toronto-based David Wright is a founding partner of Ryder Wright Blair & Holmes. He is best known for his strengths in human rights cases, union certification and unfair labour practice complaints. He has an esteemed track record in representing unions before arbitral courts and labour relations boards.
**Employment & Labour: Québec**

**Leading Firms**

- **Band 1**: Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- **Band 2**: Fasken
- **Band 3**: McCarthy Tétrault LLP

**Leading Individuals**

- **Band 1**: Marie-Hélène Beaudry (Fasken), Patrick Counoyer (McCarthy Tétrault LLP), Stéphane Fillion (Fasken)
- **Band 2**: Lionel Biron (Fasken), Guy Lamoureux (Melançon Marceau Grenier et Sciortino), Michel Massé (Melançon Marceau Grenier et Sciortino)

**Up-and-coming individuals**

- Lionel Biron (Fasken), Joseph Cournoyer (McCarthy Tétrault LLP), Frédéric Massé (Melançon Marceau Grenier et Sciortino)

**Notable practitioners**

- Stéphane Fillion (Fasken), Patrick Counoyer (McCarthy Tétrault LLP), Michel Massé (Melançon Marceau Grenier et Sciortino)

**Senior Statespeople**

- Band 1: Michel Massé (Melançon Marceau Grenier et Sciortino)
- Band 2: Lionel Biron (Fasken)

**What the team is known for**

- The team advises on employment arbitrations and negotiations and is considered to be a market leader in the field of collective bargaining agreements. They offer depth and breadth of expertise in a broad array of labour matters.

**Notable wins**

- Borden Ladner Gervais represented a range of national and international companies in dispute cases involving a range of issues, including collective bargaining, union grievances, termination disputes, and labour standards issues.

**Strengths**

- “They are highly qualified, and I am always impressed by their knowledge of the law and the business world. They are always taking our needs and our reality as a business into consideration.”

- “The number of collective agreements they negotiate yearly makes them very aware of the current market situation. They can therefore make recommendations and comparisons when guiding us.”

**Fasken**

What the team is known for

- Fasken is a distinguished national law firm with a significant profile for employment and labour law in Québec. The team offers depth and breadth of expertise in a broad array of labour matters, including collective bargaining, union grievances, termination disputes, and labour standards issues.

**Lead partner**

- Kit So (see p.148) is a skilled lawyer with extensive experience in employment law. He is considered to be a market leader in the field of collective bargaining agreements and is a prominent employment lawyer based in Montréal who is especially skilled in disputes involving collective bargaining agreements.

**Notable practitioners**

- Danny Kaurer (see p.148) is based in Montréal and is considered to be a market leader in the field of collective bargaining agreements. He advises on employment arbitrations and negotiations and is regarded as a mentor in the wider field.

- “He is a rainmaker,” Maryse Tremblay (see p.154) is a Montréal-based lawyer who is well versed in workers’ compensation issues as well as advising on collective bargaining agreements.

- “She is very strong on the business side, she understands what we are trying to achieve, and provides the best business and legal advice.” Régis Perreault (see p.152) is a skilled lawyer with extensive experience in employment law.

**Strengths**

- “He is a market leader in the field of collective bargaining agreements. He advises on employment arbitrations and negotiations and is regarded as a mentor in the wider field.”

- “She is very smart, efficient and a pleasure to work with.”

- “His work is impeccable.”

**Québec Government**

- The lawyers act for a range of national and international companies operating in both provincially and federally regulated settings, as well as advising on international labour law. The team represents significant Québec-based employers, including the provincial government, and offers notable expertise in construction labour relations. The law firm offers services out of both Montréal and Québec City.

**Strengths**

- “They are highly qualified, and I am always impressed by their knowledge of the law and the business world. They are always taking our needs and our reality as a business into consideration.”

- “The number of collective agreements they negotiate yearly makes them very aware of the current market situation. They can therefore make recommendations and comparisons when guiding us.”

- “We were working on tight deadlines and often had to get responses quickly and the team was always available.”

**Work highlights**

- Fasken acted for Ivanhoo Cambridge in the employment aspects of the divestment of management of several shopping centres across Canada.

- “Stéphane Fillion is a very efficient and cost-oriented negotiator. He takes time to understand the client’s operational realities, which makes all the difference when negotiating collective agreements.” Magali Cournoyer-Proulx (see p.147) is a prominent employment lawyer based in Montréal who is especially skilled in disputes involving collective bargaining agreements.

**Notable practitioners**

- Stéphane Fillion (see p.148) is based in Montréal from where he co-chairs Fasken’s Québec labour, employment, and human rights group. He is esteemed for acting on high-profile collective bargaining agreements and also regularly represents federal clients in disputes involving a range of issues from health and safety matters to pensions and benefits.

- “Stéphane Fillion is a very efficient and cost-oriented negotiator. He takes time to understand the client’s operational realities, which makes all the difference when negotiating collective agreements.”

- “He is a rainmaker.” Maryse Tremblay (see p.154) is a Montréal-based lawyer who is well versed in workers’ compensation issues as well as advising on collective bargaining agreements.

**Québec Government**

- The lawyers handle collective agreement negotiations, with further expertise in collective bargaining matters as well as advising clients on the labour and employment aspects of corporate restructurings. He is based in Montréal and is well-versed in labour arbitrations and certifications.

- “I am always very impressed with his knowledge.” Frédéric Massé (see p.153) excels in collective labour matters, with a particular interest in the entertainment sectors. He regularly represents Montréal-based clients in contentious labour relation disputes.

- “Frédéric Massé is very knowledgeable and a strong communicator.”

- “His work is impeccable.”

**Québec**

- The lawyers act for a range of national and international companies operating in both provincially and federally regulated settings, as well as advising on international labour law. The team represents significant Québec-based employers, including the provincial government, and offers notable expertise in construction labour relations. The law firm offers services out of both Montréal and Québec City.

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- “He is a rainmaker.” Maryse Tremblay (see p.154) is a Montréal-based lawyer who is well versed in workers’ compensation issues as well as advising on collective bargaining agreements.

**Québec Government**

- The team assists clients with the full suite of employment and labour issues, with noted capabilities in workplace human rights claims, wrongful dismissal disputes, collective bar-
Langlois Lawyers, LLP

What the team is known for Langlois Lawyers is a respected law firm with a well-established employment and labour practice across Montréal and Québec City. The practice is experienced working on a range of both contentious and non-contentious matters such as collective agreement negotiations, dismissals, harassment and discrimination claims as well as labour disputes. The team is further equipped to advise on pensions and benefits, and has an especially notable presence in the education sector where it capably advises on strikes and individual dismissals.

Clients include high-profile corporations, individual executives, municipalities and professional associations.

Strengths “The lawyers are extremely quick to respond to all questions we have and provide suggestions or strategies on how to move forward.”

“It is a solid team, efficient and strategic in its approach. The lawyers manage to create a solid relationship of trust with the client and offer quick and efficient responses.”

Work highlights Langlois Lawyers represented Costco before the Québec Court of Appeal in a case of alleged constructive dismissal.

Notable practitioners

André Sasseville is based in Montréal and is reputed for his capabilities in litigious employment and labour matters. He is particularly esteemed for representing employers in the education and industrial spheres in disputes with unions. On these issues he has appeared before both the appellate courts and the Superior Court of Québec. “He is always calm, courteous in all circumstances and in control.” Marie-Hélène Jetté is highly experienced in advising both provincial and national clients on collective bargaining agreements and executive terminations. Based in Montréal, she also excels in labour arbitrations and cases relating to harassment. “We had an excellent collaboration with Marie-Hélène Jetté, she brings unparalleled availability and very high-level expertise.” Catherine Biron is a well-established lawyer in the market and is recognised for her strengths in workplace harassment investigations and wrongful dismissal litigation. She is based in Montréal and is also adept in union certifications. “Catherine Biron is my go-to employment lawyer for anything in Québec. She provides excellent, thorough, helpful advice in a very timely way. I would be lost without her.” Marianne Flamondon is a Montréal-based lawyer who possesses an increasingly strong reputation in litigation and conciliation matters relating to labour standards. Her other areas of expertise include collective agreements, harassment claims and occupational health and safety. “Marianne Flamondon is always quick to respond to our queries, concerns and issues. She is well prepared and renders sound advice.”

Lavery, de Billy

What the team is known for Lavery, de Billy operates a strong-litigation-oriented employment and labour practice with a strong regional footprint, comprising team members based in Montréal, Québec City, Sherbrooke and Trois-Rivières. The firm offers advice on a range of matters, such as union certification, collective bargaining and employment litigation as well as providing guidance on workplace human rights and health and safety matters. Its client roster features public bodies as well as local, national and international companies operating across various sectors, including healthcare, infrastructure, entertainment and transport. The team is a popular choice for referral work and has the capacity to represent both provincially and federally regulated employers. Its lawyers frequently act on constitutional issues, most significantly relating to federal versus provincial employment regulation.

Strengths “We always get an extremely quick response. We never stress, there is always support and advice available to meet our various deadlines.”

“The firm anticipated our needs, looked at all the outcomes and was able to give us the best strategy for the problems we had.”

Work highlights Lavery, de Billy assisted Google with the employment issues related to the closure of its Stadia division in Montréal.

Notable practitioners

Guy Lavoie (see p.150) is a seasoned lawyer advising on wrongful dismissals as well as providing strategic employment advice relating to corporate transactions and business restructurings. He is based in Montréal from where he also handles harassment investigations. “Guy Lavoie is extremely responsive, smart, and has incredible experience. He is able to make complicated labour matter much easier to understand and digest.” “Guy Lavoie provides excellent, commercially appropriate advice which he delivers on time.” Marie-Hélène Jolicoeur (see p.149) is gaining strong recognition in the field of labour and employment and is particularly reputed for her expertise in occupational health and safety law. “She is an excellent lawyer with good legal knowledge as well as a good command of the issues and objectives sought.” “Marie-Hélène Jolicoeur is a very attentive, reliable and proactive lawyer. She responds very quickly to all legal questions and negotiates expertly. I feel totally confident with her as a lawyer.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault operates an esteemed labour and employment practice that leverages its significant national network to assist with a diverse array of matters in Québec, such as collective agreements, dismissals and grievance cases. The team also advises on occupational health and safety and on employment issues arising from reorganisations, acquisitions and outsourcing transactions. It often represents federal clients in provincially-regulated matters, most significantly in high-profile collective bargaining negotiations. The firm is noted for its expertise in employment arbitration and its stalwart litigation practice. It offers services out of Montréal and Québec City.

Strengths “McCarthy provides impeccable service. The lawyers ensure excellent follow-up of cases, and can achieve an impressive mastery of the field and the industry in a short time.” “They are easy to reach. They are also efficient and work quickly.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised Via Rail on a number of grievance arbitrations and judicial reviews.

Notable practitioners

André Baril (see p.146) is based in Montréal and garners a stellar reputation for his expansive practice in collective bargaining negotiations, where he notably acts for national and federally regulated clients. He also has a prolific practice across the employment spectrum, ranging from arbitrations concerning health and safety to union certifications and human rights tribunals. “André Baril is an experienced, efficient, and trustworthy lawyer.” “He is brilliant, I am very pleased with his work. He is a quick and effective counsel.” Alexandre Buswell (see p.147) is a Montréal-based lawyer who is well regarded for representing both provincial and national clients in trade union disputes. He also provides strategic advice on labour relations and regularly acts for clients before civil and appellate courts and labour tribunals. “Alexandre Buswell is a great lawyer who is practical and always provides sound and accurate advice. He is a great sounding board with a very strong business sense.” “Alexandre Buswell is an outstanding partner: available, knowledgeable, pragmatic, and open-minded. He understands our situation.” Myriane Le François (see p.150) is an increasingly prominent lawyer based in Montréal who excels in providing employment advice on major corporate transactions and restructurings. She also regularly assists clients with employment litigation, including unfair dismissals. “Myriane Le François is a reliable and knowledgeable attorney who is extremely trustworthy.”

Norton Rose Fullbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fullbright possesses an excellent labour and employment practice that combines the firm’s strengths in Montréal and Québec City with a robust global offering. It combines broad expertise in both contentious and non-contentious employment and labour law, routinely assisting clients with employment litigation and labour arbitration, as well as collective bargaining, non-unionised mandates and workplace health and safety issues. The team represents provincial, national and international employers in both the public and private sectors in a wide variety of high-profile matters, including advising on the employment and labour law aspects of multi-jurisdictional corporate reorganisations, mergers and acquisitions. It has an especially noteworthy practice in the aviation sector. The department’s broad industry expertise also spans manufacturing, financial services, defence and natural resources.

Strengths “They can handle complex and sensitive matters pragmatically and strategically, going to the heart of the issue and not being afraid to provide their views.” “Members of the team have a strong capacity to suggest innovative solutions. The team is also fully capable of handling complex matters and does so in a very efficient manner.”

Work highlights Norton Rose Fullbright assisted Sappi with the renewal of its collective bargaining agreement at its Matane factory.

Notable practitioners

Luc Beaulieu (see p.146) is widely applauded by sources as a leading practitioner in employment litigation and collective bargaining matters in Montréal. He is especially prolific in the aviation sector where he has acted on a number of grievance arbitrations. "Luc Beaulieu is a strong problem solver and an excellent litigator.” "Luc Beaulieu is an ally in all aspects
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for

The Blakes employment and labour team consistently advises on the employment aspects of M&A transactions. The firm's expertise cuts across sectors, including financial services, retail and real estate.

Strengths “Stikeman Elliott’s ability to handle complex matters is excellent. The lawyers always complete the necessary research and present the jurisprudence clearly and concisely.”

Notable practitioners

Patrick Benaroche (see p.146) is best recognised for advising on human resources, employment agreements and workplace policy issues. Based in Montréal, he also possesses extensive expertise in pensions and benefits. Based in Montréal, Patrick Essiminé (see p.148) regularly advises on collective bargaining negotiations and is especially reputed for appearing before labour tribunals. He also frequently advises on the employment aspects of corporate transactions. “Patrick Essiminé provides excellent client service. He is responsive, knowledgeable, and gives excellent legal advice.”

Band 1 Employment & Labour: Labour for Unions Québec

Mélançon Marceau Grenier et Sciorinto

What the team is known for

Mélançon Marceau Grenier et Sciorinto is a highly regarded team of employment and labour law specialists based in Montréal. Often cited as one of the best union-side law firms in Québec, it operates a wide-ranging practice and offers counsel on matters such as union certification, collective bargaining, grievance arbitration, labour relations and class action lawsuits. Clients include trade unions, and professional and artists’ associations, as well as non-unionised employees from both the public and private sectors.

Its lawyers also provide expert advice on workplace health and safety, pension plans, pay equity issues and duty of fair representation.

Notable practitioners

Claude Melançon boasts a lengthy track record of representing trade unions and employees in both the public and private sectors in collective agreement negotiations and grievance arbitrations. Based in Montréal, he has also recently acted on international labour law and collective agreement matters. Michael Davis is widely esteemed as a market leader in collective negotiations, judicial review and grievance arbitrations. Based in Montréal, he is particularly skilled in acting before industrial labour relations boards and administrative tribunals. Based in Montréal, Pierre Grenier is well respected as a union-side labour litigator. He possesses notable experience acting before both courts and administrative tribunals on grievance arbitrations and judicial review matters. Sibel Ataogul is based in Montréal and has a solid presence across labour law and human rights law. She is well versed in grievance arbitrations, constitutional challenges to regulation and occupational health and safety. She regularly appears before administrative tribunals and civil courts, including the Supreme Court.

Rivest Schmidt

What the team is known for

Rivest Schmidt is a highly regarded union-side law firm widely regarded as a leader in that market. It offers expertise across the full gamut of labour and employment matters, including collective agreement negotiations, labour arbitrations, wrongful dismissals and human rights claims. It serves a variety of clients from both the private and public sectors. Its lawyers offer additional strength in health and safety issues, injunction and judicial review proceedings, and pensions and benefits matters.

Notable practitioners

Jean-François Beaudy is a widely esteemed union-side labour lawyer based in Montréal who regularly acts on employment tribunals. He is also experienced in administrative law. Bernard Philion is a Montréal-based lawyer who is highly accomplished in acting for unions in both the public and private sectors, including on collective agreements and health and safety matters.

Rivest Schmidt

What the team is known for

Rivest Schmidt is a highly regarded union-side law firm widely regarded as a leader in that market. It offers expertise across the full gamut of labour and employment matters, including pensions and benefits, collective bargaining, and occupational health and safety. The team also provides representation in human rights claims and class actions. Clients include trade unions, professional associations and employees from both the public and private sectors.

Notable practitioners

Claude Tardif is an esteemed union-side labour litigator based in Montréal. He advises on pension plans, administrative law and collective agreement renewals. Michel Davis is a Montréal-based lawyer who is well respected for his capabilities in labour and administrative law. He is experienced in grievance arbitrations and occupational health and safety matters. Nicolas Houle-Gingras is an increasingly

of the labour relations strategy for our organisation. He is a valuable asset.” François Côté (see p.147) is a Montréal-based lawyer who excels in advising on harassment and discrimination matters as well as terminations. “François Côté is a pleasure to work with. He is kind, helpful, supportive and knowledgeable. I am always able to get in touch with him quickly and she is able to answer any questions efficiently.” Catherine Gagné (see p.148) demonstrates extensive experience acting for clients on a range of employment matters, including wrongful dismissal claims and employee transfers. “Catherine Gagné has been an excellent lawyer who has supported us no matter how difficult or unusual the request.”

Loranger Marcoux, avocats

What the team is known for

Loranger Marcoux is a highly regarded employment and labour boutique with a substantial list of management-side clients, including government entities and private corporations. The team regularly acts on high-end mandates, including the drafting of executive agreements and restrictive covenants, as well as workplace health and safety and human rights issues. Based in Montréal, the firm is also noted for its litigation expertise and adept handling of termination disputes, collective bargaining, grievance arbitrations and pay equity issues. Its lawyers additionally field extensive experience handling contentious and non-contentious issues relating to union certifications.

Strengths “The Blakes employment and labour team consistently advises on the employment aspects of M&A transactions. The firm’s expertise cuts across sectors, including financial services, retail and real estate.”

Notable practitioners

Patrick Benaroche (see p.146) is well respected as a union-side labour litigator. He possesses notable experience acting before both courts and administrative tribunals on grievance arbitrations and judicial review matters. Sibel Ataogul is based in Montréal and has a solid presence across labour law and human rights law. She is well versed in grievance arbitrations, constitutional challenges to regulation and occupational health and safety. She regularly appears before administrative tribunals and civil courts, including the Supreme Court.

Philion Leblanc Beaudy Avocats s.a.

What the team is known for

Philion Leblanc Beaudy is a well-respected union-side labour law firm offering services out of Montréal and Québec City. The team provides expert guidance on the full gamut of labour and employment matters, including collective agreement negotiations, labour arbitrations, wrongful dismissals and human rights claims. It serves a variety of clients from both the private and public sectors. Its lawyers offer additional strength in health and safety issues, injunction and judicial review proceedings, and pensions and benefits matters.

Notable practitioners

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prominent union-side lawyer based in Montréal. He represents both unions and individual employees in issues ranging from labour relations to occupational health and safety.

Band 2 Employment & Labour: Labour for Unions Québec

**Lamoureux Morin Avocats**

What the team is known for Lamoureux Morin lawyers is an established union-side law firm based in Longueuil. It offers substantial expertise in labour law and related areas including collective agreement negotiations, health and safety issues and employment injuries. The team serves a variety of clients from the parapublic and municipal sectors as well as from the transportation and communication industries.

**Notable practitioners**

Yves Morin is a founding partner of the firm and is based in Longueuil. He is particularly well regarded for acting for unions in the public sector on grievance arbitrations and matters before the industrial relations board. Jacques Lamoureux is a founding member of the firm and a well-respected union-side labour lawyer based in Longueuil. He is experienced in matters before the labour relations board as well as a variety of grievance arbitrations.

**Poudrier Bradget**

What the team is known for Poudrier Bradget is a well-rounded player in the labour law field, commended for its skilful representation of employees and unions before all levels of court and various administrative tribunals. The firm is regularly mandated to assist with union certification disputes and collective agreement negotiations. It provides further guidance on health and safety, pay equity, labour insurance and pensions. Its lawyers offer services out of both Montréal and Québec City.

**Notable practitioners**

Denis Bradget has an extensive practice in labour and administrative law, with capabilities advising both on individual employee contracts and collective negotiations in the public sector. Based in Montréal, he is also well respected for pay equity and human rights matters. Sophie Cloutier is a prominent union-side labour lawyer based in Montréal. Alongside her track record before the provincial civil court, she has also appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada.

**Roy Bélanger Avocats**

What the team is known for Roy Bélanger Avocats is a well-established union-side law firm based in Montréal fielding an experienced bench of labour lawyers. Particularly renowned for its representation of unionised municipal workers, the team also advises a wide range of private sector clients, including in the automotive, aerospace and food sectors. Its lawyers are well versed in collective bargaining, union grievances and arbitrations. The firm prides notable expertise in administrative and constitutional litigation and wins recognition for its focus on police trade union issues.

**Notable practitioners**

Laurent Roy is an accomplished practitioner based in Montréal. He has represented clients in labour matters before courts at all levels, including the Superior Court and the Supreme Court of Canada.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Hélène Bussières (see p.147) is highly accomplished in wrongful terminations, workplace investigations and employment matters related to corporate restructurings. She is based in Montréal and is also esteemed for her strengths in workers’ compensation and human rights lawsuits. “She is a true expert who also interacts very well and in a sophisticated manner with executives across the country.” “Hélène Bussières is extremely reliable and offers practical solutions to very complex matters.”

Pierre Moreau is a seasoned union-side lawyer based at Robinson Sheppard Shapiro in Montréal. He has amassed a considerable reputation for his work on labor board proceedings, arbitrations and terminations.

**Leaders’ Profiles in Employment & Labour**

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<tr>
<td>McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal</td>
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<td><strong>Practice Areas:</strong> Labour and Employment - partner based in Montréal. Acts for employers in a number of sectors, including manufacturing, transportation, mining, financial institutions, universities and government. His expertise focuses on all aspects of both provincial and federal labour and employment law, including: Collective bargaining and agreement administration, wrongful dismissals, employment agreements, employment standards and policies, workplace harassment and discrimination, labour arbitration and pay equity. Has acted as counsel before the Québec Tribunal administratif du travail, the Canada Industrial Relations Board, boards of arbitration, Human Rights Tribunal, and other boards and tribunals, as well as civil and Federal courts.</td>
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<td><strong>Career:</strong> Quebec Bar, 1991.</td>
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<td><strong>BEAULIEU, R. Luc</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Featured in Employment (Québec)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Practice Areas:</strong> Luc Beaulieu is a member of our employment and labour law group. He practices in employment and labour law, human rights and administrative law (all types of litigation, including judicial review, collective bargaining) as well as executive and management committees. Advising companies on management styles that contribute to reducing or eliminating employees’ interest in unionizing, he has experience in manufacturing, financial institutions, air transport and airports, aeronautics, broadcasting and cable television. He acts as general counsel to the Canada Labour Relations Board in the 1980s. His services are retained by the Québec Business Council as a delegate to the consultative council on labour and manpower, and before parliamentary and government committees. He has acted as amicus curiae by the Department of Justice Canada to defend the respondents’ position regarding the powers of inquiry of the Canada Labour Relations Board before the Supreme Court of Canada in the matter of Canadian Labour Relations Board v Nolais Air International Inc. [1993] 3 R.C.S. 724.</td>
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<td><strong>BENAROCHE, Patrick L</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Featured in Employment (Québec)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Practice Areas:</strong> Patrick L. Benaroch is a senior partner in the Employment &amp; Labour Group of the Montreal office. With a background in organizational psychology, Patrick provides advice to major corporations on all aspects of Canadian employment and labour law, with an emphasis on cross-border issues affecting a mobile workforce. Patrick appears regularly before both civil and administrative tribunals on matters relating to wrongful dismissal, workplace harassment and discrimination, non-competition clauses and data privacy. He is often called upon by employers to advise on executive employment contracts, termination packages, workplace policies, employment standards and all matters arising from employment relationships, including plant closures, corporate restructuring and mass terminations. In addition to dealing with workplace health and safety issues, Patrick is well experienced in the area of management-labour relations, including union certification and decertification proceedings, collective bargaining, grievance arbitration and management of strikes and lockouts. He also conducts workshops designed to facilitate employee-employer relationships in the workplace and assists in the strategic planning of human resources management.</td>
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</table>

**Burkett, Brian W**

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**Featured in Civil Liberties & Human Rights (Nationwide-Canada), Employment (Ontario)**

**Practice Areas:** Brian Burkett has practiced exclusively in the area of management labour relations and employment law since 1978. His law practice on behalf of employers and employer associations has focused on strategic advice, advocacy and good counsel in connection with a wide range of workplace issues at the provincial, federal and increasingly so over the last decade at the international levels. Brian’s law practice includes: strategic labour and employment law advice for clients; strategic input on the development of labour and employment law policy at the provincial, federal and international levels; appearances before grievance arbitration and labour relations boards at the provincial and federal levels; and negotiation of collective agreements on behalf of a variety of employers in the telecommunications, transportation, energy, retail, automobile manufacturing and health care sectors.
BUSSIÈRES, Hélène
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Montréal
hdussieres@dwpv.com
Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: Hélène is a partner in the Employment, Labour and Executive Compensation practice at Davies in Montréal. Her diverse practice includes acting for clients before civil and administrative courts, drafting executive employment agreements and policies, negotiating collective agreements and providing guidance on corporate governance and executive compensation matters. She also advises major corporations on all aspects of Canadian employment and labour law in light of their strategic human resource needs. Hélène also has considerable experience advising on employee-related matters in commercial transactions, such as mergers and acquisitions. She is a lecturer at the École du Barreau du Québec where she teaches labour and employment law and guest lectures for the MBA program at McGill University.

CUTHBERT, Lorna
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
lcuthbert@stikeman.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Lorna Cuthbert is a partner in and former Head of the Toronto Labour and Executive Compensation practice at Stikeman Elliott. In her practice she led the Advancement of Women, Equity & Inclusion Committee and the Employment, Labour and Executive Compensation practice focuses on all matters relating to management of gender, equity, and diversity. Her practice also involves collective bargaining on behalf of national and local clients. For more than 10 years, she has been involved in high profile litigation matters before the Quebec Court of Appeal, the Federal Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. Before joining McCarthy Tétrault, Mr. Buswell was a Practice Group Leader at two (2) other national law firms where he also sat on the National and Regional Management Committees.

CÔTÉ, François
Norton Rose Fullbright, Montréal
+1 514.847.4464
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Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: François Côté practices management-side employment and labour law. In particular, he advises employers on grievance arbitration, labour standards, administrative law, occupational health and safety law, and labour relations in the construction industry. He regularly acts as spokesperson at the negotiation table. Mr. Côté regularly represents employers before the Commission des relations du travail (Quebec’s labour relations board) and grievance arbitrators, as well as in complex financing and prevention matters before the Commission des lésions professionnelles (Quebec employment injury board).

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Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: François Côté practices management-side employment and labour law. In particular, he advises employers on grievance arbitration, labour standards, administrative law, occupational health and safety law, and labour relations in the construction industry. He regularly acts as spokesperson at the negotiation table. Mr. Côté regularly represents employers before the Commission des relations du travail (Quebec’s labour relations board) and grievance arbitrators, as well as in complex financing and prevention matters before the Commission des lésions professionnelles (Quebec employment injury board).

BELAIS, Linda
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Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Employment & Labour Professional Memberships: Member of the American Employment Law Society.
mergers and acquisitions, restructuring, outsourcing and insolvency mandates. Loma is also particularly skilled in advising international companies on employing and extinguishing themselves in Canadian markets. Loma's wide-ranging expertise includes negotiating executive employment agreements and working with employers and their Boards of Directors on complex executive employment matters, consulting agreements, termination arrangements and regularly advises multinational corporations in establishing operations in Canada, including in relation to business reorganization requirements. In addition, she provides advice to clients regarding employment standards compliance, human rights, wrongful dismissal, enforceability of restrictive covenants, and employee privacy. Loma's expertise is recognized by the legal industry's most prominent directories, including Chambers, The Canadian Legal Expert Directory and The Best Lawyers in Canada.

DE STEFANO, Corrado
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP; Montréal
514.954.2535
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Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: Specializes in advising in Labour and Employment Law; Practice includes collective bargaining, first contract arbitration, certification proceedings, unfair labour practice complaints, wrongful dismissal cases and providing strategic practical advice. He has represented employers before provincial authorities and arbitration boards in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick, as well as before the Quebec Superior Court, Quebec Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada.
Career: Civil Law and Common Law Degrees: McGill University, Quebec Bar 1987. Over 20 years experience teaching a labour law course at McGill University’s Desautels Faculty of Management.
Professional Memberships: Member, Barreau du Quebec Member, Canadian Bar Association
EADY, Donald
Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Appeals and Judicial Review Constitutional Litigation; Employment Law; Judicial Inquiries and Inquests; Labour Law; Pension Litigation and Administrative Law
Career: Don Eady is an experienced labour lawyer who has made significant contributions to labour law in Canada. As an employment counselor, he has considerable expertise in collective bargaining, labour board matters, grievance and interest arbitration proceedings and strike-related legal matters. Don has appeared before numerous administrative tribunals and all levels of courts in Ontario, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Don was counsel to the Ontario Public Service Employees Union in the Walkerton Inquiry. As a former Special Assistant to the Ontario Ministry of Labour, Don was involved in the development of important labour legislation.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Association of Labour Lawyers; The Advocates’ Society
ESSIMINY, Patrick
Fasken’s Montreal Office (Montreal (514) 397-3659
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Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: Patrick Essiminy is a partner and Head of the Montréal office’s Employment & Labour Group and a member of the Montréal Office’s Management Committee. Among his clients he is known for his strategic and practical advice, and for a practice style that is both effective and oriented to business priorities. Patrick practices in all areas of employment and labour law for both private and federally regulated companies. More specifically, he represents his clients before the Quebec labour tribunals, particularly before the arbitration tribunal and the Tribunal administratif du travail. He also represents clients in the civil courts, including the Superior Court and the Quebec Court of Appeal, in connection with union disputes, injunctive reliefs, judicial review and any other matter related to employment and labour law. Patrick has considerable experience in workplace health and safety matters, making him an experienced advisor and advocate to employers and employees on all aspects. Patrick advises employers on union certification matters and regularly acts as an employer spokesperson in collective bargaining.
FILLION, Stéphane
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+1 514 397 4309
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Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: Stéphane Fillion is the co-leader of the Labour, Employment & Human Rights group, he is also the Chair of Fasken’s Quebec Labour, Employment and Human Rights Group. He has represented in every area related to labour and employment law, be it collective or individual contracts of employment, human rights, labour standards, occupational health and safety, issues related to the Charter, the Charter of the French Language or other aspects. Stéphane is praised for his expertise and reputation in the area. Stéphane is professional, extremely versed and adapts to situations rapidly, always providing practical advice and strategies to allow clients to achieve their goals and objectives. Clients value his candour, and the respect that he transends to business - not imposing, but rather providing guidance and ensuring his clients best interests at all times. When litigation is required, Stéphane firmly represents his clients before the Quebec Administrative Labour Tribunal, the Human Rights Tribunal of Quebec, the Superior Court, the Court of Appeal and more recently, the Supreme Court of Canada. Stéphane also has extensive experience with issues regarding pension and benefits.
Gagne, Catherine
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+1 514-982-5061
catherine.gagne@blakes.com
Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: Catherine advises employers on various employment issues, including the management of the employment relationship in both non-unionized and unionized contexts; labour standards, employment contracts, human rights, occupational health and safety, human resources policies, and employee benefits management. She represents employers before the various Quebec judicial and administrative bodies, as well as in grievance arbitration proceedings. Catherine is also experienced with pension plan administration complications, which enables her to advise employers and pension committees on various pension issues. In the context of commercial transactions, Catherine provides strategic advice to clients regarding the impact of the proposed transaction on employees and assists clients with the various steps to be taken with regard to the integration of the workforce and the management of changes in working conditions, the drafting of employment representations and warranties and the drafting of employment-related agreements. Throughout her career, Catherine has advised a wide spectrum of clients, from multinationals to small businesses, including employers from the public and para public sector. As a result of this experience, she can tailor her advice to the client’s personality and needs. Catherine is also a member of the Ordre des conseillers en ressources humaines agréés du Québec.
Galizia, Patrick
Norton Rose Fullbright, Québec
Featured in Employment (Québec)
Practice Areas: Patrick Galizia practices employment and labour law. He advises employers on collective and individual labour relations, with particular emphasis on labour standards, individual actions, grievance arbitration, certification, drafting of employment contracts and internal corporate policies, directors’ liability to employees, dismissals, protection of personal information, discrimination and human rights in the workplace, harassment, health & safety and industrial accidents. Mr. Galizia regularly acts on behalf of employers before the Canada Industrial Relations Board, the Tribunal administratif du travail (Quebec Labour Relations Board), grievance arbitrators, the civil courts, the Commission d’accès à l’information (Quebec Access to Information Commission), the Quebec Human Rights Tribunal and the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.
Gallo, Anne
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
+1 416.216.4038
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Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Anne Gallo practices in all areas of employment and labour law, including wrongful dismissal, human rights and disability management. She routinely advises on all aspects of employment policies, ensuring compliance with the various legislative regimes. Ms. Gallo also has significant experience in corporate reorganizations and corporate mergers and acquisitions, where she advises on the labour, employment and employee privacy issues arising from such transactions. Ms. Gallo is a seasoned negotiator and labour and employment executive employment contracts, including executive compensation such as change of control agreements and stock option plans. Ms. Gallo also has extensive experience with privacy legislation as it relates to labour and employment matters.
GILBERT, Douglas
Fasken, Toronto
+1 416 865 4485
douglasgilbert@fasken.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Douglas G. Gilbert’s practice is based on a broad foundation of experience, as well as in grievance arbitration proceedings. Catherine is also experienced with pension plan administration complications, which enables her to advise employers and pension committees on various pension issues. In the context of commercial transactions, Catherine provides strategic advice to clients regarding the impact of the proposed transaction on employees and assists clients with the various steps to be taken with regard to the integration of the workforce and the management of changes in working conditions, the drafting of employment representations and warranties and the drafting of employment-related agreements. Throughout her career, Catherine has advised a wide spectrum of clients, from multinationals to small businesses, including employers from the public and para public sector. As a result of this experience, she can tailor her advice to the client’s personality and needs. Catherine is also a member of the Ordre des conseillers en ressources humaines agréés du Québec.
Gutierrez, Stephanie
Fasken, Vancouver
Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Stephanie Gutierrez has an active labour and human rights law practice in Vancouver. She represents unionized and non-unionized employers in a wide range of matters and disputes. Companies value Stephanie’s practical, client-centric and strategic advice. Stephanie has significant expertise in
labour relations, and regularly acts for employers before the Labour Relations Board, Human Rights Tribunal, and labour arbitrators in wrongful dismissal and collective bargaining. He has experience in interpretation disputes, discipline/termination matters, and issues arising from labour disputes. Stephanie is highly sought after by employers for her expertise on hiring and termination, disciplinary matters, and workplace policies, employment agreements, post-employment competition, and bullying/harassment investigations.

HART, Clifford
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP; Toronto
614.367.6586
chhart@blg.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Clifford provides strategic advice and counsel to a broad range of private and public sector employers on diverse labour relations and employment-law related issues including: collective bargaining; union-organizing campaigns; unfair labour practices; strike and picketing; discipline; discharge; human rights and employment standards. He assists in the development and implementation of human resources policies, practices, and procedures; employment documents, and in a wide variety of industries and contexts. He also acts as counsel to National Hockey League clubs in salary arbitration disputes with their players, and recently represented another major professional sport in an unfair labour practice complaint.


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association; American Bar Association; Law Society of Alberta; Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers; Sports Lawyers Association.

Publications: Frequent speaker and panelist at key legal and business events. Guest lecturer on Sports Law. Author of topical labour, employment and sports law issues.

Personal: Family, food and travel.

HEYWOOD, Gregory
Roper Greystell LLP, Vancouver
604.806.3841
gregheywood@ropergreystell.com
Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Gregory Heywood is a founding partner of Roper Greystell LLP where he provides strategic and practical advice to employers on labour and employment issues in the workplace. He represents management and employees in wrongful dismissal lawsuits, labour arbitrations, labour board hearings, human rights tribunals, wrongful dismissal proceedings.


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association; American Bar Association; Trial Lawyers of BC; The Bar of England; BC Law Society; Alberta Law Society; Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers

HISCOKS, Darryl R
Torys LLP, Toronto +1 416.865.8111 dhiscocks@torys.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: From day-to-day employment matters to critical scenarios. Darryl’s comprehensive employment experience cuts quickly to the heart of a matter and keeps the longer-term business impact for clients in view. Darryl practises in all areas of human resources and labour law, advising clients on the interpretation and application of all labour, employment, human rights, pay equity, privacy, employment standards, workers’ compensation, workplace safety and insurance, and insolvency and insolvency /al safety and health (OHS) legislation in both the private and public sectors. Darryl assists clients with all manner of human resources matters including employee recruiting and hiring, executive compensation, discipline, drug and alcohol issues, individual and mass terminations, discharge, wrongful dismissal, unjust dismissal, dealing with employees (including with respect to employee common law and restrictive covenant obligations), workplace investigations, grievances, arbitrations, human rights applications, unfair labour practice complaints, workers’ compensation, OHS issues, and statutory complaints and applications. He also drafts and revises a wide variety of labour and employment documents, including employment contracts, employment policy and procedures, collective agreements and human rights documents (including discrimination, harassment and accommodation policies). Darryl has extensive experience advising clients in the labour and employment implications of corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, reorganizations, and restructurings. He has worked with clients in a wide variety of industries and contexts, including service, retail, wholesale, pharmaceuticals, medical, technology, publishing, banking, finance, securities, insurance, automotive and others.

HOCROFT, Michael
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver +1 604.631.3366 michael.hocroft@blakes.com
Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Michael advises clients on a wide range of employment and labour matters, including wrongful dismissal, post-employment competition by former employees, labour relations, human rights, employment standards, and occupational health and safety. He assists clients in preparing employment policies and writing employment contracts. Michael assists clients on commercial litigation matters and has appeared before highest courts in British Columbia, as well as the Labour Relations Board, the Human Rights Tribunal and the Employment Standards Tribunal.

Professional Memberships: Michael is a member of the British Columbia Employment Law, Labour and Human Rights Subsections (CBA) and the B.C. Human Resources Management Association.

ISHERVORD, Herb
Norton Rose Fullbright, Vancouver 604 6414848 herbisherwood@nortonrosefulbright.com
Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Herb Isherwood is a partner in our employment and labour team. He has over 30 years of experience assisting public and private sector employers. Also has extensive expertise in employment issues. Mr. Isherwood maintains a busy practice advising employers on disability and absenteeism, termination and wrongful dismissal, union organizing, labour relations, and collective bargaining. He has also advised on executive compensation, short and long-term incentive plans and employment agreements. Clients rely on Mr. Isherwood to deliver practical and effective solutions. He is a trusted advisor to many employers in the public and private sectors in all major areas of the BC economy. Mr. Isherwood served as managing partner of Bull Houser (a predecessor firm of Norton Rose Fullbright) from 2007 to 2011 and on its management committee for several years prior to 2007.

JESSOME, Laurie
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto 416 642 7474 ljessome@cassels.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Provides advice to, and advocates on behalf of, employers on all aspects of the employment relationship, including drafting employment agreements, drafting and enforcing restrictive covenants, discipline and dismissal issues, employment standards, and human rights complaints. Also has extensive experience in workplace investigations. Has represented clients in provincial and federal human rights matters, the Superior Court of Ontario, the Ontario Labour Relations Board, the Employment Standards Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Labour, and in mediations and grievance arbitrations. Serves as Chair of the firm’s national Advocacy Group.

JOLICOUR, Marie-Hélène
Lavery, de Billy, Montréal
Featured in Employment (Quebec)
Practice Areas: Labour and Employment +Health and Social Services
Career: Marie-Hélène Jolicour is a partner and a member of the Board of Directors of the firm. She has an expertise in the fields of labour and employment law and occupational health and safety. She appears before administrative tribunals and common law courts, primarily the Tribunal administratif du travail. She also acts as spokesperson for employers negotiating collective agreements.

JONES, Clayton
Fasken, Vancouver
Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Clayton Jones has a busy labour, employment and human rights practice in Vancouver advising employers on all aspects of the employment relationship. Clayton provides practical advice intended to prevent and resolve workplace disputes in both union and non-union contexts. Clients also frequently rely on Clayton to assist with significant workplace changes including workforce reductions, closures, bankruptcies/inolvencies, and corporate transactions. Clayton appears as counsel before the BC Labour Relations Board, BC Human Rights Tribunal, BC Employment Standards Branch, BC Supreme Court, BC Court of Appeal and Canada Industrial Relations Board. He also regularly acts as counsel in labour arbitrations and mediations.

KAPUR, Sunil
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 8339 skapur@mtc.ca
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Advises employers in financial services, manufacturing, transportation, education, health care, security, information technology, resources and public service. Assists those employers in labour board proceedings, arbitration, mediation, collective bargaining, employment litigation, judicial and regulatory civil proceedings and human rights. Advised numerous Fortune 500 companies on labour and employment matters arising from mergers and acquisitions. Regularly trains clients on a variety of issues. Frequent speaker on labour, employment and human rights matters.


Professional Memberships: ABA; CBA; Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers; Former Member, Ontario Human Rights Tribunal; Founding Member, Advisory Committee for Ontario Labour Relations Board.


KAUFER, A.D.E, Danny
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Montréal 5149542579 dkauf@blg.com
Featured in Employment (Quebec)
Practice Areas: His practice focuses on labour and employment law. Widely recognized for his expertise in certification and collective bargaining, he has acted in major certification matters.


Professional Memberships: Fellow, College of Labor and Employment Lawyers; Former Management Chair, American Bar Association (ABA) International Employment and Labor Committee; Council ABA Labor and Employment Section; Advisory Board American Employment Law Council (AELC) Member: ABA, AELC.
Board Proceedings • Management Training • Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution • Policy Development and Implementation • Sale or Closure • Strike or Lock Out Preparation and Business Continuity Planning • Workplace Audits • Workplace Investigations

L’HEUREUX, Dominique
Fasken, Québec

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Featured in Employment (Québec)

Practice Areas: Dominique L’Heureux is recognized foremost for the relevance of his advice and for his ability to respond quickly, efficiently and practically to complex legal issues. With nearly twenty-five years of experience in labour, employment and occupational health and safety law, Dominique L’Heureux has leading edge expertise in these matters. In particular, his expertise is valued for the negotiation of collective agreements, the arbitration of disputes, labour disputes and the pressure tactics arising therefrom, complex disputes with forensic implications, administrative or disciplinary dismissals, issues relating to psychological harassment in the workplace, management of workplace competence, corporate reorganizations and crisis management in general. Dominique L’Heureux represents a varied clientele, under provincial and federal jurisdiction, from various sectors of economic activity, including the health, food, retail, defence, mining, manufacturing and media sectors.

LAJOIE, Guy
LaVey, de Billy Montréal

(514) 877-2943
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Featured in Employment (Québec)

Practice Areas: Employment Law, Labour Relations, Workers’ Compensation

Career: Guy is a partner with the firm’s Labour and Employment Practice Group. A journalist before embarking on his legal career, Guy strives to think outside of the box when creative solutions are needed. Clients’ business concerns are always a priority when he proposes strategies and solutions to meet their objectives. Guy has over 30 years of experience as an advisor and a litigator in his field, and he also works with the firm’s Business law group on the labour and employment law aspects of mergers and acquisitions.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers (CACE); Chartered Professionals in Human Resources (CPHR) BC & Yukon; The Advocates’ Society; Hellenic Canadian Lawyers’ Association (HCLA); Planning Committee, Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia (CLEBC) Employment Law Conference; Editorial board, LexisNexis Canada Inc. Labour Notes newsletter.

KUZZ, Erin
Sherrard Kuzz LLP, Toronto

(416) 603-6242
erkuzz@sherrardkuzz.com

Professional Practice Areas: Erin has been recognized as one of Canada’s leading employment and labour lawyers by Lexpert®, Chambers Global®, Who’s Who Legal Global Elite (The Thought Leader), and Best Lawyers®. She is also a Fellow of the prestigious College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. Erin is a Past Chair of the Labour and Employment Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association and is regularly asked to chair and speak at national conferences on a variety of labour and employment law topics. She has taught at Canada’s leading law schools and authored the Law Society of Ontario’s Labour Law Bar Exam materials. Erin’s practice includes: Advising the Multinational and Multi-Jurisdictional Employer • Attendance Management • Collective Bargaining • Collective Labour Relations • Employee Relations • Employment Contracts • Employment Standards • Grievance Arbitration • Human Rights and Accommodation • Interest Arbitration • Labour Relations

LAWSON, Trevor
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto

+1 416 601 8172

tlawson@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Employment (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Trevor Lawson is a partner in McCarthy Tétrault’s Labour & Employment Group in Toronto. Trevor’s broad practice encompasses all aspects of labour and employment-related litigation, labour relations, corporate transactions, executive compensation and privacy. He has represented employers in proceedings before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Court of Appeal for Ontario, Ontario Labour Relations Board, Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario, boards of arbitration, coroner’s inquests and other administrative tribunals. His clients carry on business in a wide range of sectors, including hospitality, retail, consumer goods, gaming, manufacturing, property management, banking and finance. Trevor is the Honorary Sector lead as part of the firm’s National Retail and Consumer Markets group.

Career: Ontario Bar, 2000

Professional Memberships: Trevor is a member of the Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Association and the Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers.

LE FRANÇOIS, Myriane
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal

+1 514-397-5492

mlefrancois@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Employment (Québec)

Practice Areas: With over 15 years of experience, Myriane’s clients of all sizes and industries trust her to handle their most sensitive workforce matters. Myriane handles cases for both provincial and federal employers. Myriane provides strategic counsel and pragmatic business solutions, assisting her clients with complex terminations, disability and performance management, governance and harassment claims, and collective bargaining negotiations. Myriane also regularly appears in front of administrative tribunals and civil courts.

Career: Quebec Bar, 2004

Professional Memberships: Myriane is actively involved in the community sitting on the board of La Compagnie Jean Duceppe. Myriane is also a Governor of the National Theatre School. She is a member of the Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Association and Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers. She taught labour law at the Montréal Bar School and was Chair of the National Retail Federation’s International Employment Law Committee for U.S. Retailers for five of her seven years with the organization.

Publications: She co-authors Le code du travail en droit Québécois en matière de contrat d’emploi, now in its third edition, and she is a co-author to La référence, which provide professional guidelines for creating severance pack- ages. She frequently hosts conferences and webinars, and is an author of several articles and blogs.

LEDERMAN, de Lobe
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary

Featured in Employment (Alberta)

Practice Areas: de Lobe practises in all areas of labour and employment law. He regularly advises employers on wrongful and constructive dismissal claims, restrictive covenants, employment standards disputes, labour relations, human rights complaints and the development and implementation of workplace policies. He frequently advises organizations about how such issues impact corporate transactions. In addition, de Lobe maintains an active privacy practice, advising organizations on access to information requests, data breach response protocols, the impact of anti-spam legislation and responses to privacy complaints.

He is a Certified Information and Privacy Professional (CIPP/C) with the International Association of Privacy Professionals.

LEDUC, Daniel
Norton Rose Fullbright, Montréal
daniel.leduc@nortonrosefulbright.com

Featured in Employment (Québec)

Practice Areas: Daniel Leduc frequently advises employers in both the federal and Quebec jurisdictions on the application and interpretation of collective agreements, on labour standards and on human rights and freedoms. He is particularly qualified to advise on issues in the areas of labour standards, restrictive covenants (non-compete and non-solicitation agreements), certification and the protection of personal information. He also has in-depth knowledge of workplace harassment issues and leading discrimination cases. His knowledge of the rules that govern the management of absenteeism, workplace discipline and performance is vast. Mr. Leduc is also a seasoned trial lawyer who regularly represents the largest companies in Canada, small and medium-sized businesses, public and parapublic bodies and professional orders before grievance and dispute arbitrators, the Quebec Administrative Labour Tribunal, the Quebec Human Rights Tribunal, the Canada Industrial Relations Board, the Quebec Superior Court, the Federal Court of Canada and the appeal courts.

He is also regularly called upon to sit as a spokesperson in collective bargaining in various sectors including the security industry, professional orders and manufacturing. Mr. Leduc is a frequent guest speaker of numerous associations on a range of topics, including absenteeism management, disciplinary management, work performance, collective bargaining, time theft, the use of social media on the job, and workplace investigations. He taught employment and labour law and bargaining techniques at the Quebec Bar Admission Course for a number of years.

Mr. Leduc is currently Montréal chair of our employment and labour law group.

MACKIE, Taryn
Norton Rose Fullbright, Vancouver

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taryn.mackie@nortonrosefulbright.com

Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Taryn Mackie advises clients on all aspects of workplace law in unionized and non-unionized environments, including on collective bargaining, labour relations, human rights, workers’ compensation, disability management and workplace accommodations, wrongful dismissals, unjust dismissals, and employment standards. Ms. Mackie regularly prepares and advises upon employment agreements and workplace policies, including executive employment agreements, non-compete and non-solicitation agreements, confidentiality agreements, and attendance policies. She assists clients with this, and has conducted on behalf of clients, a variety of workplace-related investigations, including disciplinary investigations and harassment investigations. Ms. Mackie has appeared before, among other courts and tribunals, the Labour Relations Board, Employment Standards Branch and Tribunal, Human Rights Tribunal, and the Supreme Court of Canada. Ms. Mackie has appeared before all levels of court in British Columbia, the BC Labour Relations Board, the BC Human Rights Tribunal, the BC Employment Standards Tribunal, the Workers’ Compensation Appeal Tribunal and provincial and federal grievance arbitration panels. Presents and publishes extensively on labour, employment, human rights, privacy and immigration issues in the workplace.

Career: BComm (Honors), 1997 and LLB, 2000, from the University of British Columbia. British Columbia Bar, 2001. Adjunct Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law (UBC).

Professional Memberships: Member, Canadian Bar Association, Canadian Association for Women in the Law. Member, Women’s Business Network. Past Chair, Industrial Accident Prevention Association. Member of the Board of Directors, Les Petits Frères des Pauvres, 2008-2013.

MASTORAS, John
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
+1 416.216.3905
john.mastoras@nortonrosefullbright.com

Featured in Employment (Ontario)

Practice Areas: John Mastoras is a senior partner in our Canadian employment and labour law group. He is known to clients as a passionate and dedicated advocate and business partner who provides innovative and practical advice. John is frequently called upon to litigate highly contentious matters such as disruptive labour disputes and workplace mental health issues, and acts exclusively for employers in the broader area of labour and employment law. He regularly litigates and provides strategic advice in connection with labour arbitrations, board disputes, human rights proceedings, occupational health and safety charges, workers’ compensation, labour injunctions and common law employment actions. His practice spans union and non-union workplaces for both federally and provincially regulated employers.

MCDONALD, Daniel
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
daniel.mcdonald@nortonrosefullbright.com

Featured in Employment (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Daniel McDonald assists employers with labour, employment and human rights litigation at the provincial and federal levels. He regularly appears before the provincial and federal labour relations boards as well as the courts. Mr. McDonald also regularly represents employers in the context of occupation- al health and safety compliance and defence work. In addition to litigation, Mr. McDonald also carries on an active human resource advisory practice delivering timely and proactive business support.

MCDONALD, David
Fasken, Toronto
+1 604 631 4751
dmcdonald@fasken.com

Featured in Employment (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: David McDonald is a leading labour, employment and human rights lawyer in Vancouver. Employers seek out David’s skills as strategic counsel in workplace law. David proactively works with clients to find solutions to employment issues. He has a particular focus on labour relations and collective bargaining. He also gives advice in all areas of employment law, human rights in the workplace and occupational health and safety. David shares his expertise with clients and professional services through presenting seminars on labour relations and employment law.

MCHARDY, Christopher
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
604-643-5918
cmchardy@mctc.ca

Featured in Employment (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Partner in our Labour & Employment Group in Vancouver. Advises employers on a broad range of provincial and federal workplace issues relating to labour, employment, human rights, privacy and immigration law. Regularly advises US, UK, Australian, Chinese and other offshore clients in connection with establishing business operations in British Columbia. Also advises on and negotiates labour and employment issues in connection with mergers, acquisitions, outsourcing and joint ventures, including executive employment agreements. Regularly represents management in collective bargaining, negotiations, investigations, mediations, arbitrations, administrative hearings and in court. Appeared as counsel in matters before all levels of court in British Columbia, the BC Labour Relations Board, the Canada Industrial Relations Board, the BC Human Rights Tribunal, the BC Employment Standards Tribunal, the Workers’ Compensation Appeal Tribunal and provincial and federal grievance arbitration panels. Presents and publishes extensively on labour, employment, human rights, privacy and immigration issues in the workplace.

Career: BComm (Hons), 1997 and LLB, 2000, from the University of British Columbia. British Columbia Bar, 2001. Adjunct Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law (UBC).

Professional Memberships: Member, Canadian Bar Association and Law Society of British Columbia.

MENSH, Laura
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Calgary
403.232.9452
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Featured in Employment (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Laura Mensch is a highly experienced management-side labour and employment lawyer. She provides practical, timely, and client-specific advice to employers in the areas of labour, employment, occupational health & safety, and human rights law. Laura ensures that she truly understands her client’s challenges, goals, and legal requirements before making recommendations. Her thoughtful, practical, and timely advice has made her a trusted advisor and a strong advocate. Laura acts for a wide variety of employers in both federally and provincially regulated industries such as airlines, energy, manufacturing, construction, information technology, and financial and professional services. She also acts for municipalities, private schools, government regulators, and First Nations. Laura has appeared before all levels of court in Alberta as well as before the Alberta Labour Relations Board, arbitrators, human rights tribunals, and other administrative tribunals. She also conducts and oversees workplace investigations and provides strategic advice to clients in relations to workplace restructuring and mergers & acquisitions.


Professional Memberships: Member: Law Society of Alberta, Canadian Bar Association, CACE (Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers)

MILLER, Birch K.
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary
403-260-9613
birch.miller@blakes.com

Featured in Employment (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Birch practices employment, privacy and cybersecurity law. She is the Practice Group Leader of the Blake Employment and Labour group in Calgary, Alberta. Birch has established a known and respected profile among clients and peers through her extensive transactional experience; practical advisory work; civil and administrative (human rights, labour and employment) litigation; executive positions with the Canadian Bar Association, including a four-year term as Chair of the Privacy and Access Law section; mentorship of junior lawyers in the employment, labour and privacy law sphere; involvement in the mentorship and support of women in private practice; and pro bono work with women’s shelters and related organizations. Birch has extensive transactional experience, regularly advising on the privacy, labour and employment aspects of high-profile transactions.
Practice Areas: Shelley-Mae focuses her practice on all aspects of labour and employment law, including preventative advice, employment policies and procedures, human rights complaints, wrongful dismissals, employment litigation, injunction applications, and employment standards appeals. Her expertise in labour law also includes arbitrations, collective bargaining, workplace policies, restrictive covenants and Labour Board Applications. Shelley-Mae has appeared as counsel in the British Columbia Supreme Court, British Columbia Court of Appeal, and Federal Court. As well, she has conducted human rights hearings, arbitrations, mediations and hearings before the Labour Relations Board.


MULLEN, Lindsay
Norton Rose Fulbright, Calgary

Practice Areas: Lindsay Mullen is a trusted legal advisor in the area of occupational health and safety, regulatory investigations and compliance, emergency response, and crisis management. She has extensive experience on all aspects of labour and employment law. Mullen represents employers at the Labour Board, at labour arbitrations, in court, and in human rights complaints. Working closely with the firm’s Technology group, she provides advice on employment contracts and consultant agreements, non-competition clauses, and employment standards compliance.

PARKER, Shaun
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver

Practice Areas: Shaun articled at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP in 2011 and was hired as an Associate in their Labour and Employment Group in March 2016.

PERREAULT, Rhéaume
Fasken, Montréal

Practice Areas: Rhéaume Perreault is a negotiator, speaker, seasoned lawyer, certified human resources professional and certified administrator specialized in labour law. For the past several years he has been listed as one of the leading lawyers in Canada in labour and employment law. He represents employers from the private, public and municipal sectors in addition to not-for-profit organizations. Rhéaume advises clients on labour relations, labour standards, grievance arbitration, protection of personal information, certification, crisis management, human rights and employment injuries. He regularly intervenes to provide strategic advice to different organizations in complex situations involving human capital (ex., unionization campaign, drug problem, reorganization, harassment, theft, fraud, and more). He has dedicated his career to providing exceptional legal advice to all clients, including under-served individuals and communities. Chris' clients speak highly of his skill and expertise in all his strategic approach to all of his cases. "He is professional in the way he does business, he is responsive to our requests or any needs we have, and he is thoughtful in the work he does," Chris, who was named group leader for the firm's labour, employment, and human rights group in March 2016.

PLOMP, Donovan
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver

Practice Areas: Donovan Plomp joined the firm’s Employment Group in March 2016. He appears as counsel in matters before all levels of court in British Columbia, the British Columbia Labour Relations Board, the Canada Industrial Relations Board, the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal and grievance arbitration panels. Some of his representative experience includes: representing employers in employment related litigation, including wrongful dismissal, human rights, privacy, and departing employee matters; representing employers and employees in British Columbia and labour relations board proceedings, including discharge, discipline, interpretation of collective agreements, unlawful strike and unfair labour practice complaints; advising employers regarding union organizing campaigns and certification and decertification applications; advising employers on a wide variety of human resources and labour relations issues, including employee disability and accommodation, attendance management, privacy, human rights and employment policies, and terminations; and advising on labour and employment issues arising from labour, employment and human rights disputes.

PERREAULT, Rhéaume
Fasken, Montréal

Practice Areas: Rhéaume Perreault is a negotiator, speaker, seasoned lawyer, certified human resources professional and certified administrator specialized in labour law. For the past several years he has been listed as one of the leading lawyers in Canada in labour and employment law. He represents employers from the private, public and municipal sectors in addition to not-for-profit organizations. Rhéaume advises clients on labour relations, labour standards, grievance arbitration, protection of personal information, certification, crisis management, human rights and employment injuries. He regularly intervenes to provide strategic advice to different organizations in complex situations involving human capital (ex., unionization campaign, drug problem, reorganization, harassment, theft, fraud, and more). He has dedicated his career to providing exceptional legal advice to all clients, including under-served individuals and communities. Chris' clients speak highly of his skill and expertise in all his strategic approach to all of his cases. "He is professional in the way he does business, he is responsive to our requests or any needs we have, and he is thoughtful in the work he does," Chris, who was named group leader for the firm's labour, employment, and human rights group in March 2016.

PLOMP, Donovan
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver

Practice Areas: Donovan Plomp joined the firm’s Employment Group in March 2016. He appears as counsel in matters before all levels of court in British Columbia, the British Columbia Labour Relations Board, the Canada Industrial Relations Board, the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal and grievance arbitration panels. Some of his representative experience includes: representing employers in employment related litigation, including wrongful dismissal, human rights, privacy, and departing employee matters; representing employers and employees in British Columbia and labour relations board proceedings, including discharge, discipline, interpretation of collective agreements, unlawful strike and unfair labour practice complaints; advising employers regarding union organizing campaigns and certification and decertification applications; advising employers on a wide variety of human resources and labour relations issues, including employee disability and accommodation, attendance management, privacy, human rights and employment policies, and terminations; and advising on labour and employment issues arising from labour, employment and human rights disputes.

PERREAULT, Rhéaume
Fasken, Montréal

Practice Areas: Rhéaume Perreault is a negotiator, speaker, seasoned lawyer, certified human resources professional and certified administrator specialized in labour law. For the past several years he has been listed as one of the leading lawyers in Canada in labour and employment law. He represents employers from the private, public and municipal sectors in addition to not-for-profit organizations. Rhéaume advises clients on labour relations, labour standards, grievance arbitration, protection of personal information, certification, crisis management, human rights and employment injuries. He regularly intervenes to provide strategic advice to different organizations in complex situations involving human capital (ex., unionization campaign, drug problem, reorganization, harassment, theft, fraud, and more). He has dedicated his career to providing exceptional legal advice to all clients, including under-served individuals and communities. Chris' clients speak highly of his skill and expertise in all his strategic approach to all of his cases. "He is professional in the way he does business, he is responsive to our requests or any needs we have, and he is thoughtful in the work he does," Chris, who was named group leader for the firm's labour, employment, and human rights group in March 2016.
POYSA, Sven
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 5934
spoysa@osler.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Sven has significant experience in all areas of workplace law. He advises national and international companies on legal and strategic HR issues, including executive employment arrangements, corporate transactions, individual terminations, facility closures, workplace reorganizations and restructurings. In addition, Sven regularly advises on workplace harassment and violence, occupational health and safety due diligence requirements, and enforcing policies and procedures including discipline.

RANCOURT, Gilles
Quebec City Chair of our employment and labour law group. He has vast experience in many areas of employment and labour law, including grievance arbitration, certification, collective agreement negotiations, class action, employment standards, individual contracts of employment, human rights and freedoms, and restrictive covenants relating to employment. He successfully argued a case on the latter topic before the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Rancourt frequently pleads before administrative tribunals with jurisdiction in labour law matters and before the civil courts, including the Quebec Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and represents government authorities in public sector collective agreement negotiations. He is a frequent guest speaker on a variety of issues pertaining to employment law and human resource management and is a special contributor to the book Comment gérer un employé difficile, published by Les."}

REID, Holly
Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
holly.reid@bcg.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Holly has over 20 years of experience as a specialist in employment law, providing timely and practical advice to clients in respect of all issues relating to workplace issues. Holly regularly advises large private and publicly listed companies on matters of significant legal and reputational importance, including the negotiation of executive contracts, transactions with executive leadership teams, class action and other risks relating to changes to compensation and benefit plans, and incidents of sexual harassment, workplace violence and bullying. Holly provides advice on complex accommodation requests and disputes and has a particular expertise in accessibility law. Holly regularly coordinates and drafts legal advice among employment lawyers in various Canadian jurisdictions for clients with employment law needs across Canada. She speaks and provides client sessions on executive compensation, human rights, accessibility and employment law topics. As an advocate, Holly regularly represents employers in wrongful dismissal actions and human rights applications. A significant portion of Holly’s practice is devoted to advising on the employment and labour aspects of complex corporate transactions, including the drafting and negotiation of purchase agreements, retention and transaction bonus agreements, and commercial and employment restrictive covenant agreements. Holly also advises on post-closing arrangements, corporate transactions, including union successorship issues and vice integrations. Holly also advises on post-closing arrangements, corporate transactions, including union successorship issues and vice integrations.

SARTISON, Delayne
Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP, Calgary
delayne.sartison@bdplaw.com
Featured in Employment (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Delayne Sartison Q.C. is a founding partner of Roper Greyell LLP. She has represented employers in all aspects of workplace law for more than 20 years. Karen frequently pleads before arbitrators, mediators, the Ontario Labour Relations Board, the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario and the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal. She has many winning decisions from all of these administrative bodies, for clients like Air Canada, Gate Gourmet Canada Inc., Humber River Hospital and Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. Karen fiercely represents her clients’ interests. Although she is a fierce advocate, she also knows whether and when to pursue settlement. At the appropriate time, and when appropriate for our client’s interests, she engages in negotiations with an objective of agreement. Karen has been able to assist employers in all sectors achieve negotiated settlements that are acceptable to them, while saving them significant litigation time and expense.

SCORER, Gabrielle
Roper Greyell LLP, Vancouver
gscorer@ropergreyell.com
+1 604 806 3825
Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Gabrielle Scorer Q.C. is a partner of Roper Greyell LLP. A trusted advisor, negotiator and advocate, she advises employers on all aspects of management-side labour, employment and human rights issues in the workplace. Career: Delayne was called to the bar in 1989 and became a partner in Toronto and Vancouver, and is a frequent guest on legal and human rights programs on all aspects of workplace. Delayne is a former director of WoodGreen Community Foundation, Ian has been appointed Queens Counsel, 1998; Ogilvy Renault, 1999-2006 Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association; Chartered Professionals in Human Resources of British Columbia and Yukon (CPHR); Canadian Association of University Solicitors; Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers; Canadian Law Association; International Society for Labour and Social Security Law; American Bar Association; Fellow, College of Labor and Employment Lawyers (U.S.); Fellow, American Bar Foundation. Publications: Appointed in 1992 by the Minister of Labour to a committee of Special Advisors to recommend labour relations strategy for BC and one of three special advisors responsible for drafting the Labour Relations Code. ROSS, Gina A.
Briscoe Duckworth & Palmer LLP,
Cambridge
gar@bdplaw.com
Featured in Employment (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Gina has provided legal advice on some of the most high profile Canadian mergers and acquisitions. She has appeared before all levels of Alberta and Canadian courts and tribunals on a variety of employment, occupational health and safety, and human rights related complex litigation matters and complaints. Gina regularly advises clients on managing terminations, downsizings, and the drafting and implementation of policies, best practices and contracts. Gina support clients and assist with complex workplace investigations and provides seasoned advice on crisis management, legislative changes, fiduciary obligations and related matters. Gina has been appointed fellow in BDP since her graduation from law school in 1988. In addition, Gina is an expert arbitrator, distinguished by his capacity to navigate — and simplify — the most complex matters. With wide-ranging experience, Ian is recognized for his work in labour and employment law, partnership and corporate disputes, as well as administrative, labour and professional governance. He has acted as counsel at many public hearings, including the Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Inquiry and the Ipperwash Inquiry. Ian is a fellow of the ACTL and the ILAT. A former director of WoodGreen Community Services Foundation, Ian has received the Queen’s Gold and Diamond Jubilee Medals for community service.

ROPER, Thomas A.
Roper Greyell LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 806 3850
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Featured in Employment (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Thomas A. Roper, Q.C. is a founding partner of Roper Greyell LLP where he advises employers on all aspects of employment law and labour relations and represents clients in judicial and administrative proceedings including certification and unfair labour practice applications. Thomas represents government authorities in public sector collective agreement negotiations. He is a frequent guest speaker on a variety of issues pertaining to employment law and human resource management and is a special contributor to the book Comment gérer un employé difficile, published by Les."}

RAMALHO, Nancy
Stikeman Elliot LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5683
nnramalho@stikeman.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Nancy Ramalho is Head of the Employment & Labour Group in Toronto. Nancy provides advice to national and international companies on legal and strategic HR issues, including employment standards, pay equity, human rights, workplace reorganizations, corporate transactions, complex corporate transactions, including union successorship issues and vice integrations, corporate transactions, including union successorship issues and vice integrations, corporate transactions, including union successorship issues and vice integrations.

Sven has significant experience in all areas of workplace law. He advises national and international companies on legal and strategic HR issues, including executive employment arrangements, corporate transactions, individual terminations, facility closures, workplace reorganizations and restructurings. In addition, Sven regularly advises on workplace harassment and violence, occupational health and safety due diligence requirements, and enforcing policies and procedures including discipline.

RANCOURT, Gilles
Quebec City Chair of our employment and labour law group. He has vast experience in many areas of employment and labour law, including grievance arbitration, certification, collective agreement negotiations, class action, employment standards, individual contracts of employment, human rights and freedoms, and restrictive covenants relating to employment. He successfully argued a case on the latter topic before the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Rancourt frequently pleads before administrative tribunals with jurisdiction in labour law matters and before the civil courts, including the Quebec Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and represents government authorities in public sector collective agreement negotiations. He is a frequent guest speaker on a variety of issues pertaining to employment law and human resource management and is a special contributor to the book Comment gérer un employé difficile, published by Les."}

Reid, Holly
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
holly.reid@bcg.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Holly has over 20 years of experience as a specialist in employment law, providing timely and practical advice to clients in respect of all issues relating to workplace issues. Holly regularly advises large private and publicly listed companies on matters of significant legal and reputational importance, including the negotiation of executive contracts, transactions with executive leadership teams, class action and other risks relating to changes to compensation and benefit plans, and incidents of sexual harassment, workplace violence and bullying. Holly provides advice on complex accommodation requests and disputes and has a particular expertise in accessibility law. Holly regularly coordinates and drafts legal advice among employment lawyers in various Canadian jurisdictions for clients with employment law needs across Canada. She speaks and provides client sessions on executive compensation, human rights, accessibility and employment law topics. As an advocate, Holly regularly represents employers in wrongful dismissal actions and human rights applications. A significant portion of Holly’s practice is devoted to advising on the employment and labour aspects of complex corporate transactions, including the drafting and negotiation of purchase agreements, retention and transaction bonus agreements, and commercial and employment restrictive covenant agreements. Holly also advises on post-closing human resources integration matters.

RANCOURT, Gilles
Quebec City Chair of our employment and labour law group. He has vast experience in many areas of employment and labour law, including grievance arbitration, certification, collective agreement negotiations, class action, employment standards, individual contracts of employment, human rights and freedoms, and restrictive covenants relating to employment. He successfully argued a case on the latter topic before the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Rancourt frequently pleads before administrative tribunals with jurisdiction in labour law matters and before the civil courts, including the Quebec Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and represents government authorities in public sector collective agreement negotiations. He is a frequent guest speaker on a variety of issues pertaining to employment law and human resource management and is a special contributor to the book Comment gérer un employé difficile, published by Les."}

Sven has significant experience in all areas of workplace law. He advises national and international companies on legal and strategic HR issues, including executive employment arrangements, corporate transactions, individual terminations, facility closures, workplace reorganizations and restructurings. In addition, Sven regularly advises on workplace harassment and violence, occupational health and safety due diligence requirements, and enforcing policies and procedures including discipline.

RANCOURT, Gilles
Quebec City Chair of our employment and labour law group. He has vast experience in many areas of employment and labour law, including grievance arbitration, certification, collective agreement negotiations, class action, employment standards, individual contracts of employment, human rights and freedoms, and restrictive covenants relating to employment. He successfully argued a case on the latter topic before the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Rancourt frequently pleads before administrative tribunals with jurisdiction in labour law matters and before the civil courts, including the Quebec Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and represents government authorities in public sector collective agreement negotiations. He is a frequent guest speaker on a variety of issues pertaining to employment law and human resource management and is a special contributor to the book Comment gérer un employé difficile, published by Les."}

RANCOURT, Gilles
Quebec City Chair of our employment and labour law group. He has vast experience in many areas of employment and labour law, including grievance arbitration, certification, collective agreement negotiations, class action, employment standards, individual contracts of employment, human rights and freedoms, and restrictive covenants relating to employment. He successfully argued a case on the latter topic before the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Rancourt frequently pleads before administrative tribunals with jurisdiction in labour law matters and before the civil courts, including the Quebec Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, and represents government authorities in public sector collective agreement negotiations. He is a frequent guest speaker on a variety of issues pertaining to employment law and human resource management and is a special contributor to the book Comment gérer un employé difficile, published by Les."}
Practice Areas: Gabrielle Scorer is a founding partner of Roper Greyell LLP. Gabrielle is a skilled and articulate advocate in grievance arbitrations, human rights matters, court actions and disputes before labour boards. She is a trusted advisor to her clients, providing strategic advice to employers and finding solutions for complex workplace issues. She conducts workplace investigations and provides advice and training on a wide range of legal issues which arise in the modern workplace, including attendance and disability management, the use of technology/surveillance, and human rights.

Career: Gabrielle was called to the Bar in British Columbia in 1994, practicing with Greyell MacPhail before becoming a founding partner of Roper Greyell LLP in 2006.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers (CACE); Canadian Bar Association; Chartered Professional in Human Resources BC & Yukon.

SHERRA, Michael G
Sherard Kuzz LLP, Toronto
+1 416 603 0700
msherrard@sherardkuzz.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario)

Professional Areas: Michael is one of Canada’s leading employment and labour lawyers recognized by Chambers Global®, Who’s Who Legal® (Global Elite Lawyer – Most Highly Regarded), Legal 500®, Best Lawyers®, Lexpert®, and Canadian Occupational Safety®.

Says Chambers Global: “Michael draws praise for satisfying the needs of even the most demanding clients and his specialist knowledge of union contract negotiation and issues, where he is described as “exceptional,” and impresses with his “phenomenal work.” Michael is former Chair of the National Labour and Employment Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association and the Labour and Employment Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association, and current Chair of the National Labour and Employment Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association – Ontario Chapter. He sits on the boards of Skills Canada (Ontario), Support Ontario Youth and the Council of Professional Investigators of Ontario. Michael has received several awards including the Construction Institute of Canada’s Chancellor’s Award of Excellence, Council of Ontario Construction Associations (COTCA) Hard Hat Award of Excellence, University of New Brunswick Alumni Award of Distinction, U.Sports Lester B. Pearson Award, Canadian Franchise Association Volunteer Leadership Excellence Award and Distinguished Franchise Support Service Award.

SIDER, Robert A
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 6722
rsider@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Employment (British Columbia)

Professional Areas: Robert A. Sider is a partner in the Employment & Human Rights; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; Occupational Health and Safety; and Privacy & Data Management practice groups of Lawson Lundell LLP. Robert is a member of the British Columbia Supreme Court, as well as the Federal Court of Canada. He practices in all areas of labour and employment law, including advising clients on wrongful dismissal, labour relations, human rights and privacy issues. Robert has represented clients in matters involving labour arbitrations, labour relations boards, employment standards tribunals, human rights tribunals, privacy commissioners, and has appeared before the British Columbia Supreme Court, Federal Court of Canada, Federal Court of Appeal, and the Federal Court of Canada. Robert frequently negotiates collective agreements and provides strategic and tactical advice to clients on employment contracts and the labour and employment aspects of commercial transactions. Robert is a member of the British Columbia (2006), Northwest Territories (2008), and Yukon (2010). Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Member BC Human Resources Management Association, Member Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers, Treasurer & BC Director

STEEL, Richard F
Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP, Cambridge
rfs@bdplaw.com
Featured in Employment (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Richard advises clients on all aspects of employment and labour law, as well as corporate/commercial litigation issues. Richard has appeared before all levels of Court in Alberta, the Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board and the Saskatchewan Court of Queen’s Bench, as well as the Canada Industrial Relations Board. He also represents clients in commercial disputes and arbitrations. His employment law advice includes negotiating and drafting employment agreements, managing employees during employment, termination of employment, WCB issues, and disability and human rights matters. He often advises clients relating to policy issues, including drug and alcohol policies, restrictive covenant obligations, compensation and benefits programs, and workplace harassment. Richard advises clients in relation to corporate matters, including downsizing, layoffs, mass terminations and complex contract negotiations. Richard advises on all aspects of labour relations and union matters, including negotiating and drafting collective agreements, unfair labour practice complaints, unfair dismissal laws, collective bargaining, and before various administrative tribunals. Conducts supervisory development and harassment prevention training to proactively prevent workplace disputes.

THIESSEN, Brian
Oster, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 7018
bthiesen@osler.com
Featured in Employment (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Brian is the Managing Partner of the Calgary office and his practice focuses on the managerial side of employment and labour issues, including executive employment arrangements, retention arrangements, restrictive covenants, privacy, employment disputes, and human rights complaints. Brian frequently appears as counsel in the employment and privacy/anti-solicitation matters, and he is regularly appointed to act in a representative capacity. Brian advises on all aspects of workplace disputes, including wrongful dismissals, constructive dismissals, wrongful and constructive dismissal, human rights, WCB, restrictive covenants, and workplace harassment. Brian advises clients in relation to corporate matters, including downsizing, layoff, mass terminations and complex contract negotiations. Brian advises on all aspects of labour relations and union matters, including negotiating and drafting collective agreements, unfair labour practice complaints, unfair dismissal laws, collective bargaining, and before various administrative tribunals. Conducts supervisory development and harassment prevention training to proactively prevent workplace disputes.
Turc, Justin
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Calgary
Featured in Employment (Alberta)

**Practice Areas:** Justin Turc is an associate in the Labour and Employment Group in Calgary and advises employers on a range of human resources issues, including employment contracts, workplace policies, terminations, occupational health and safety incidents, diversity and inclusion, disability management, and workplace investigations. Justin is frequently engaged as a subject matter specialist on corporate transactions and to assist employers with human rights complaints, wrongful dismissal lawsuits, disputes over restrictive covenants, arbitrations, and matters before the Alberta Labour Relations Board.

**Career:** Alberta Bar, 2013.

**Professional Memberships:** He is a member of the Law Society of Alberta, the Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers, the Canadian Bar Association, and the Calgary Bar Association.

Vandermeulen, Jackie
Fasken, Toronto
Featured in Employment (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Jackie VanDerMeulen practices all aspects of labour and employment law. She is a skilled advocate who regularly represents employers in labour arbitrations, interest arbitrations, federal and provincial labour board matters, human rights proceedings, employment litigation and applications for judicial review.

**Practice Areas:** Jackie VanDerMeulen practices all aspects of labour and employment law. She is a skilled advocate who regularly represents employers in labour arbitrations, interest arbitrations, federal and provincial labour board matters, human rights proceedings, employment litigation and applications for judicial review.

Wolch, Shana
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+1 403 260 3639
swolch@mcct.ca

**Practice Areas:** Emphasis on occupational health and safety, investigations, defence of charges, policy creation, training and implementation; alcohol and drug policies; cannabis (assisted growers and retailer operations through to workplace management of safety sensitive); white collar crime and employee trust thefts; mergers and acquisitions; privacy; workplace employment policies, including training; workplace investigations including training; employee discipline and dismissal; disability and accommodation; human rights and discrimination; workers’ compensation; pension and benefits; and, unionized workforce issues.

**Career:** Alberta Bar, 2004. Guest lecturer, Employment Law, University of Calgary. CBA Mentor.

**Professional Memberships:** CBA (Labour and Employment - South - Past Chair; and, Privacy), Alberta Director, CACE.

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Stikeman Elliott LLP

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Torys LLP
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Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Lavery, de Billy
Oslер, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Indicates individual with profile.
I (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

What the team is known for
Cassels Brock & Blackwell is a major law firm in the mining world that is regularly seen on the most significant transactions in Canada and further afield. The team is noted for its impressive bench strength, and maintains deep and long-standing relationships with major multinational as well as junior mining companies. It also acts for a number of significant investment banks and advises on projects in Latin America, Europe, Africa, Australia and Asia. The group has played a key role in several noteworthy transactions and represents numerous precious and base-metal companies.

Strengths:
“Cassels is a long-standing mining firm with strong practitioners.”
“The team is very strong in mining, especially the financing side.”
“The team is always available, they are outstandingly responsive.”

Work highlights
Cassels team acted for Kirkland Lake Gold in its $10.6 billion merger with Agnico Eagle Mining.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Paul Stein (see p.175) commands a stellar reputation for the breadth of his experience representing major mining clients in domestic and international transactions, offering additional expertise in project development, capital markets and corporate restructuring. Strengths: “Paul has excellent judgement in complex matters.” Firm executive chair Mark Bennett (see p.167) represents an enviable portfolio of national and international mining interests, with noted strength in advising Latin American clients. Acting out of the firm’s Toronto office, he is frequently mandated to advise on sizeable acquisitions in the sector, as well as equity programmes. Strengths: “Mark has a great approach to the practice and to negotiations. He has a fantastic amount of knowledge and skill.” “He’s very strong and business-oriented.” Brian Dominique (see p.169) is noted for his work on mine development and operation issues, acting out of the firm’s Toronto office. He is a skilled commercial lawyer with experience acting on contractual agreements and Aboriginal consultation arising from project development in the sector. Toronto-based Jay Goldman (see p.170) is active on financial mandates arising from mining project development, regularly representing major gold producers. He offers experience handling transactions and securities issues for Canadian clients with operations in Asia and Latin America. Strengths: “Jay always delivers the best advice.” “He’s a very solid lawyer.” Darrell Podowski (see p.174) draws upon his background in geophysics to advise on a wide array of operational and commercial matters in the mining sector, including option agreements, disclosure agreements and governance. Based in Vancouver, he is sought after for his experience acting on Latin American mining mandates. Strengths: “Darrell is very strong on the commercial side of mining development.” Vancouver-based Gordon Chambers (see p.168) is noted for his domestic and international expertise in securities law, frequently representing organisations with mining interests in Australia and Latin America. He also handles corporate financing matters for clients in the mining and financial services sectors. Strengths: “Gordon is very good at M&A transactions.” David Budd (see p.168) has an increasing focus on the mining sector. He is adept at providing counsel on project finance and alternative financing issues. He has further experience of advising clients on streaming and M&A transactions. Jennifer Hansen (see p.170) co-chairs the firm’s mining practice from its Vancouver office. She handles a variety of sizeable M&A and corporate financing mandates, providing mining clients with additional expertise in capital markets. Strengths: “I think very highly of her. She is very adept at handling...
both large-scale mining files and financings.” Based out of Vancouver, David Redford represents clients in corporate and commercial transactions across the mining space. He offers notable experience in representing natural resources companies in mandates involving joint venture agreements and securities offerings. **Strengths:** “David is a strong practitioner.” Co-chair of the firm’s mining practice Jennifer Traub (see p.175) is noted for advising on M&A and securities matters in the Canadian mining sector. She acts on a wide array of international mining transactions out of the firm’s Vancouver office.

**Fasken**

What the team is known for: Fasken is consistently cited as one of Canada’s most impressive mining law firms, with extensive transactional and ‘dirt law’ experience. The Canadian members of its global mining group represent several industry heavyweights and mid-tier companies, as well as exploration start-ups. The team is increasingly active on mining-related private equity transactions, and regularly advises on multi-jurisdictional matters alongside the firm’s mining lawyers in London and Johannesburg. The core mining team is supported by an experienced bench of disputes practitioners well versed in issues relevant to the sector.

**Strengths:**
- “Fasken has been a very long-standing firm focused on the mining space.”
- “There is a lot of bench strength across the company and they do a very good job.”

**Work highlights:** Fasken’s team advised Valcucoula Gold Mines on closing the first tranche of its $30 million gold stream and royalty agreement transaction with Sandstorm Gold.

**Notable practitioners**

Michael Bourassa (see p.167) is a pre-eminent mining lawyer with deep knowledge of ‘dirt law’ and related due diligence mandates, including environmental compliance and title issues. Based in Toronto, he also has significant experience acting on commercial agreements and advise clients on dispute resolution. **Strengths:** “He’s so strong in this space.”

John Turner (see p.175) offers premier expertise across the Canadian and international mining industries. Based in Toronto, he is frequently mandated on many of the highest-profile securities matters and corporate transactions in the market. **Strengths:** “John is very strong on transactions and financing work.”

- “I would recommend him as a first call for anyone mining.”
- “Toronto-based Andrew Gabrielson (see p.170) is highly regarded for his technical expertise in ‘dirt law.’ He provides counsel on all stages of mine exploration, development and operation, with further experience in corporate transactions in the mining space. Brian Graves (see p.170) handles a range of national and international corporate and securities matters in the mining sector, including streaming transactions and corporate and commercial transactions. He acts out of the firm’s Toronto office. **Strengths:** “He has a great practice, he handles a lot of securities and financing work.”

FrankMariage (see p.173)represents mineral exploration clients in corporate and commercial mandates arising from mines across Canada and francophone Africa. He also advises on mine development and dispositions, acting out of the firm’s Montréal office.

**Band 2**

**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for: Bennett Jones is noted for its frequent representation of mid-tier mining companies in a broad range of transactional mandates. The Toronto-based mining group acts for junior and major mining players, as well as financial institutions. It is well versed in mine development issues, such as exploration, mine construction agreements and permitting, and is equally highly rated for its wide-ranging expertise in mining project finance, encompassing private finance arrangements as well as IPOs and follow-on offers.

**Strengths:**
- “Bennett Jones has a strong legal and commercial approach.”
- “The team has an excellent command of the legalities involved, very good working relationships with administrative bodies and a strong business sense of how to get deals done.”

**Work highlights:** Bennett Jones provided counsel to Astral Gold on its acquisition of Reveco Resources Corporation. The matter was valued at $8.3 million.

**Notable practitioners**

Sander Grieve is highly regarded for his representation of mining exploration and operation companies in M&A and financing mandates, providing further expertise with respect to corporate governance and public offerings. He is based in Toronto and heads the firm’s mining industry team. **Strengths:**

- Sander brings legal skills, client appreciation and business sense to matters.”
- “His technical skills are terrific.”

Toronto-based Abbas Ali Khan frequently advises companies involved in mining exploration, development and production on securities and M&A transactions. He has experience acting for clients in cross-border mandates. **Strengths:** “He is a great lawyer.”

- James Clare frequently assists natural resources companies in negotiating corporate financing and M&A transactions. Based in Toronto, he is well versed in the representation of issuers and underwriters. Toronto-based Linda Misitch Dann frequently represents clients engaged in corporate activities in the mining space including M&A and spin-out transactions. **Strengths:** “Linda provides timely and excellent advice. She is very business-minded and she doesn’t take her eye off the best end result.”

**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

What the team is known for: Blake, Cassels & Graydon operates a prominent mining practice in Canada, primarily based out of its Vancouver office. A popular choice among junior, mid-market and major mining companies in Canada and internationally, the firm frequently advises on high-value M&A, securities and financing deals, with mining clients benefiting from the expertise of the firm’s top-tier finance practice. The group demonstrates growing expertise in alternative mine financing arrangements and is noted for its additional experience concerning environmental compliance and other commercial and operational issues. The Vancouver mining practice is supported by additional expertise in Toronto and Montréal.

**Strengths:**
- “The team is exceptionally good and they have great communication skills.”
- “We have always been able to find experts within Blakes to assist with any items of business we have required or contemplated.”
- “The team provide insightful legal advice. Their depth and breadth of knowledge is important during negotiations.”

**Work highlights:** Blake, Cassels & Graydon advised Pretium Resources on the $3.5 billion acquisition of Pretium by Newcrest Mining Limited.

**Notable practitioners**

Bob Wooder (see p.176) is recognised for his skilled command of transactional mandates and is based out of the firm’s Vancouver office. He frequently represents gold producers, mineral exploration companies and financial institutions in private equity financing and M&A. **Strengths:** “Bob remains a thought leader in the mining industry and continues to provide sound legal and strategic advice.”

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

What the team is known for: Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg enjoys a superb reputation in the M&A space nationally, with its Toronto office held in particularly high regard. The firm continues to play a leading role on major M&A and capital markets deals in the mining sector, leveraging its relationships with a number of high-profile clients, notably Barrick. The practice also advises several mining-focused private equity funds and is well equipped to provide clients with full-service support on projects and transactions involving mine properties across Canada, the USA, Latin America, Africa, Europe and Asia. The team is also seasoned in supporting mining companies with their day-to-day operations. The group leverages its expertise in international tax to assist clients with cross-border mining investments.

**Strengths:**
- “Davies are very professional and deal with a lot of sophisticated and complex transactions.”
- “The team is excellent at protecting their clients’ interests.”
- “The group is technically very strong on M&A tactics and finding solutions for the client.”

**Work highlights:** Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg acted for Agnico Eagle Mines in its merger of equals with Kirkland Lake Gold, creating a $22.4 billion combined company.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Melanie Shisler (see p.175) is renowned for her representation of major mining companies in an impressive range of international and domestic transactions. She is sought out for her expertise on corporate transactions and agreements, with particular strategy advising on matters involving the gold sector. **Strengths:** “Melanie is a tower of strength, in her advice and in her ability to grasp complex questions.” “She is a substantive con-
Lawson Lundell LLP

What the team is known for Lawson Lundell is widely considered to be one of the leading law firms for issues stemming from mining operations in British Columbia and the Canadian North. The mining group is also recognized for its mining development work in Central and Eastern Canada, as well as overseas. Its significant client roster includes junior mining companies in addition to well-established multinational players. The lawyers also offer substantial experience of corporate finance and mining M&A and are noted for their project development expertise, advising on early-stage exploration and a variety of operational issues. The team also assists clients with environmental and mine reclamation issues.

Strengths

“The team at Lawson Lundell has exceptional legal and business acumen.”

“Lawson Lundell has a deep bench and lots of ability to address all different kinds of problems.”

“It’s an excellent group of professionals.”

Work highlights Lawson Lundell’s team advised Newmont Corporation on its acquisition of GT Gold Corp by way of plan of arrangement.

Notable practitioners

Chris Baldwin (see p.167) continues to advise clients on transactions within the mining space. His long-standing expertise in the market also includes providing counsel on mine development and operations from his base in the firm’s Vancouver office.

Strengths: “Chris has incredible knowledge and has done fantastic things to build this practice.” “He is very strong on the development side.” Khaled Abdel-Barr (see p.167) is noted for the breadth of his mining practice, acting for domestic and international clients on transactional and operational mandates. He is based in Vancouver. Strengths: “Khaled is extremely instrumental in advising us; he is a critical resource.” “He is very strong in this sector.” “Khaled is exceptional.”

Co-leader of the firm’s mining group Karen MacMillan (see p.172) handles commercial agreements and corporate transactions across the mining industry, with particular strength in asset purchases and dispositions. Strengths: “Karen has excellent contract and agreement skills.” “She is a strong practitioner.” Based in Vancouver, Stuart Breen (see p.167) represents mine owners and operators in relation to corporate finance and commercial client relations. He is also sought out for his expertise in securities and compliance issues. Strengths: “Stuart is a very solid all-rounder and he is very responsive.” “He is a strong technical lawyer with an excellent background in mining and lots of experience in the space.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault houses a strong mining practice typically involved in international transactions, particularly in China, Latin America and Africa. The firm’s global mining and metals team has built and maintained strong working relationships with several industry heavyweights and is increasingly active on behalf of mining-focused private equity houses. Other clients include streamlining companies and developers. The team is regularly retained by institutional mining clients and offers notable strength in M&A, finance and capital markets transactions, as well as complementary expertise in infrastructure and Aboriginal law issues.

Strengths

“The team are extremely responsive and very atten- tive.”

“I have confidence that McCarthy’s will provide an excellent all-around service.”

“It’s a strong team across the board.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault provided counsel to Altius Renewable Royalties on its IPO on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Notable practitioners

Vancouver-based Roger Taplin (see p.175) is frequently instructed by international mining and investment corporations to act on blue-chip mining matters in Canada, including high-profile and high-value acquisitions and joint ventures. Strengths: “Roger is a pre-eminent mining lawyer, he knows the industry really well.” “His drafting is technically skilled and he represents his clients’ interests very well.” Toronto-based Shea Small (see p.175) is adept at handling corporate and commercial mining transactions, including notable mining M&A mandates. He acts for a number of significant companies in the mining and metals sectors, including Endeavour Mining and Rio Tinto. Strengths: “He is very knowledgeable and technically excellent.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott is deeply embedded in the Canadian and global mining markets. The team regularly acts for international mining companies, including producers headquartered in Europe, Australia, Asia and the USA. The Canadian mining group leverages the strengths of the firm’s offices in Sydney and London to offer advice on multi-jurisdictional projects. The firm is especially highly regarded for its transactional mining expertise and provides a broad spectrum of transactional services to clients in this sector, advising on matters as diverse as IPOs and follow-on offerings to royalty transactions. The lawyers are particularly well known for their handling of mining M&A.

Strengths

“They are able to assemble a team with the experience and skills unique to each situation.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott’s team advised Dundee Precious Metals on its acquisition of INVCA Metals.

Notable practitioners

Jay Kellerman (see p.172) is a veteran of the Canadian mining space, splitting his time between the Toronto and London offices. He is frequently mandated with sizeable transactions, including mergers and dispositions across Canada, the USA and Latin America. Strengths: “He is very business-oriented and a very strong lawyer.” Ivan Grbić (see p.170) frequently acts for clients on a wide range of corporate transactions in the mining and natural resources space throughout Canada and Latin America, advising on M&A and securities mandates. Strengths: “Ivan is a strong lawyer with a good skill set.”

David Massé (see p.173) is an up-and-coming lawyer based in Stikeman Elliott’s Montréal office. He has notable experience in providing counsel on financings and its rising profile in the mining field, with a particular focus on streaming transactions. Highly active out of Toronto, the firm advises on a range of other mining finance deals, including those involving cross-border securities issues. The mining and metals team is well versed in assisting with the acquisition and disposal of mining assets. It is additionally experienced in regard to private equity investments in the mining sector.

Strengths

“The team are always responsive and turn documents around very quickly.”

“Torys’ group are able to handle complex and sophis- ticated matters.”

Work highlights A Torys team advised Triple Flag in its $250 million IPO of common shares.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Michael Amm (see p.167) is well versed in corporate transactions, including project financing and streaming transactions. He is noted for his representation of clients from the mining and financial services sectors. Strengths: “Michael has a good sense of commercial awareness and strategic thinking.” “He is a solid practitioner.” Head of the mining and metal practice, Michael Pickersgill (see p.174) is an experienced Toronto-based transactional lawyer who acts for mining and natural resources companies on a wide range of matters, including financing, IPOs and streaming transactions in Canada and internationally. Strengths: “Michael is extremely strong and commercial.” “He is excellent at grasping complex situations.” Braden Jebson (see p.171) has established a notable presence in the mining space. He has experience assisting clients with various issues, including streaming, IPOs and acquisitions. Strengths: “Braden is a strong and flexi- ble practitioner.” “He has excellent commercial capa- bilities.”

Band 4

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais is a large full-service law firm offering expertise in a wide array of mining matters, including transactions and financing arrangements, ongoing business advice, commercial agreements and licensing issues. The mining practice is selected as counsel by domestic and international clients and is a popular choice among junior mining companies. The firm remains a dominant player in the Vancouver market.

Strengths

“The group has a deep knowledge of the mining industry and industry players.”

“The team offer excellent service quality.”

“They have the capacity and subject matter experts to be able to handle any matter.”

Work highlights The BLG team assisted K+S Aktiengesellschaft with the sale of its Canadian salt business to Stone Canyon Industries Holdings and
Bennett Jones is an acclaimed energy law firm, highly sought after for its solid regulatory advice and boasting ample experience of major oil and gas transactions. With offices across Canada including Calgary and Vancouver, the practice represents a wide range of public and private sector market participants in M&A and capital markets deals, joint ventures and project development matters relating to both oil and LNG. The oil and gas team offers notable experience advising foreign investors on their Canadian energy interests, and also acts for private equity houses. Its recent workload features a number of significant pipeline mandates. The team is also noted for its experience of project development matters pertaining to First Nations reserve and treaty lands.

**Senior Practitioners**

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The Osler team is known for being creative in risk mitigation and solving excellent problem solvers. They are very pragmatic and forward-thinking.

“Osler has a proven track record of handling significant M&A, joint venture and restructuring transactions, as well as offshore matters. The practice acts for a range of clients, including exploration and production companies, mid-market energy companies and private equity funds.

Strengths “The Osler team are creative in risk mitigation and are excellent problem solvers. They are very pragmatic and forward-thinking.”

“Osler has a proven track record of handling significant M&A, joint venture and restructuring transactions, as well as offshore matters. The practice acts for a range of clients, including exploration and production companies, mid-market energy companies and private equity funds.”
Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is an international firm with a robust oil and gas group in Canada offering notable experience of high-profile M&A and particular strength in the midstream sector. The practice also advises on LNG project development, major joint ventures, financings and other corporate energy work. The firm benefits from energy expertise in its Calgary, Vancouver and Montreal offices and is noted for its standout experience of energy regulation and litigation, regularly representing clients before national and provincial regulators.

Strengths "The team is very pragmatic and business-savvy." Norton Rose have a strong team who are able to adapt to the needs of the assignment."

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright advised TerreVita Corporation on its merger with SECURE Energy Services.

Notable practitioners

Don Davies KC (see p.169) maintains his position as a premier regulatory specialist in the Canadian oil and gas market. Based in Calgary, his practice includes representing clients in applications to regulators at federal and provincial levels. "Don can make things understandable in a very complex area." He provides counsel on M&A, corporate reorganisations and due diligence in the space from her base in Calgary. "Ashley provides great commercial insight and is a pleasure to work with."

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons Canada wins widespread recognition for its accomplished oil and gas regulatory practice, with notable experience of oil sands development, greenfield pipeline and midstream facilities projects. The firm also has a strong commercial offering, advising on domestic and cross-border energy M&A, asset swap and restructuring transactions, as well as project finance. Its energy sector group holds additional strength in oil and gas transportation projects.

Strengths "Dentons have a strong ability to handle complex and sophisticated energy matters."

Work highlights Dentons advised Kingdom Midstream Westspur on an application for leave to appeal a decision of the CER to the Federal Court of Appeal.

Notable practitioners

Michael Hurst is acclaimed for his wealth of experience advising multinational oil and gas clients on transactional matters out of the firm’s Calgary office. Calgary-based Bernard Roth represents significant oil and gas clients before federal and provincial energy regulators in a wide array of mandates, including oil sands development and service agreements. "Bernard is viewed as a leading expert in the regulatory field." "He is highly experienced and good on his feet." Based in the firm’s Calgary office, George Antonopoulos handles a wide array of M&A, asset sales and project developments in the oil and gas sector. "George has a very collaborative style where he looks for solutions. He is a technically excellent lawyer." "He is a go-to adviser for oil and gas matters." Laura Estep frequently appears before the Canada Energy Regulator and Alberta Utilities Commission, advising oil and gas clients on facilities applications and disputes. She is based out of Calgary. "She is commercial and creative, and also practical and pragmatic."

Torys LLP

What the team is known for Torys continues to solidify its position in the Calgary market, offering significant experience of high-value M&A and private equity transactions in the oil and gas space. The firm acts for explorers, producers and institutional investors on upstream and midstream matters. The oil and gas team provides additional expertise in the downstream market, representing clients in transportation and marketing. The practice regularly advises on offshore oil and gas and international and cross-border projects.

Strengths "The Torys team has an exceptionally strong understanding of commercial issues." "Torys knows the industry well and has very capable lawyers from the top to bottom."

Work highlights Torys advised Vermilion in its proposed USD434 million acquisition of Equinor Energy Canada, which owns a 36.5% interest in the Corrib Natural Gas Project.

Notable practitioners

Based in Calgary, Chris Christopher (see p.168) is noted for his activity in project development and M&A arising from the oil and gas space. His expertise includes acting on both domestic and offshore energy projects, with additional experience in related transportation and construction matters. "His technical legal skills are excellent." Calgary-based Derek Flaman (see p.169) is commended for his representation of oil and gas production and transportation clients, as well as investment companies. He is widely recognised for his experience in transactional matters arising from the midstream space. "Derek can lead large and complex M&A transactions in the energy space and deliver results." David Cuschieri (see p.168) is called upon to utilise his corporate and commercial transactional experience on infrastructure projects in the oil and gas industry. He is based in Calgary. "He is very solution-oriented." "He is very thoughtful and knowledgeable." Peter Danner (see p.168)’s oil and gas practice sees him handle an array of transactions in Western Canada. He has a particular focus in the midstream space. "Peter has impressive attention to detail and a talent for reviewing and drafting highly technical agreements."
Band 3

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais operates a robust oil and gas practice in Canada. The team possesses considerable expertise in regulatory and compliance matters, leveraging its strength in litigation to assist with regulatory disputes. The practice frequently acts on developments in the midstream and LNG space, with further experience providing counsel to clients on commercial and operational issues. The oil and gas group is based across Canada, with particular strength in the firm’s Calgary and Vancouver offices.

Strengths “Borden always has a subject matter expert available.”

Work highlights
Borden Ladner Gervais represented ConocoPhillips in the CER review and approval of NOVA Gas Transmissions’ application to construct and operate the North Corridor Expansion Project.

Notable practitioners
Randall Block KC (see p.167) maintains a highly respected litigation practice, which sees him act on regulatory matters within the oil and gas space. Based in Calgary, he frequently represents major energy clients before the Canada Energy Regulator in proceedings and disputes relating to construction, supply and environmental damages. Alan Ross KC (see p.174) is well regarded for his representation across provincial and federal regulatory mandates. He is particularly well versed in handling issues in the midstream sector and those pertaining to natural gas. He serves as the regional managing partner of the firm’s Calgary office.

Lawson Lundell LLP

What the team is known for
Lawson Lundell is a respected law firm in the oil and gas space, offering notable experience of transactions across Canada. Its oil and gas lawyer are also skilled at advising on the commercial aspects of LNG developments. The group leverages the firm’s offering in corporate/commercial, environmental and Aboriginal law to assist clients with national energy projects.

Strengths “The team are very client-oriented.”

Work highlights
Lawson Lundell acted as title due diligence counsel to Surge Energy in the purchase of all issued and outstanding common shares of Astra Oil Corp.

Notable practitioners
Calgary-based Paul Negenman (see p.173) represents oil and gas exploration and production companies in a range of corporate mandates, including joint ventures, and dispositions. “Paul is widely respected for his knowledge of the industry and for his ability to marry the operational aspects of the oil and gas industry with the legal aspects.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault is a premier Canadian law firm with a well-reputed oil and gas practice. Leveraging the firm’s extensive expertise across corporate, commercial, finance and environmental mandates, the team acts on the gamut of transactions in the space including M&A, joint ventures and dispositions. The oil and gas group receives instructions from a range of major clients, including Shell Canada and Husky Energy. The practice is primarily run from the firm’s Calgary office, with further expertise distributed across its Canadian footprint.

Strengths “The team is very creative and knowledgeable and they have great commercial intelligence.” “They have lots of relevant experience and able to pull others into complex issues as needed.”

Work highlights
McCarthy Tétrault advised West Lake Energy in its sale of a CAD$20 million Gross Overriding Royalty to Topaz Energy.

Notable practitioners
Calgary-based Brian Bidyk (see p.167) represents both upstream and midstream oil and gas clients in M&A and project development. “He is a very practical and business-oriented lawyer.” “Brian is responsive, thorough, and has strong subject matter expertise.”

Keith Howard (see p.171) is an up-and-coming lawyer who focuses her practice in the oil and gas space, regularly handling acquisitions, joint ventures and financings. She is co-head of the firm’s oil and gas practice and is based in Calgary. “Kerr is very methodical and excellent at explaining things.” “She knows oil and gas purchase and sale agreements inside out.”

Other Ranked Lawyers
Alan Ross KC

Keith Miller operates a longstanding regulatory practice, with noted expertise in both oil and gas and power. Based in Calgary, his experience includes representing clients in regulatory proceedings relating to facilities applications for oil sands and pipeline projects. He founded Keith Miller Law in late 2020.
the public and private sectors, the firm represents domestic and international clients and has a strong nuclear practice, with additional expertise in wind, solar and power transmission projects.

**Strengths** "The team is very strong in both their knowledge of the legal aspects of contracts and commercially reasonable business risks.”

"O2r has a very smart team who are responsive and extremely solution-oriented.”

**Work highlights** O2r advised Bruce Power in relation to their Major Component Replacement Project which focused on the refurbishment of the Bruce Power Nuclear Generating Station.

**Notable practitioners**

Based in Toronto, Rocco Sebastiani (see p.174) is an expert in transactional matters across the power sector, with particular strength in nuclear energy projects. He has broad and deep experience across project financing and development matters. “Rocco is very pragmatic, has a wealth of knowledge and an innate ability to communicate clearly and effectively.”

Richard King (see p.12) offers expertise in energy regulation and advises clients on environmental and Aboriginal law issues relating to project development, regularly appearing before the Ontario Energy Board. He is based in Toronto. “Richard is extremely knowledgeable but also very creative, and he breaks down complex issues very well.”

Toronto-based Jacob Sadikman (see p.174)’s practice includes financing and project development in the electricity industry, with further recognition for his work on renewable energy. He acts on behalf of clients including investors and utilities companies. Toronto-based partner Elliot Smith (see p.175) leverages his background as a professional engineer in his legal practice, advising clients including power producers and project developers engaged in the development, financing and construction of projects. He is particularly active in the renewable energy space. “He is exceptional at problem solving and understanding of client goals.”

**Torys LLP**

**What the team is known for** Torys offers substantive expertise across a range of transactional power matters, from generation to distribution. The infrastructure and energy team is also particularly strong in the power regulatory space, and is singled out for its renewables and nuclear expertise. It is best known for its work in Ontario, and has a growing profile in Alberta, as well as in cross-border mandates. The group’s clients include major domestic and international players, including developers, generators, buyers, sellers, financiers, First Nations organisations and public authorities.

**Strengths** “The team is effective, efficient, accommodating and very responsive.”

“Torys has the ability to take complex matters and break them down into manageable components that allows businesses to make informed decisions, thus reducing risk while increasing opportunities.”

**Work highlights** Torys team advised IFM Investors and Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan Board in its CA2.8 billion acquisition of the Canadian districts energy operations of Enwave Energy Corporation from Brookfield Infrastructure Partners.

**Notable practitioners** Toronto-based Krista Hill (see p.171) co-chairs the firm’s infrastructure and energy group. She commands an impressive reputation in the space and is lauded for her representation of significant energy clients across a wide range of transactional mandates, including M&A and project development. “She is excellent, one of the best in her field.” “Krista brings strong, practical advice backed by years of experience.”

Based in the firm’s Toronto office, Charles Keizer (see p.171) maintains his reputation as a leading regulatory practitioner in the power space. He regularly represents generators, marketers and distributors before the Ontario Energy Board, with further recognition for his counsel on project development and financing matters. “Charles provided excellent advice and we have relied on his experience and expertise to develop innovative but practical solutions.”

Managing partner of the firm’s Calgary office Luigi Cusano (see p.168) represents an impressive range of power companies and utilities before the Alberta Utilities Commission. Valerie Helbronner (see p.171) attracts plaudits for her skilled handling of energy project financing matters on behalf of power project developers, and she is further noted for her experience in relation to Aboriginal law and the renewables space. Jonathan Myers (see p.173) frequently advises on the regulatory aspects of large transactions in the power space, including assisting with applications to the Ontario Energy Board. “Jonathan possesses in-depth knowledge of the electricity regulatory framework which allows him to provide fast, accurate advice on a broad swatch of issues. He is responsive, thorough, accurate and a pleasure to work with.”

**Band 2**

**Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais is a talented national law firm with particular strength in energy across Ontario and BC. The power group assists a variety of major electricity industry clients, including generators, distributors, transmission developers, Crown corporations and government agencies. The lawyers offer considerable expertise in corporate and commercial matters relating to conventional and renewable project development, including biomass, water, solar and wind power. They are also sought-after regulatory advice and representation before tribunals across the country.

**Strengths** “We have been very impressed with BLG’s ability to deal with extremely complex and novel legal issues. They have made issues easy to understand for both the regulators and the clients.”

“BLG has a very experienced and deep bench of lawyers.”

**Work highlights** Borden Ladner Gervais advised Manitoba Hydro on the development of the Keeyask Hydroelectric Project in northern Manitoba.
Notable practitioners

Chairs of the firm’s electricity markets group Shane Freitag (see p.170) is noted for his adept handling of project development across the energy space. Based in Toronto, he offers additional experience representing clients in regulatory and transactional matters. “He is very practical.” Calgary-based Jonathan Litepo (see p.172) focuses his practice on utilities regulation, advising on such matters as facilities approvals and performance-based regulation in the power space. He frequently represents clients before the Alberta Utilities Commission. “Jonathan has significant experience and a detailed understanding of regulatory matters.” “Jonathan excels at both technical legal work as well as client relationships. He is exceptional at this craft and is an absolute pleasure to work with.” Mark Rodger (see p.174) acts for clients on a broad array of matters, including transmission rates, infrastructure renewal and regulatory compliance. He is noted for his experienced representation of clients, including utilities, generators and municipalities, out of the group’s Toronto office. John Velone (see p.175) continues to build his electricity and infrastructure practice, providing counsel on project financing and procurement. Based in Toronto, he also provides regulatory advice to both public and private clients in the power sector. “John understands the issues and the way the regulator may look at them. He has a very calm demeanour at all times and clearly understands the concerns and approach of his client.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott houses an experienced team of energy lawyers, offering both transactional and regulatory expertise and a seamless national service. The national power practice advises domestic and international clients on conventional and renewable generation and transmission and assists with M&A and financing transactions. The team boasts considerable regulatory experience in Ontario and Alberta, with further capacity throughout Quebec, where it advises operators and regulatory boards. The firm is also known for its projects and power trading expertise. Strengths “It is a smart, commercial and personable team.” “The Stikeman lawyers are very strong both at the partnership and associate levels, and have always been very responsive and diligent.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott acted for Canadian Power Holdings in its acquisition of two wind power facilities located in British Columbia from InstarAGI Asset Management.

Notable practitioners

The distinguished Glenn Zacher (see p.176) regularly acts as lead counsel in significant regulatory matters across the Canadian power space. He is based in Toronto. “Glenn Zacher is an excellent litigator and strategist. He is very strong when cross-examining and presenting the facts in a clear and succinct manner.” As co-head of the firm’s projects and infrastructure group Patrick Duffy (see p.183) provides regulatory counsel on a wide range of transactions in the energy sector. He offers additional experience of environmental regulation out of the team’s Toronto office. Dominique Rolland (see p.174)’s practice sees him assist clients on project developments and acquisitions in the energy sector.

Band 3

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for Bennett Jones stands out for its strength in the power market in Alberta, as well as in British Columbia, where the firm advises on significant commercial projects. The power and renewables group also assists with compliance and other regulatory matters in connection with a range of energy projects. The firm’s clients include domestic and international electricity producers, suppliers, municipalities and transmission developers. The team offers additional expertise in renewable energy and construction, as well as advising on divestitures and acquisitions of energy assets. Strengths “The team have deep knowledge in the regulatory and administrative law areas in Alberta and are astute to commercial issues and implications. They are highly responsive, always reachable and willing to go the extra mile in servicing their clients.”

Bennett Jones is extremely client-focused.”

Work highlights A Bennett Jones team represented ATCO Energy Solutions in its joint venture development with Future Fuel in connection with the Hairy Hill RNG Project in Alberta.

Notable practitioners

Loyola Kouah has a long-standing reputation for representing clients across Western Canada before both provincial and federal regulators. Operating out of the firm’s Calgary office, he acts on a wide range of regulatory matters impacting the electricity and natural resources sectors. “Loyola is extremely well-versed in Alberta regulatory matters. He is always able to navigate very complex issues and is a huge resource to the clients he serves.” “Loyola is always well considered in his approach.” David Macaulay provides significant expertise in power project development and M&A, with notable activity over a range of renewable energy projects in Calgary and across the country. He co-heads the firm’s power and renewable energy group. “He is very knowledgeable and able to coordinate to successful conclusions.” Deirdre Sheehan’s regulatory expertise spans both the power and renewable sectors, frequently representing her clients before the Alberta Utilities Commission. “Deirdre is extremely knowledgeable and provides practical advice and guidance.” “She looks at issues in a strategic manner and understands the commercial implications.” “Deirdre provides smart and insightful support that is well thought out and reasoned – I can count on her for fantastic analysis.”

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon operates a well-regarded national power practice with particular strength in Calgary, Toronto and Montreal. The group successfully draws on the multidisciplinary expertise of colleagues across the firm to offer clients a wider-ranging service across jurisdictions, including support on cross-border transactions and international PPA’s. The team is regularly called on by some of the major players in the conventional and renewable energy sectors to provide commercial and project finance advice. It also represents clients before regulatory boards in Alberta, BC, Quebec and Ontario.

Strengths “The team are the first to highlight complex legal concerns and think of unique solutions.” “The team are very knowledgeable about our industry and are very responsive.”

“The Blake Cassels lawyers are plugged into issues, very client-focused and creative in approaches to commercial solutions.”

Work highlights Terri-Lee Oleniuk led a Blake’s team in advising ABO Wind Canada on an AUC application to construct and operate the Buffalo Plains Wind Farm project in Alberta.

Notable practitioners

Calgary-based Terri-Lee Oleniuk (see p.173) is sought out for her counsel on the regulatory aspects of renewable project developments, appearing before the Alberta Utilities Commission regarding project applications and regulatory disputes. “Terri-Lee has consistently demonstrated a very strong level of service, sophistication and commercial awareness.” “She is an excellent partner in supporting clients through regulatory proceedings.” Vivian Kung (see p.172) is an up-and-coming partner with particular experience handling acquisitions for clients active in the renewable energy space. “She is a fantastic asset on any deal.”

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg handles significant energy projects and transactions, with notable experience of M&A, capital markets and financing work. The power group is regularly involved in projects relating to the electricity, nuclear and renewable fields, representing clients from both the private and public sectors. The team often advises utilities, power developers, financial institutions and governmental entities. The firm provides additional strength in dispute resolution, construction and environmental law.

Strengths “The true value of a law firm is its ability to comprehend not only the legal context but the business aspects as well; those attributes are a hallmark of the firm.” “Davies ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters is outstanding. The team is able to deconstruct very complex matters into separate clear issues and present them for discussion.”

Work highlights Nicolas Williams led the Davies team which acted for The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company in establishing credit facilities to finance a portfolio of solar projects in Alberta.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Nicholas Williams (see p.340) is highly regarded for his expertise in project financing and infrastructure development, regularly handling transactional matters arising from the power sector. “His extensive experience and commercial awareness makes him a critical member of our team. He coordinates the Davies team in a very effective manner, which translates into a smooth execution.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG stands out for its impressive Canada-wide energy regulatory strength. The group provides further expertise in transactional matters, with notable experience in capital markets and debt financing. The firm also has a robust nuclear practice, strong involvement in the renewables sector and a wide net of distributor clients in Ontario. Its client roster also includes a range of consumers and regulators, as well as municipalities and First Nations communities.

Strengths “The team have total mastery of the files and provide sound advice.”

Work highlights Gowling represented Renewable Energy Production Association in connection to the Quebec Energy Board’s approval of Hydro-Quebec
Ian Mondrow is a stalwart of the Ontario energy regulation market, regularly appearing before provincial regulators on a wide range of matters. His practice encompasses advising electricity sector clients on regulatory and policy law. “Ian is very strategic and has a sharp legal mind. He is one of the most prominent and respected energy regulatory lawyers in Ontario.” Ahab Abdel-Aziz is sought out by clients for his expertise in the nuclear power sector. He has strength across an array of sector transactions including project development and decommissioning work. Paul Hamelin operates out of the firm’s Montréal office skillfully handling regulatory matters for her power sector clients, including representation before the Quebec Energy Board. “She is good at the technical aspects of the work and knows her way around the regulatory framework.” “Her understanding of the issues is excellent and her pleadings are always well done.”

Lawson Lundell LLP

What the team is known for Lawson Lundell provides sound regulatory and commercial advice to a broad range of energy clients, including power producers and marketers, regulators, government agencies and Crown corporations. The firm’s regulatory expertise covers rate design, permitting and a wide range of hearings. It is active in BC, as well as Saskatchewan, Alberta, the Northwest Territories and the Western United States. The energy team benefits from the strength of the firm in other areas including corporate/commercial, tax, Aboriginal and environmental law.

Strengths “The team are very responsive and are very client-oriented.”

Work highlights Lawson Lundell assisted Enel Green Power North America with the regulatory approval process in connection with wind farm projects in Alberta.

Notable practitioners

Jeff Christian (see p.168) is an esteemed litigator who practices out of the firm’s Vancouver and Calgary offices. He routinely acts for utilities and service providers in the power sector, with extensive experience appearing before provincial and federal regulators, such as the Canada Energy Regulator. Vancouver-based Clara Ferguson (see p.169)’s growing power practice includes advising on regulatory compliance matters across BC and Alberta. She represents major utility clients in a wide array of proceedings, including facilities applications and market design. Lewis Manning (see p.173) is noted for his handling of rate and facilities applications before the Alberta Utilities Commission and the Alberta Energy Regulator. Based in Calgary, he has significant experience across regulatory matters arising out of the electricity and oil and gas sectors.

Ian Webb (see p.176) represents public utilities and alternative energy producers in a wide range of regulatory matters, including advising on requirements and compliance. He has further experience concerning rate regulation and is based in Vancouver.

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright houses an experienced team providing knowledge of conventional and renewable power generation, energy regulatory and climate change law. The national energy team is well respected for its project financing and procurement, capital markets and M&A expertise. Its electricity lawyers are especially active in Alberta, with the firm offering further capabilities in Ontario and Quebec, as well as in multi-jurisdictional mandates. Its client roster includes both public and private sector companies engaged in the generation, transmission and distribution of power.

Strengths “The team has a very good understanding of how the industry is structured and the associated legal issues to be considered in any agreement.”

“The ability of partners and associates to grasp complex electricity-related concepts is high. Both oral and written advocacy reflects a solid understanding of technical concepts and the regulatory framework for electricity.”

“The team gives legal advice paired with practical and commercial implications and are able to focus on key commercial issues.”

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright advised Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners on the purchase and subsequent development of the 465 MW Travers solar power project in Southern Alberta.

Notable practitioners

Vancouver-based Matthew Keen (see p.171) represents utilities companies before regulatory bodies across Alberta and BC, providing additional experience across energy, environmental and Aboriginal law. “Matt is a strong advocate with a passion for regulatory strategy and a high degree of knowledge about the electricity industry.”

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken operates a robust power practice in Canada, offering considerable experience in M&A and financing related to power infrastructure across Western Canada and Quebec. The energy group also provides advice on a host of other matters in the space, such as ratemaking and power purchase agreements. The team’s capabilities span both conventional and renewable power projects, particularly in the hydroelectric field. The lawyers regularly act for utilities, power marketers and transmitters, and provide additional expertise in energy regulatory, Aboriginal and environmental law.

Work highlights Brenden Hunter led a Fasken team in its representation of FortisAlberta in Alberta Utilities Commission proceedings concerning its forecast cost of providing utility service to its customers for 2023.

Notable practitioners

Firm managing partner Peter Feldberg (see p.169) operates between the firm’s Calgary and Toronto offices, and is sought out for his broad-ranging experience in regulatory matters arising from energy project approval and development. Vancouver-based Matthew Ghikas (see p.170) is experienced across a broad array of regulatory mandates in the power sector, including project applications, ratemaking approaches and disputes. “Matthew is an excellent lawyer and a pleasure to work with.” Based in the firm’s Calgary office, Brenden Hunter (see p.171) provides counsel on a wide range of regulatory issues, including rate design and project development applications. He often acts on behalf of Crown corporations and transmission companies. “Brenden Hunter is extremely responsive, decisive and gives clear and cogent practical advice.”

Band 4

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons Canada provides representation to major international and domestic companies on M&A in the Canadian energy sector, advising on the financing of conventional and renewable energy projects across Canada, as well as electricity transmission and distribution. The firm brings strong First Nations and environmental law expertise to bear in its energy work. The group’s regulatory practice in particular benefits from this multidisciplinary approach. The team also offers considerable experience of international power projects, most notably in Africa and the USA.

Strengths “The global reach of their practice has been very helpful. They are smart and practical lawyers.”

Work highlights Dentons advised Capital Power Corporation on its CA$1 billion sustainability-linked credit facilities.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Vivek Bakshi advises on project financing, M&A and joint ventures in the renewables and natural resources sectors. He is additionally sought out for his counsel on power purchase agreements. “Vivek is very smart and good to deal with.” “He is a really great lawyer.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Co-chair of the firm’s energy law group Fred Cass of Aird & Berlis LLP represents clients before both provincial and federal courts in regulatory proceedings. Based in Toronto, he is an experienced litigator who acts on system expansion and rate cases. “Fred is very practical and effective.”

Ron Clark of Aird & Berlis LLP utilises his experience in corporate and commercial law to advise energy distributors and generators on regulatory and transactional mandates. Based out of Toronto, he provides counsel on contracts, applications and procurement issues. “Ron has a lot of experience in our industry, he understands complex and complicated issues and yet can provide explanations that are not complex.”

David Stevens handles a range of regulatory matters for his electric utility clients, offering particular expertise in the Ontario market. “David brings a combination of business, litigation and regulatory law to the table. He sees the big picture and can speak to realities rather than just statutes and theories.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Energy & Natural Resources

ABDEL-BARR, Khaled
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 9233
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Corporate Commercial, Law, Energy, Mergers & Acquisitions, Mining, Northern Canada, and Private Equity & Venture Capital
Career: Khaled Abdel-Barr practices mining law, and is the Co-head of the firm’s Mining Group. He provides legal support for mineral exploration activities and mine development projects. He advises on acquisitions and dispositions of mines and mining projects both domestically and around the world, mine financing, and on a broad range of mining matters, including farm-ins, joint venture, strategic alliance, royalty and streaming agreements and mineral title review. Khaled also practices corporate and commercial law with an emphasis on corporate and commercial transactions, and private equity transactions. Khaled advises clients on a broad range of transactions, both domestic and cross-border, and in many different industries, including share and asset acquisitions and divestitures, debt and equity financings and corporate structuring and reorganizations. Khaled also advises clients in the energy sector, having significant experience dealing with contractual issues in connection with the purchase and sale of energy and other energy related transactions. Khaled is a member of the bars of Northwest Territories (2016), Yukon (2008), Nunavut (2012), and British Columbia (1996).
Professional Memberships: Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia – Member, Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada – Member, Canada’s Venture Capital & Private Equity Association – Member.

AMM, Michael
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Across domestic and international corporate and capital markets transactions, Michael’s deep deal experience, technical insights and strategic acumen guide organizations through their most significant and complex transactions. Michael is a recognized leader in his field, and co-heads the firm’s Mining & Metals group. He regularly leads complex transactions, both international and domestic, combining broad experience with creativity and a practical, approach to solving problems and effectively closing deals. Mike’s extensive experience across corporate transactions includes mergers and acquisitions, strategic investments, securities offerings and IPOs, private equity transactions, joint ventures and royalty and streaming transactions. He also regularly advises on corporate governance and securities laws on matters involving both public companies and private companies. Mike has played key roles in significant transactions involving leading companies such as NFI Group (New Flyer), Bombardier, Stelco Holdings, the Aditya Birla Group, China Investment Corp. and many of the leading domestic and international investment banks. As a Canadian and U.S. qualified lawyer having practiced for a number of years in the firm’s New York office, Mike also brings broad international experience to his practice. He is also one of the key partners involved in Torys’ work with Chinese clients.

BAINES, Simon
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Simon is a partner in the Energy Group in the firm’s Calgary office. His practice focuses on complex commercial matters relating to the energy industry as well as the development and the acquisition and divestiture of upstream, downstream and transportation related energy projects including offshore, renewable energy, LNG, oil sands conventional and unconventional oil and gas. Simon has market-leading expertise and experience in assisting clients with all manner of commercial matters relating to offshore development projects in negotiations with host governments on fiscal and regulatory regimes, local benefits requirements and equity participation; and assisting offshore producers as consortium counsel with the development and formation of offshore transportation and transshipment systems. He also has in-depth knowledge and experience in respect of alternative and renewable energy projects. Simon assists a number of clients and multi-disciplinary teams in respect of the structuring and development and acquisition and divestiture of wind and solar renewable energy projects.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Member, Calgary Bar Association, Member
Personal: University of Victoria, LL.B.

BALDWIN, Chris
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Corporate Commercial, Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Mining, Northern Group
Career: Founder of the firm’s Mining Group, Chris advises on acquisitions and dispositions of mines and mining companies, corporate development and mine operations throughout Canada and the world. He has assisted in the structuring and negotiation of hundreds of transactions, including farm-ins and joint ventures, corporate acquisitions and mergers and royalty sales. He has extensive experience with all legal aspects of the development, construction and financing of mines (including diamonds, coal and uranium), royalties, marketing contracts, ore sales contracts, impact benefit agreements

BIDYK, Brian
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Head of the firm’s oil and gas practice group. Practice encompasses a variety of corporate/commercial matters, with a specialization in M&A and divestitures in the oil and gas, electricity and renewable power industries. Advises major oil and gas corporations in the upstream, midstream and service sectors, as well as electricity developers, generators and transmission companies in respect of mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures, and partnerships, as well as the operation, development and investment in energy projects. He currently acts as corporate secretary for several of his clients and has developed corporate finance experience through his work with both public and private companies in equity and loan financing.
Career: Admitted to the bar of Alberta, 2002.
Personal: LLB with Distinction (University of Saskatchewan) 2001; BA (University of Calgary) 1998.

BLOCK, Randall W
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Commercial litigation, arbitration, and regulatory proceedings relating to oil, natural gas and energy. Litigation matters include disputes of all types arising from oil, natural gas and oil sands operations as well as corporate takeovers. Energy regulatory practice includes litigation rate and transmission applications, project development and the oilsands/natural gas concurrent production conflict and related Court challenges. Regularly appears before the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench, Alberta Court of Appeal, multiple regulatory boards and arbitral panels, in addition to sitting as an arbitrator.

BOURASSA, Michael J
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Michael Bourassa’s practice is focused in the mining industry. A member of the firm’s mining group, he acts as the group’s co-ordinator from 2004-2012. A recognized expert, Michael has accumulated extensive experience on both Canadian and international mining projects. Providing advice on public financings, commercial mining agreements, and corporate social responsibility, and litigation support, Michael also has significant expertise in international mining due diligence issues concerning title, technical matters and environmental risks. Michael is the Co-Chair of the International Bar Association’s Mining Executive Committee and a past Director of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation and the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada. Michael also frequently writes on important CSR trends in the mining industry, and speaks on a wide range of mining related topics.

BREEN, Stuart
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Corporate Finance & Securities; Mergers & Acquisitions; Mining; Board Advisory & Corporate Governance; Corporate Commercial; Law, Oils and Gas; and Social Impact and Business Sustainability
Career: Stuart Breen is the head of the Corporate Finance and Securities Group at Lawson Lundell. Stuart’s practice focuses on corporate and commercial law, with an emphasis on corporate finance and securities and mergers and acquisitions for mining companies. Stuart has acted for domestic and international mining companies in a wide variety of transac-
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Vancouver

Personal:
Chambers Global Practice Guide 2016 Canadian Oil & Gas Law and Practice: for Longer – Boards will be challenged in
Publications:
Bar Association, Canadian Bar Association, Professional Memberships:
as Vice President of a TSE listed company.
Career:
joint operating and service-related transactions, as well as the power generation and transmission sectors.

Professional Memberships:
Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation – Member; Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia – Member; Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada – Member
BUCKINGHAM, Janice
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary

Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas:
Janice Buckingham is Chair of the Oil & Gas Practice and Co-leader of the Energy Practice. Janice's practice focuses on the commercial and strategic development, acquisition and divestiture of complex energy production liquefaction, transportation and storage projects in Canada. She successfully represents clients in upstream, midstream and transportation-related asset and share purchase and sale transactions as well as multi-billion-dollar joint venture developments, ownership and operation of conventional and unconventional energy resources, liquid natural gas (LNG) and oil sands projects. Janice has become a strategic advisor on all types of contractual issues arising from industry standard form and negotiated production sharing, processing, transportation, storage, marketing, construction, participation, joint operating and service-related agreements.
Career:
Eight years of oil and gas business experience gained when she served as Vice President of a TSE listed company.
Professional Memberships:
Calgary Bar Association, Canadian Bar Association, RMLFL and Director, CELF.
Publications:
Redwater: various Osler featured in Energy & Natural Resources
Practice Areas:
Practice Areas: Advises on all aspects of securities law including M&A (take-over bids and going private transactions) and public/private offerings of securities. Advises special committees of boards of directors on key issues. Particular focus on mining companies. Extensive experience advising dual-listed issuers, particularly Australian companies that are dual-listed on the TSX and TSXV.
Career:
Served on the Securities Legal Advisory Committee of the British Columbia Securities Commission and on the former Vancouver Stock Exchange, Securities Advisory Committee.
Professional Memberships:
Member of the Toronto Stock Exchange Listings Advisory Committee.

CHRISTIAN, Jeff
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver

Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas:
Advises on corporate, commercial and securities matters, including joint venture and service-related transactions, as well as the power generation and transmission sectors.

Professional Memberships:
Member of the firm's Calgary office.

CUSCHIERI, David
Torys LLP, Calgary

Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas:
David Cuschieri provides deep industry perspective and creative legal counsel to clients around the world on significant energy and infrastructure transactions and projects. David has a long track record working with clients in their corporate and commercial work, including domestic and international energy, oil and gas, and related infrastructure transactions. His extensive experience includes advising on acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures, partnerships and project development. David's robust experience spans the ecosystem of energy and infrastructure transactions, including all aspects of private M&A in various other industries, working closely with both energy and infrastructure companies as well as a wide range of private and publicly traded issuers, pension funds, private equity and other institutional investors.

DANNER, Peter
Torys LLP, Calgary

Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas:
Involved in some of the most significant recent M&A transactions in the midstream space in Western Canada. Peter brings experienced corporate counsel, industry insight and technical ability to help clients navigate their most important transactions. A leading corporate and M&A lawyer, Peter regularly advises on strategic investments, private equity transactions, joint ventures and complex commercial arrangements in the energy and mining sectors. He works closely with operating companies and investors on a wide variety of transactions in the oil and gas exploration and production, midstream infrastructure, refining, retail and other energy-related sectors. Peter also works with clients in the mining and metals industry on their transactional matters, including offsets, royalty and streaming transactions.
DAVINOS,Don
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Don Davies practises energy law, with a focus on the regulatory and litigation fields. Mr. Davies has rep- resented oil and gas producers, pipeline companies and industry organizations in proceedings before the National Energy Board for more than 30 years. He has also advised international energy developers in many applications for the approval of pipeline facilities and for the determin- ation of pipeline tolls and tariffs. His cases typically involve complex environmental, aboriginal, constitutional, jurisdictional, economic and financial issues. Mr. Davies also has extensive experience before the Alberta energy regulators, including the Alberta Energy Regulator and the Alberta Utilities Commission. He has also advised clients on numerous energy projects, includ- ing oil sands developments, pipelines, power plants and well and field facilities. He also represents clients in regulatory proceedings related to electrical power facilities and utility rates and services.

DENSTEDT,Shawn
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Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Cana- da), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Shawn is the Vice Chair of Western Canada. His practice is comprised of energy, mining, environmen- tal, regulatory and aboriginal law matters. Shawn advises companies in a variety of industries, primarily the Natural Resource industry. He has been engaged in a num- ber of international assignments. Shawn has advised Canada’s largest energy industry associations in respect of regulato- ry reform for energy project development. Shawn has appeared in major regulatory proceedings before the Alberta Energy Regulator (Energy Resources Conservation Board; Alberta Utilities Commis- sion; National Energy Board; Federal Environmental Assessment Joint Review Panels; Ontario Energy Board; Alberta Energy Appeal Board and various other appeal boards. He has successfully represented clients in the development of multi-billion dollar projects including pipeline projects, oil sands projects, shale gas projects, LNG projects, hydro-electric projects, offshore developments, and mining projects. He has also advised clients on their obligations to aboriginal groups and negotiated resource development and IBA’s with aboriginal groups on behalf of resource developers.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta

Publications: Shawn has published nu- merous articles and lectures extensively on environmental assessment and regula- tory proceedings, aboriginal rights, public consultation and risk communication.

Personal: University of Western Ontari- o, B.L. Wilfrid Laurier University, B.A.

DOMINIQUE,Brian P
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Featured in Environmental & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Commercial lawyer with broad experience in commercial property law, focused on the mining and electricity sectors. Extensive experience in related infrastructure projects and Aboriginal law and negotiating with Indigenous peoples. Has negotiated a broad spectrum of com- mercial operational contracts particular to mining and electricity sectors across Can- ada and internationally, including forms of contractual and corporate joint ventures and infrastructure, access, electricity, services, smelting and refining, etc., to supply and shipping agreements. Extensive experience advising clients that explore for, develop and operate gold, silver, copper, nickel, iron ore, lithium and diamond and mineral projects across Canada and throughout the world.

DORION,Marc
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Co-leader of the firm’s national Energy and Infrastructure law group, supervises the natural resources group in Quebec and is responsible for the activities of the firm in relation to develop- ment of Northern Quebec and has considerable experience in commercial negotiation and public affairs.


DUFFY,Patrick
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada, Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)
See under Environment for profile.

DUNCANSON,Sander
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Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sander specializes in environmental, regulatory and Indig- enous law issues for natural resource development. He has experience with matters before the National Energy Board, the Alberta Energy Regulator (and its predecessor, Energy Resources Conservation Board), the Ontario Energy Board, the National Energy Board, the Alberta Utilities Commission, the Northwest Territories Office of the Regulator of Oil and Gas Operations and federal-provincial Environ- mental Assessment Joint Review Panels.

The subject matter of Sander’s recent regulatory work includes oil and natural gas pipelines, oil sands (both mining and in situ), LNG export, offshore drilling, hy- dro-electric generation, mining (including coal, metal, potash and diamonds), natural gas processing, electricity transmission and contaminated lands.

Career: Sander has spent his entire legal career at Osler, becoming an associate in 2011 and partner in 2019.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association (former Chair, Environ- mental Law Section, Alberta South) Alberta Bar Association (Energy Law Section of Alberta & British Columbia)

Publications: Government of Canada enacts changes to environmental assess- ment processes (Osler Update: July 17, 2018) Changes to federal impact assess- ments, energy regulator and waterway regulation (Bills C-68 and C-69) (Osler Update: Feb 12, 2018) Supreme Court releases much-anticipated Chippewas and Clyde River decisions (Osler Update: July 26, 2017)

Personal: University of Calgary, L.L.B. (Distinction)

ERICKSON,Frederick G
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Fred Erickson is a part- ner in the Energy – Oil & Gas Group. His practice focuses on significant transac- tional and advisory engagements, and he has extensive involvement as lead counsel in major acquisitions and dispositions, restructuring projects, project develop- ments, joint ventures, financings, asset securitizations and other international transactions. Fred has considera- ble experience in most aspects of the up- stream oil and gas and natural gas liquids (NGL) industries, including the purchase and sale or development of oil, gas and NGL pipelines, storage, processing and other upstream and midstream facilities. In that regard, Fred represents several major producers, midstream companies and financial entities in their transactional, restructuring projects, joint ventures, financings, asset securitizations and other international transactions. Fred has also had considerable involvement in the development of cegeneration, wind and other power projects.

FEDUN,Wayne
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Wayne Fedun has practised oil and gas law in Canada and internationally since 1992. He has negoti- ated and prepared a variety of energy industry agreements, including joint venture agreements, project development agreements, project finance agreements, facility agreements, engineering, pro- curement and construction agreements, transportation agreements, marketing agreements, Canadian East Coast off- shore agreements and various South American and Central Asian agreements. These agreements related to projects ranging from several million to several billion dollars and involved conventional energy matters, heavy oil and oil sands projects, and offshore drilling and pro- duction projects.

FELDBERG,Peter
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Peter Felbberg is Fasken’s Managing Partner. He is respon- sible for the firm’s strategic direction, management, and human resources. He is also a member of Fasken’s Partnership Board. As an energy regulatory lawyer, he has helped clients to develop and gain approvals for some of the largest energy infrastructure projects and other energy projects, including oil sands projects, and offshore developments. Mr. Fellenzer works closely with the Partnership Board and the Management Team to develop and implement the programs that are necessary to provide excellent, practical and cost effective legal services and to make Fasken a great place to work. Peter’s responsibilities encompass client service and all aspects of firm-wide management and operations.

FERGUSON,Clara
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Administrative, Constitutional and Public Law, Energy, Environmental & Regulatory, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, and Public Law. Clara practices in the area of energy and regulatory law with a focus on public utility regulation and administrative law. She advises private sector, public sec- tor and government clients, including the largest electric utility in B.C., on a broad range of regulatory matters including market rules and compliance, rate design, long-term planning and capital project permitting and other matters. Clara has also appeared as counsel in proceedings before administrative tribunals in B.C., Alberta and the Northwest Territories and regularly assists clients in proceedings before the British Columbia Utilities Commission and Alberta Utilities Commission. Clara also acts for clients with respect to matters be- fore the BC Oil and Gas Commission and Canada Energy Regulator and in litigation before the courts in B.C. and Alberta. Clara is admitted to the bars of Alberta (2009), Northwest Territories (2009), and British Columbia (2011).


FLAMAN, Derek S
Torys LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Environmental & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: With deep experience in transactions, energy and infrastructure, Derek provides clients with business-focused advice to guide their deal-making and other strategic
Energy & Natural Resources

Robert regularly acts as lead counsel on complex commercial arrangements, joint ventures, project finance transactions, complex corporate restructurings, and advises domestic and international clients on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance. Experience in structuring and negotiating mergers, spin-offs, takeovers, business combinations, joint ventures, farm-in agreements, project financings, private placements and public offerings. Acts for issuers, boards, investors and dealers in cross-border investments and other transactions, as well as the marketing of energy and energy-related products.

GABRIELSON, Andrew J
Fasken, Vancouver
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Andrew Gabrielson focuses on corporate and commercial practice in Vancouver within the mining and construction industries. As a former partner of a major national Australian law firm (prior to joining Fasken), and having practiced in Western Australia predominately in mining and construction law, Andrew is highly sought after for his expertise. As a member of the firm's Global Mining Group, Andrew advises major and junior mining companies on a wide range of transactions relating to mineral exploration, mine development and commercial mining operations. Through his broad practice, Andrew has particular expertise in the drafting and negotiation of option, exploration, farm-in, earn-in, joint venture, purchase and sale, royalty, off-take, ore and concentrate sale, tolling and other mining-related commercial agreements.

GHIKAS, Matthew
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Matthew Ghikas is the leader of Fasken's Global Energy Group in the BC Region. He is the leading energy and regulatory litigator based in Vancouver, with particular expertise in the energy, utility and natural resources industries. Matt represents clients in proceedings before regulators in BC, Alberta and Manitoba, in litigation before the courts in British Columbia and Alberta, and in arbitrations and mediations. He has experience and qualifications in domestic and international arbitration, including being a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb), and being a roster arbitrator for the International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR). The Canadian Transportation Association has included Matt on its arbitrator roster for determining rail disputes and final offer arbitrations.

GOLDMAN, Jay
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Corporate and securities law with an emphasis on M&A and corporate finance. Experience in structuring and negotiating mergers, spin-offs, takeovers, business combinations, joint ventures, farm-in agreements, project financings, private placements and public offerings. Acts for issuers, boards, investors and dealers in cross-border investments and other transactions, as well as the marketing of energy and energy-related products.

HANSEN, Jennifer
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Specializes in the representation of public mining companies involved in complex transactions, including business combination transactions, take-over bids, domestic and cross-border public offerings, M&A and other finance transactions. Advises on continuous disclosure obligations, corporate governance and regulatory compliance, including mineral project disclosure and recommendations for aligning governance practices with best practice recommendations.

HARRIS, Chris
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 9674
chris.harris@blakes.com
Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Chris is a corporate lawyer with a practice focused on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, and complex commercial arrangements. He primarily advises strategic clients and private equity investors, with a particular emphasis on all aspects of the energy value chain, including upstream oil and gas, pipelines, midstream and downstream marketing, power and renewables, and carbon capture, storage and utilization. A substantial portion of Chris’ work involves cross-border investments and other transactions. He also has significant experience in other industries and markets including technology investment, agribusiness and industrial services.

in Australia, Brazil, Chile, China, Croatia, India, Ireland, Mexico, Namibia, Peru, South Africa and Ukraine, among others. He is experienced in dealing with subtle issues encountered in international transactions.
Energy & Natural Resources

HELBONNER, Valerie
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 (416) 865-7516
vhelbonner@torys.com
Featured in Aboriginal Law (Nationwide – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: By applying creative solutions and managing strong relationships among numerous participants, Valerie supports clients to progress some of the country’s most complex multi-party infrastructure and energy projects. Valerie has been at the forefront of the development and financing of renewable energy projects across Canada. She works on some of the earliest and most innovative renewable projects, including the construction of solar and wind farms across Canada, allowing clients to enter the Canadian market and confidentially perform and long-term commercial arrangements. Kerri also advises on a number of U.S. and other foreign projects, both domestically and internationally. His practice has included representing clients on complex infrastructure projects impacting Indigenous interests and parties, where she brings a robust perspective on different parties’ interests and priorities. She is the co-head of Torys’ Indigenous practice and her recent project work related to Indigenous involvement notably includes the Wataynikaneyap Transmission Project in northernBritish Columbia and working with The Honorable Frank Iacobucci in advising the Government of Canada on its re-initiated consultation process with Indigenous groups on the Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project.

HILL, Krista F
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Krista is highly recognized as an industry leader in infrastructure and energy M&A, privatizations and joint ventures. Krista is the Co-Head of the Infrastructure and Energy Practice, as well as a member of the firm’s Executive Committee and the firm’s Diversity & Inclusion Committee. Krista has deep experience in complex, innovative, first-of-kind transactions and projects. With robust insight into all types of energy projects and infrastructure asset classes, she has led and directed teams working to advance significant projects and transactions. Krista is also an accomplished deal negotiator and has extensive experience advising multiple stakeholders with respect to design of complex projects and transactions.

HOWARD, Kerri
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Business Law Group in Calgary and co-head of the firm’s national Oil & Gas Group. Kerri’s practice focuses on corporate/commercial matters in Canada’s energy and power sectors, with specialization in the oil & gas industry. Kerri advises clients on mergers and acquisitions, a broad range of commercial energy arrangements, intellectual property licensing matters and derivative transactions. She has profound experience in joint venture and partnership arrangements, and corporate reorganizations and restructurings. In addition to onshore upstream and midstream oil and gas arrangements, Kerri also advises on the development of clean-energy and other power projects, including capture carbon and storage, hydrogen, wind and solar projects. Kerri is a trusted advisor to both local and international clients. She provides counsel to major corporations during transactions involving both Canadian and international entities and assets, and has advised a number of U.S. and other foreign clients on Canadian-specific regulatory, documentary and other legal matters associated with derivatives arrangements. She brings a strong understanding of the legal and regulatory environment for energy exploration and development in Canada, allowing clients to enter the Canadian market and confidentiality perform cross-border transactions.

KEEYNS, Ryan
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Ryan Keays practises primarily in the area of energy and resources, but also focuses on business law and corporate and commercial legal practice. He advises clients on a broad range of commercial and corporate matters, with a specific focus on the energy sector, both domestically and internationally. His practice has included representing clients in oil and gas asset acquisitions and divestitures, share acquisitions and disposals, negotiation of production sharing contracts and other host government contracts, gas marketing arrangements, pipeline transportation arrangements and midstream asset monetization transactions, negotiation of farm-in agreements and other joint venture agreements, oil and gas lease negotiation and interpretation matters, royalty matters and other contractual and operational matters in the oil and gas industry. Mr. Keays’ international experience includes advising oil and gas companies entering and operating in many jurisdictions in North America, Latin America, Africa, Europe and the Middle East.

KEILY, Kathleen
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Kathleen advises on corporate, securities and mining laws, with a focus on corporate finance and mergers & acquisitions transactions. She has extensive experience acting for companies involved in mineral exploration, development and production, who have projects throughout the world. She has a deep knowledge of alternative finance arrangements in the mining sector, including metal streams, property options, escrows in agreements and royalties. Kathleen is also frequently engaged to assist in negotiating joint venture and co-ownership agreements in the mining sector.


KEIZER, Charles
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: A leading energy lawyer, Charles Keizer works with clients
on some of the most sophisticated work in the sector, combining skilled advocacy and deep regulatory knowledge to help advance projects and unique and complex matters. Charles is co-head of Torsy’s Infrastructure and Energy Practice and leads the Energy Regulatory Practice. He maintains an active practice with an emphasis on administrative law and project development in the energy sector. He frequently advises generators (renewable and conventional), transmitters, and electricity and natural gas distributors in relation to regulatory, project development and mergers, and acquisitions in the energy and infrastructure sectors. Charles regularly appears before the Ontario Energy Board on rates, licensing and leave to construct matters applications, some of which are the most complex and unique matters considered by that tribunal. As lead counsel on a number of generation and transmission projects, Charles has provided strategic advice related to federal and provincial regulatory regimes, and he has a strong understanding of project development — from the initial stages to connection and commercial operation.

**KELLERMAN, Jay**
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Jay Kellerman is a partner and member of the Mergers & Acquisitions and Capital Markets Groups, and served as the Managing Partner of the Firm’s Toronto office from 2012 to 2018. With more than 30 years of experience, Jay is widely recognized by market sources as a leading practitioner in his field. He is consistently sought out by senior management of companies, boards and investors for not only transactional assistance, but to advise on strategic direction and growth. Jay has earned significant praise for his seasoned practice and deep technical knowledge. He is recognized as one of the top energy and natural resources practitioners in the world by market commentators and directories including Who’s Who Legal, as a Noble Practitioner Capital Markets: Equity, and M&A by International Financial Law Review. Included in Chambers and Partners as a leading practitioner in the area of energy and natural resources, Jay has recently been named one of the top 25 lawyers in Canada by LITFLP’s Leading Financial Law Firms 2020, and as the ‘Law Firm of the Year’ for leading practitioners in the Business and Energy sectors. Jay is also consistently named as one of the top mining lawyers in the world by LITFLP’s Leading Financial Law Firms 2020, and as the ‘Law Firm of the Year’ for leading practitioners in the Business and Energy sectors. Jay is widely recognized by market sources as a leading practitioner in his field. He is consistently sought out by senior management of companies, boards and investors for not only transactional assistance, but to advise on strategic direction and growth. Jay has earned significant praise for his seasoned practice and deep technical knowledge. He is recognized as one of the top energy and natural resources practitioners in the world by market commentators and directories including Who’s Who Legal, as a Noble Practitioner Capital Markets: Equity, and M&A by International Financial Law Review. Included in Chambers and Partners as a leading practitioner in the area of energy and natural resources, Jay has recently been named one of the top 25 lawyers in Canada by LITFLP’s Leading Financial Law Firms 2020, and as the ‘Law Firm of the Year’ for leading practitioners in the Business and Energy sectors. Jay is also consistently named as one of the top mining lawyers in the world by LITFLP’s Leading Financial Law Firms 2020, and as the ‘Law Firm of the Year’ for leading practitioners in the Business and Energy sectors.

**LANGEN, Dennis**
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**Practice Areas:** Dennis Langen is a partner in the Energy Group and leads the Energy Regulatory Team in the Calgary office. His practice focuses on the regulation of both energy and resource development and energy infrastructure. Dennis has significant experience with the regulation of oil and gas development and facilities, electric generation and transmission facilities, energy export and import, and the economic regulation of pipelines, district energy, public utilities and electricity markets. He advises oil and gas, oil sands, midstream, pipeline, power, mining, and gas and electric utilities on all aspects of federal and provincial energy regulation, including environmental, engineering, operational, independent, economic, market and compliance aspects. Dennis regularly appears before the Canada Energy Regulator (CER) in respect of facility, tolling, tariff, cost of capital and export approval applications; the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC) in respect of facility, rate, tariff, rule-making and enforcement applications; the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) in respect of oil and gas development, facility and resource equity applications; and the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) in respect of utility applications. He is routinely involved in review applications and appeals relating to definitions of these authorities. Dennis also regularly assists clients in navigating the nuances of energy regulation in the context of power purchase agreements, asset sales and dispositions and in mergers and acquisitions.

**LEVER, David**
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**Practice Areas:** David is Chair of the Board of Partners at McCarthy Tétrault and Industry Group Leader of the firm’s Projects and Infrastructure Groups. He is recognized as one of Canada’s leading project experts with extensive experience in energy and infrastructure. His practice focuses on project development, project finance, corporate finance, and mergers & acquisitions in the energy and infrastructure sectors. David has extensive experience in financings in both the public and private markets and in public-private partnerships arrangements and long-term contracts with governments. He represents developers, investors and lenders in connection with hydro, co-generation, biomass, landfill gas, nuclear and wind power projects across Canada and the US. David offers advice with respect to market design and energy procurement. David also has significant experience in government procurements and the defence sector.

**LITEPLO, Jonathan**
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**Practice Areas:** Jonathan Lитеро вorks extensively in the area of energy and utilities regulation. As a leading practitioner, Jonathan represents participants in the electricity, oil and gas, water and waste water, and mining industries in a broad range of matters before regulatory authorities and the courts. He has wide-ranging experience representing owners in obtaining tariff related approvals, including performance based rate regulation and utility cost of capital, change of control approvals, and regulatory permitting for complex and controversial infrastructure projects. His clients value his leadership skills, the comprehensive analytical and strategic approach he brings to each matter, and his emphasis on adopting a team approach with his clients to achieving successful outcomes.

**LITTON, KayLynn**
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**Practice Areas:** KayLynn Lитton is the Canadian head of our energy sector. She regularly assists clients on a broad range of corporate and commercial matters, including domestic and international acquisitions and divestitures, joint venture projects, midstream contracts, corporate reorganizations, Aboriginal consultation and general commercial matters. Her practice includes negotiating and drafting complex transactional, corporate and commercial arrangements for clients in a variety of energy industry sectors.

**MACAY, Karl**
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Partner in a business law group and head of the Mining Group at Goodmans. Practice is transaction based, involving all aspects of corporate and securities law, with a particular emphasis on the structuring and execution of a variety of transactions, including complex international merger and acquisition transactions and multi-counterparty financing arrangements. Also assists companies with their governance and disclosure work. She often represents issuers, private companies and financing parties, many of which are in the Mining and Natural Resource sector. Extensive experience at all stages of project development, including with respect to acquisitions, contracting matters. In addition, project financing, including royalty and streaming transactions, technical reporting, off-take agreements and dispositions of assets. Career: Recognized as a leading lawyer by Chambers Global. Editor of Canadian Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions, and Mining. By The Canadian Legal Lexpert, The Legal 500 Canada and Best Lawyers in Canada.

**Mackinnon, Karen**
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Corporate Commercial Law, Energy, Mergers & Acquisitions, and Mining.

**Career:** Karen MacMillan is the Co-head of the firm’s Mining Group. Karen practices corporate/commercial, mining and energy law with an emphasis on commercial arrangements in the mining sector including asset level acquisitions and dispositions, negotiation of earn-in, option and joint venture agreements, royalty agreements, joint venture agreements, and other strategic ownership arrangements. She also regularly advises clients in the energy sector in connection with the ownership and development of major power generation projects, power purchase and sale agreements, renewable energy transactions and a variety of related commercial contracting matters. Karen has represented domestic and foreign-based clients in various industries on general business law matters involving domestic and cross-border transactions. Karen’s experience includes representation on share and asset acquisitions and divestitures, licensing arrangements, corporate and contractual joint venture arrangements, and debt and equity financings. Her experience covers a range of sectors and industries including energy, mining, forestry, pulp and paper, financial services, consumer products manufacturing and distribution, recreation and resorts, transportation and education. Karen has also had the opportunity during the course of her...
career to work in-house with clients in the energy and forest-products sectors where she focused primarily on procurement, construction and engineering and other contractual matters. Karen is a member of the bars of British Columbia (1999), Saskatchewan (2016), and Yukon (2021).

MANNING, Lewis
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Practice Areas: Administrative, Constitutional and Public Law, Energy, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Oil and Gas, and Power.

Career: Lewis’ practice focuses on Regulatory/Administrative Law energy matters involving both the electricity and oil and gas sectors including all aspects of rate applications, toll design, facilities applications, cost of capital and related matters before the Alberta Utilities Commission (previously the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board); the Alberta Energy Regulator (previously the ERCB) and the Canada Energy Regulator (formerly National Energy Board). He has appeared at all levels of the Alberta courts in relation to various energy related matters both at trial and appeals, the CBCU, OEC, Manioba PUB, the Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry, the Federal Court, Federal Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. He has also represented clients in arbitrations as well as sitting as an arbitrator in relation to oil and gas and electric industry related contract disputes. Lewis represents independent power producers, industrial & commercial customers, oil & gas producers, utilities, forest industries, industry associations, regulators, consumers and transmission companies in relation to regulatory matters. He has participated actively in all matters relating to the restructuring of the gas transmission and distribution sectors in Canada and the electric industry in Alberta. He was also a member of the legislative drafting committee responsible for the Alberta Electric Utilities Act and related matters. Lewis has a strong civil litigation background and has appeared as counsel in the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal in relation to a number of first nation challenges to pipeline projects. He has also acted as counsel before many other administrative tribunals, including the Development Appeal Board, the Workers Compensation Board, Calgary Real Estate Board, and the Municipal Government Board (Commercial Property Tax Assessment Appeals in relation to gas plants). Lewis is a member of the bar of Alberta (1982).

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Practice Areas: Frank Mariage practises in the areas of securities, corporate law and mining law. Over the course of his career, he has developed legal expertise on mining issues. Frank represents mining companies and guides them through the discovery, sale, and processing of mineral deposits, in Canada and elsewhere. He specializes in the legal issues and challenges faced by mining companies.

MASSE, David
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: David Massie is a partner and Head of the Montréal office’s Securities Group. David has extensive experience focused primarily on corporate finance and securities, mergers and acquisitions, financial restructuring and corporate governance. He has been counsel to strategic purchasers, financial sponsors, private equity funds, pension funds and boards of directors in several complex domestic and cross-border transactions, including going private transactions and initial public offerings. He is involved in a wide range of industry sectors including power and renewable energy, mining, aviation, telecommunications, technology, pharmaceuticals and entertainment. David has contributed to a number of industry publications including international directories, as a leading lawyer in the areas of corporate finance and securities, mergers and acquisitions, corporate commercial and mining. In 2007 and 2008, David gained international experience working in the London office of Stikeman Elliott. He is a member of the Montréal office’s Finance Committee.

MURPHY, Suzanne
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Practice Areas: Suzanne Murphy is a partner in our Business Law Group in Toronto with a practice focused on private mergers and acquisitions, private corporate finance and general corporate matters in the power industry. She regularly represents investors, developers and financiers of a variety of energy assets including natural gas, wind, solar, biomass, nuclear, energy storage and thermal energy. Suzanne has significant experience preparing and negotiating complex commercial agreements in the energy sector including acquisition agreements, power purchase agreements, operations and maintenance agreements, supply agreements, shared services agreements, joint venture agreements, partnership agreements and shareholder agreements.


MYERS, Jonathan
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jonathan provides clients in the energy sector business-oriented counsel, distilling nuanced regulatory considerations into pragmatic advice to further clients’ strategies. With deep experience in the sector, Jonathan provides strategic counsel across the spectrum of industry participants, including electricity generators (renewable, conventional, nuclear and alternative fuels), as well as electricity and gas transmitters and distributors. He is regularly involved in matters before the Ontario Energy Board, including with respect to rates, licensing, leave to construct and expropriation proceedings. Jonathan also advises clients on energy-related project development, interconnection processes, regulatory and contractual matters, and on energy regulatory considerations in energy M&A and financings.

NEGENMAN, Paul
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Corporate Commercial Law; Energy; Oil and Gas. Career: Paul Negenman advises clients on the drafting and negotiating of take-over and issuer bids, and acting as a divestiture (A&D) of oil and gas assets and the drafting and negotiating of joint venture, partnership and joint operating agreements pertaining to the energy industry. Paul also assisted clients in due diligence and title opinion preparation in A&D transactions and with respect to custom and complex freehold land matters and the legal consequences of asset retirement obligations (ARO). He provides advice relating to day to day disputes and issues with joint venture participants, royalty owners and fee simple owners of oil and gas properties and ARO disputes. In A&D, he helps clients understand and navigate the closing process and the preparation of closing documentation to ensure a successful transaction. Paul’s practice is focused exclusively on oil and gas matters. The significant concentration of Paul’s oil and gas focused practice, allows him to provide his clients with timely, detailed and thoughtful assistance in energy matters. Paul is a member of the bar of Alberta (1994).

O’CALLAGHAN, Peter
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Peter is the Office Managing Partner of Blake’s Vancouver office. Peter’s practice is focused on merger and acquisition transactions in the mining sector. He also has extensive experience in corporate finance transactions, including public and private equity financings, debt financings and issuer bids. He advises clients as independent counsel to investment dealers and boards of directors. He has acted in respect of many mining transactions in Canada, the U.S., South America, Africa, China and Australia. Professional Memberships: Peter is a member of the CBA’s Securities Law and Business Law Subsections, as well as The Foundation of Natural Resources and Energy Law.

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Industry Group Leader of Firm’s National Power Group and Partner in the firm’s Toronto office and. Significant experience representing domestic and foreign acquirers, investors and sellers of a variety of power assets, including transmission and distribution, district energy, and all conventional and alternative generation technologies, including nuclear. Has assisted financial institutions and borrowers on project financings and re-financings of power projects and distribution systems across Canada and in the US. Regularly acts for project developers and sponsors negotiating commercial arrangements in the sector, including power purchase and energy service agreements, CFDs, service contracts, conservation and demand management agreements and joint-venturing agreements.


OLENIUK, Terri-Lee
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Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Terri-Lee’s practice focuses on project-related issues concerning natural-resource development with a specialization in regulatory, environmental and Aboriginal law issues. She acts for a variety of companies in environmental assessments and regulatory proceedings to obtain approvals for major developments in the oil and gas, pipeline, mining (including metal, potash and diamond), natural-gas processing, petrochemical, electricity transmission, hydro, solar, wind and storage sectors. Terri-Lee has appeared before the Canada Energy Regulator, the Alberta Energy Regulator, the Alberta Utilities Commission, the Alberta Utilities Commission, the National Energy Board, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board, and the federal provincial joint review panels in respect of environmental assessment proceedings.

OLTHEFER, Lars H
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Lars advises and represents upstream oil and gas producers, pipeline and midstream companies, and electrical generation and transmission companies on regulatory and environmental compliance and facility approval processes and tariffs, public and Aboriginal consultation, and lands rights acquisition and compensation, in the context of both provincially and federally regulated projects. Lars regularly appears before energy and utilities boards and commissions in Alberta and B.C. (including the Canada Energy Regulator) as well as all levels of the Alberta and Federal Courts.

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EARN IN AND JOINT VENTURE TRANSACTIONS, ROA LTY AND STREAMING TRANSACTIONS, ASSET PURCHASE AND SALE TRANSACTIONS, STRATEGIC ALLIANCES, OFF-TAKE AND CONCENTRATE SALE AGREEMENTS, AND JOINT OPERATING AGREEMENTS. EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE WITH LATIN AMERICA-RELATED TRANSACTIONS.

CAREER: FOUR YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN HOUSE CORPORATE COUNSEL TO TECK RESEARCH GROUP AND, SUBSEQUENTLY, TO A NATIONAL DIVERSIFIED MINING COMPANY, WORKED FOR TWO YEARS IN BERMUDA WITH A LARGE OFF-SHORE LAW FIRM. PRIOR TO HIS LAW CAREER, HE WAS A GEOPHYSICIST WITH AMOCO CANADA PETROLEUM COMPANY FOR SEVEN YEARS.

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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alberta), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

PRACTICE AREAS: ALICIA QUÉREOL, B.A., M.A., LL.B., ICD.D, HAS OVER 28 YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN THE COMMERCIAL ENERGY SECTOR WITH A PRACTICE THAT IS FOCUSED ON THE STRUCTURING, OWNERSHIP AND OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF LARGE SCALE CONVENTIONAL AND NON-CONVENTIONAL UPSTREAM RESOURCE JOINT VENTURE PROJECTS (PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS, OIL SANDS AND SHALE GAS), CORPORATE REORGANIZATIONS AND RESTRUCTURING, MIDSTREAM INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (LNG, EXPORT FACTORIES, PROCES SING, PIPELINE AND CRUDE BY RAIL TRANSPORTATION), AS WELL AS RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS (WIND, HYDRO AND SOLAR). HER PRACTICE ALSO ENCOMPASSES Mergers and acquisitions, royalties and midstream arrangements as alternative forms of financing and she is a strategic advisor on complex commercial matters in the energy sector. Alicia also secures regulatory approvals for mergers from the Competition Bureau, Investment Canada, and other regulatory matters and advises on competition and anti-trust compliance matters. Alicia has also acted as an advisor on complex commercial matters in the energy sector. She has also acted in mergers, acquisitions and midstream arrangements for companies in a range of industries, including natural gas, solar, wind and infrastructure.

ROLLAND, Dominique
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PRACTICE AREAS: DOMINIQUE ROLLAND IS AN ASSOCIATE IN THE CORPORATE GROUP, PRACTICING MAINLY WITH THE FIRM’S MÉRGERS ET ACQUISITIONS, CAPITAL MARKETS AND PROJECTS & INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP. SINCE THE BEGINNING OF HIS PRACTICE, DOMINIQUE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN SEVERAL MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS TRANSACTIONS IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY INDUSTRY, IN PARTICULAR ON PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPP), WIND POWER AND HYDRO PROJECTS ACROSS CANADA. HE HAS ALSO ACQUIRED EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE AREA OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE IN THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY INDUSTRY.

ROSS, Alan
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PRACTICE AREAS: ALAN ROSS, KC IS THE REGIONAL MANAGING PARTNER OF BLG’S CALGARY OFFICE AND CHAIR OF THE FIRM’S US PRACTICE. ALAN PRACTICES AND ADMINISTRATES A REGULATORY LAW WITH A FOCUS ON BOTH CONTENTIOUS AND TRANSACTIONSAL TRANSACTIONS. HE SPECIALIZES IN THE AREAS OF TRANSMISSION, OIL AND NATURAL GAS, RENEWABLES (SOLAR AND WIND), ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY AND REGULATORY MATTERS. ALAN HAS SIGNIFICANT EXPERIENCE IN THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND REGULATION OF LARGE SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.

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PRACTICE AREAS: JACOB’S PRACTICE FOCUSES ON THE ELECTRICITY SECTOR AND ON REGULATORY MATTERS RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY AND THE DESIGN OF THE TAXATION AND AFFAIRS ACT. JACOB IS ALSO AN EXPERT IN THE AREAS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS. HIS WORK FOCUSES ON THE DESIGN OF THE TAXATION AND AFFAIRS ACT. JACOB IS ALSO AN EXPERT IN THE AREAS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS. HIS WORK FOCUSES ON THE DESIGN OF THE TAXATION AND AFFAIRS ACT.
nadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships Canadian Construction Association, Ontario Energy Association
Personal: Osogoode Hall Law School, LL.B. • Former President, P.Eng. University of Toronto, B.A.Sc. (Engineering Science, Nuclear and Thermal Power)
SHISHLER, Melanie
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A partner well regarded for her strategic thinking and insight into Canadian and international M&A. Melanie advises on complex public and private mergers & acquisitions. She has expertise in acting for both bidders and target companies in solicited and unsolicited public takeover bids and privately negotiated acquisitions in a variety of industries. A significant portion of Melanie’s practice is focused on mining. Her diverse practice involves advising clients on mining asset acquisitions and dispositions, joint ventures, royalties, rights of way, title and regulatory matters, project development, procurement, contract negotiation and administration issues. Her practice has a strong emphasis on the development of power plants, both renewable and conventional, as well as the negotiation of power and capacity purchase agreements. Elliot regularly advises clients on other aspects of construction law, including construction contracts, equipment supply agreements, operating and maintenance agreements, and long-term utility supply agreements.
Career: Prior to joining Osler, Elliot worked at multiple institutions in the deregulated Ontario electricity market, including Ontario Power Generation and the Independent Electricity System Operator. He also worked at the Ontario Power Authority, where he assisted in the development of a regional electricity supply plan.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association • Ontario Bar Association • Law Society of Ontario • Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario
Publications: Construction projects and COVID-19 – the latest developments, March 2020
with an emphasis on energy transactions, projects, procurement, energy contracts and joint ventures. Craig’s transactional experience includes all facets of the oil and gas sector including upstream oil and gas, gas plants and gathering systems, pipelines, LNG projects, oil refineries and power generation and renewable energy (wind, solar, biomass and cogeneration). Craig’s clients include senior, mid-sized and junior Canadian and foreign energy and resource companies, service and technology providers, private capital firms and other investors.
Career: LL.B., University of Alberta, (1990)
Professional Memberships: CBA, Canadian Energy Law Foundation, LSA
Personal: University of Alberta, L.L.B. Alberta Bar (1991)
STEIN, Paul M
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Acts as lead counsel for a number of public clients that have been involved in mergers, acquisitions, take-over bids (both hostile and friendly), proxy fights, going-private transactions, spin-off transactions, corporate finance and corporate governance matters. Frequently acts as counsel for special committees of boards of directors. Practice also includes assisting mining clients in the negotiation of joint ventures, farm-in agreements and the financing of exploration and development projects, both domestically and internationally.
Professional Memberships: Member of the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation and the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (Securities Section).
TAPLIN, Roger
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Co-leader of the firm’s Global Mining Group. Practice primarily focuses on the areas of M&A and financing. Experience includes advising on significant mining M&A transactions, including takeover bids, business combinations, share or asset sales and joint ventures. Acts for issuers and underwriters on public and private securities offerings as well as providing general securities regulatory and corporate advice to public companies. Acts for mining clients and banks in relationship and corporate finance and other professionals in a wide variety of international jurisdictions, including metal streaming and royalty transactions.
TRAUB, Jennifer
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Represents both issuers and investment dealers in connection with public and private securities offerings, mergers and acquisitions, and other financing transactions. Particularly experienced in the resource sector, having played an integral role in managing some of the largest and most complex corporate finance and M&A deals in the mining industry in Canada. Completed the Osogoode Hall Certificate in Mining Law. Director of Denison Mines Corp.
Career: Toronto Rising Star winner; Lexpert
Professional Memberships: (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: John Turner is Leader of the firm’s Global Mining Group and Chair of the Capital Markets and Mergers & Acquisitions (CM & M&A) Group. His practice is focused in the resource sector, where he has been involved in many leading corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions deals. One of Canada’s national newspapers, the Financial Post, has described John as “one of the best dirt lawyers in Canada, if not the world.” John represents issuers and underwriters in capital markets and mergers and acquisitions transactions involving resource companies active throughout the globe. He also regularly advises corporate boards, senior management and special committees on a breadth of transactional and governance matters.
encompassing a breadth of corporate, commercial and regulatory issues with a particular focus on Canadian electricity markets and infrastructure revitalization. His clients include Provincial and Territorial governments, system operators, regulated utilities, developers, investors, and lenders. He provides counsel concerning corporate, commercial and regulatory aspects of the electricity and natural gas industries and power project development for a variety of technologies, including wind, solar, hydro-electric, biomass/biogas, tidal, natural gas cogeneration (combined heat and power), and district energy. John represents local distribution utilities, generators, large industrial consumers, and transmitters before the Ontario Energy Board in a variety of proceedings, including electricity and gas rate applications, leave to construct applications, licensing applications and license amendments, Z-factor applications, and MAADS applications, and before the Independent Electric System Operator in a variety of proceedings, including compliance and enforcement proceedings and inquiries.

Professional Memberships: John is an executive of the National Environmental, Energy and Resource Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association and the Natural Resources and Energy Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association.

Personal: John is an avid rock climber and frequently volunteers to facilitate climbing access.

WEBB, Ian
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Energy, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, and Power.

Career: Ian Webb advises and represents governments, public utilities, alternative energy producers and energy marketers on regulatory requirements, hearings, commercial transactions and international trade matters related to energy. Ian acts for the largest electric utility in British Columbia, and for several district energy utilities in connection with the regulation of their rates and services. He advises municipal and regional governments on regulatory requirements and transactions in connection with their waste-to-energy projects. He also advises market participants on the rules of interconnection and access to transportation services for electricity and natural gas. Ian is a member of the bar of British Columbia (2000).

Professional Memberships: Law Society of British Columbia – Member

WELDON, Ashley
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Practice Areas: Ashley’s practice focuses on energy and corporate transactions, as well as project development and infrastructure. She regularly provides legal guidance to clients on an array of corporate matters including acquisitions, mergers and divestitures in the energy sector, providing advice on joint venture arrangements and other business structures, as well as negotiating commercial agreements for upstream and midstream oil and gas companies.

Career: Outside of the office, Ashley is currently the Vice President of the Canadian Energy Law Foundation (CELF) and was the Director at Large, Legal, for the Petroleum Joint Venture Association (PJAVA) from 2013 to 2019. She is a regular course and seminar instructor for numerous industry associations, including the Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen (CAPL), Petroleum Accountants Society of Canada (PASC) and the Canadian Bar Association – Natural Resources Section.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta; Canadian Bar Association; Calgary Bar Association.

Publications: Ashley has co-authored multiple publications on the topic of oil and gas royalties and vesting off interests in land, which have been published in the Alberta Law Review and Annual Review of Insolvency Law.

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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada), Projects (Nationwide – Canada)

See under Projects & Construction for profile.

WOODER, Bob J
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Bob practises in the areas of mergers & acquisitions and corporate finance with a focus on the mining sector. He advises public and private companies and financial institutions. Bob has extensive expertise in advising on take-over and issuer bids, private equity financings and as independent counsel to board of directors.


Professional Memberships: Bob is a member of the Firm’s Executive Committee and is the past Chair of the Firm’s Compensation Committee.

WRIGHT, Carolyn
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Carolyn has extensive experience and general commercial transactional experience in conventional and unconventional resources in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin, including joint ventures, partnerships, infrastructure project development, the acquisition and disposition of companies and assets, royalty transactions, transportation and the negotiation of common use industry agreements. Carolyn represents project proponents, provincial governments, first nations businesses, service companies, suppliers, banks and other financial interests. Carolyn provides guidance with respect to the negotiation and preparation of various commercial agreements between industry proponents and First Nations in various commercial endeavours, including oil and gas, services, community development, food services, alternative energy projects and others. She advises First Nations-owned businesses on corporate governance matters and advantageous business structures, such as limited partnerships and non-profit entities.

Career: Carolyn has been a Director and President of the Canadian Energy Law Foundation, which aims to enhance understanding of current and emerging legal issues important to the Canadian energy sector. She has also been a member of the executive of the Canadian Bar Association – Natural Resources Section. Carolyn does numerous presentations to industry proponents and members of the legal profession regarding matters of importance to the energy sector.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta; Canadian Bar Association; Calgary Bar Association.

ZACHER, Glenn
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Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Glenn Zacher is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution and Energy Groups and is Co-Head of the Energy Group. His practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and class actions, particularly in the energy sector, and on energy regulatory law. He has appeared before all levels of provincial courts and the Supreme Court of Canada, and has conducted arbitrations and acted as counsel before various administrative tribunals, including the Canada Energy Regulator (CER) (formerly, the National Energy Board). Glenn is a member of the firm’s Professional and Ethics Committee. Glenn’s energy dispute/regulatory practice includes advising and representing public agencies and private sector companies (generators, marketers, transmitters, developers, lenders, etc.) before the OEB, CER, and in litigation and appeal proceedings before the Ontario Superior Court, Divisional Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada. Glenn also has significant experience defending class actions involving deceptive marketing, consumer protection, securities, product liability and competition law claims.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Environment
How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Band 1

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for
Bennett Jones is an established law firm with a stellar reputation for environmental law. It has a strong presence in the energy sector and represents major energy clients in complex regulatory and transactional matters. The team is highly regarded for its expertise in environmental litigation, including class action and mass tort proceedings. It also has a strong track record in matters involving joint ventures and other forms of development, as well as in matters involving the environmental aspects of oil and gas extraction and transportation.

Strengths
They are responsive, knowledgeable and experienced.
They always provide practical advice and assistance that helps clients achieve their business objectives.

Work highlights
Bennett Jones represented Trans Mountain in respect of an order issued by the National Energy Board requiring the company to halt construction of a portion of the pipeline. The company is highly experienced in advising on regulatory proceedings and has a wealth of experience assisting clients with environmental impact assessments. It is especially noted for its expertise in the oil and gas sector.

Sarah Gilbert is well versed in regulatory and compliance matters. She has extensive experience in advising on environmental matters, including matters involving the Navigable Waters Protection Act. She is highly regarded for her knowledge in environmental law and her ability to provide practical advice and assistance to clients.

Band 2

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP is a leading environmental law firm in Canada. The firm has a strong track record in matters involving environmental litigation, including class action and mass tort proceedings. It also has a strong track record in matters involving joint ventures and other forms of development, as well as in matters involving the environmental aspects of oil and gas extraction and transportation.

Strengths
They are responsive, knowledgeable and experienced.
They always provide practical advice and assistance that helps clients achieve their business objectives.

Work highlights
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP represented Trans Mountain in respect of an order issued by the National Energy Board requiring the company to halt construction of a portion of the pipeline. The firm is highly regarded for its expertise in advising on regulatory proceedings and has a wealth of experience assisting clients with environmental impact assessments. It is especially noted for its expertise in the oil and gas sector.

Sarah Gilbert is well versed in regulatory and compliance matters. She has extensive experience in advising on environmental matters, including matters involving the Navigable Waters Protection Act. She is highly regarded for her knowledge in environmental law and her ability to provide practical advice and assistance to clients.
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is an impressive law firm with a deep bench and offices across Canada. The environmental law team provides clients with advice on a range of matters including project development, compliance, chemical and waste regulation and endangered species law. The group's strengths lie in both corporate matters and litigation at every level of court. It acts for clients including companies from the mining, oil and gas, and power sectors. Further noted for its strength in Aboriginal law, the team often advises on negotiations with First Nations communities on behalf of energy industry participants.

Strengths
“Every time it is needed, Blake's has been able to provide us with an expert in the matter – all our needs are met.”

“They are always available, very responsible and thoughtful in their approach to client service.”

“Clear crisp and concise – they are easy to deal with.”

Work highlights
Blake acted as counsel to Enel with respect to its application to the Alberta Utilities Commission for approval to construct and operate the 151.2 MW amended Grizzly Bear Creek Wind Power Project.

Notable practitioners
Pre-eminent environmental lawyer Jonathan Kahn (see p.185) advises on a broad spectrum of matters in the environmental space, including prosecutions and class actions relating to issues such as land contamination. He is based in Toronto. “Jonathan is very experienced, assesses situations quickly and is a good strategic thinker for problem solving.”

Tony Crossman (see p.183) advises on a wide range of environmental regulatory issues, representing clients in the energy and mining sectors out of the firm's Vancouver office. He has further experience assisting with the environmental considerations of commercial and corporate transactions. “Tony is very smart, has a calm and authoritative disposition, remains curious, is responsive to tight timelines, offers credible experience and provides thoughtful, insightful and prudent advice that stems from his experience.”

Joanna Rosengarten (see p.186) provides clients with compliance, permitting and transactional advice from the firm's Toronto office. She is also able to assist on climate change matters. “Selina is excellent, she's good on climate change issues.”

Notable practitioners

Band 2

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is a dynamic law firm that handles a number of different environment-related matters, including impact assessment, project development and regulatory compliance. The environmental and Indigenous team leverages the firm's wider transac- tional and regulatory strengths to offer support both nationally and internationally. The team includes companies from the mining, energy and manufacturing sectors. The firm is highly prominent in the Ontario market and also operates a growing Quebec practice.

Strengths
“Davies are extremely responsive, offer a very high level of service and are always able to identify the critical parts of a transaction.”

“They provided timely responses and had a thorough and in-depth knowledge of the subject.”

They have strong expertise, are very responsive and provide excellent advice.”

Work highlights
Davies acted as Canadian counsel to funds managed by Blackstone Tactical Opportunities in their acquisition of H.G. Cattle backed Sus- tana Group, a manufacturer of premium, sustainable recycled fibre, paper, and packaging products.

Notable practitioners

Alexandria Pike (see p.185) is sought out by clients from a breadth of sectors, including manufacturing and natural resources, for her extensive knowledge of environmental regulations, including issues relating to remediation. She operates out of the firm’s Toronto office. “She provides an extremely high level of well thought out and executed service.”

“An exceptional environmental attorney.”

Alexandra is smart, diligent and accessible.”

Based in Toronto, Sarah Powell (see p.186) has a pre-eminent environmental prac- tice, advising on matters ranging from permitting and the acquisition of hydropower projects to land contamination litigation. “Sarah is an excellent lawyer.”

“She’s fantastic.”

“A market leader.”

Montréal-based Marie-Claude Bellemare (see p.183) advises on environmental concerns arising from M&A transactions. She is additionally instructed by natural resources clients and manufacturers to assist with the environmental due diligence for development projects and industrial sites. “She is a great subject matter expert.”

“She has a systematic way of approaching every topic presented to her and is very meticulous and always available to help.”

“Marie-Claude is extremely knowl- edgeable from a technical standpoint, very practical in her problem-solving approach and very measured. She is extremely attentive, responsive and thorough.”

Gowlings WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for
Gowlings houses a well-regarded environmental law team which draws upon the firm's interdisciplinary approach to offer experience across a range of jurisdictions and different environmental services. The practice has substantial expertise in brownfield development, waste and water waste management, and climate change with regard to cap-and-trade systems. The firm regularly handles environmental litigation and also offers expertise representing clients in Northern Canada, including acting on behalf of Indigenous communities.

Strengths
“Demonstrated ability to handle time-sensitive, complex, and highly public issues.”

“They strengths include responsiveness and the depth of the practice group.”

“The advice provided has been thoughtful, thorough and effective.”

Work highlights
Gowlings represented Groupe Somavac in a litigation before the Superior Court of Trois-Rivières pertaining to the presence of on-site historical contamination, which originates from Irving Oil’s past petroleum activities.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Harry Dahme regularly handles litiga- tion and appeals, and is especially well versed in waste management issues and waste water regulations. He is a “true expert in environmental matters generally and in the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.”

Adam Chamberlain typically counsels clients on the environmental aspects of various mining and infrastructure projects, with noteworthy expertise relating to such matters in the Canadian Arctic. Based in Toronto, he is noted for his activity at the intersection of environmental law and the rep- resentation of Indigenous peoples. “Adam is a great lawyer.”

Rodney Norther is well versed in regulatory
issues, assisting with matters such as environmental approvals and waste management on behalf of priv-
ate and public clients, including municipalities. As head of the firm’s environmental law group, he oper-
ates out of the firm’s Toronto and Vancouver offices. “Rodney is excellent.”

Torys LLP
What the team is known for Torys offers advice on the environmental aspects of a wide range of trans-
actions and projects, including high-profile and multi-jurisdictional mergers, financings and rede-
velopments. The firm is also active on contentious issues arising from projects and regulatory pro-
ceedings. The environmental law team represents major Canadian and multinational clients spanning numerous industry sectors including oil and gas, chemicals, renewable energy, mining, nuclear, con-
sumer and media. The firm is additionally known for its expertise in climate change law and emissions trading.

Strengths “Torys are very business-oriented and play a strategic role in our decision making. They quickly absorbed all the information provided, masterfully crafting it into clean, concise and impactful argu-
ments.”

“We have worked with Torys on complex and time-sen-
sitive issues, and they have always been very respon-
sive and provided excellent service.”

“They are consistently responsive to-and even anticip-
ate-clients’ needs and always deliver high-quality advice in a timely manner. They also bring a pragmatic and strategic lens to complex challenges, grounded in deep understanding of the legislative landscape and political climate.”

Work highlights Torys represented EDP in the develop-
ment of the 100 MW Nation Rise Wind Project near the township of North Stormont in eastern Ontario.

Notable practitioners

Dennis Mahony (see p.185) is an esteemed lawyer who handles the full spectrum of issues in the envi-
ronmental space, including environmental approvals for major energy projects. He is based in Toronto. “Dennis Mahony is exceptionally skilled at handling complex and sophisticated matters.” Dennis is a stra-
etic wizard, putting the pieces of the puzzle together efficiently and effectively. His awareness of our business combined with his legal prowess puts him in a league of his own.” Dennis is a global authority in his field and is at the top of his field in Canada.”

Tyson Dyck (see p.184) acts out of the firm’s Toronto office and has a strong reputation for his work in the energy and mining industries. He possesses further expertise encompassing carbon finance and climate-related matters. “He is a great lawyer to work with, very knowl-
edgedable on climate matters.” “He has always been very responsive, knowledgeable and friendly.” Toron-
to-based Michael Fortier (see p.184) is well versed in environmental issues relating to major energy and mining projects, with additional experience with regard to transactional matters. “Michael Fortier is well versed in the environmental field.

Band 3

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken is a respected law firm with a solid environmental department. The team represents businesses from the energy, mining and transportation sectors, offering substantial expertise across contaminated site management, environmental assessment and risk management, and regulatory compliance in the context of major power projects. It has additional expertise in cli-
mate change and carbon trading matters, as well as fisheries and habitat issues. The firm is also experi-
enced in environmental dispute resolution, both in defending clients against environmental charges and in resolving disputes through arbitration and mediation.

Strengths “Fasken are able to handle a variety of typ-
e of files and they are very responsive.”

“The firm provided us with astute legal advice.”

Work highlights Fasken acted for the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority in connection with the environ-
mental assessment and permitting of its proposed Roberts Bank Terminal 2 Project, a new CAD3 billion marine container terminal on Canada’s west coast.

Notable practitioners

Rosalind Cooper (see p.183) offers substantial expe-
rience in environmental matters out of the firm’s Toronto office, with a particular focus on environ-
mental impact assessments and contaminated land litigation. “She is excellent.” “She is a respected envi-
ronment lawyer.”

Montréal-based up-and-coming lawyer Pierre-Olivier Charlebois (see p.183) acts across both contentious and commercial mandates in the environmental space. A leader of Fasken’s corporate social responsibility team, he is particularly well versed in matters relating to the carbon market, including carbon offsets. “He is a solid lawyer.”

Lawson Lundell LLP
What the team is known for Lawson Lundell is a strong Vancouver-based law firm that provides advice to clients in connection with the environ-
mental assessment and approval processes for major projects in Western Canada and the North. The environmental and regulatory practice’s experi-
ence cuts across a wide range of sectors including transportation, mining and forestry. The team also provides valuable litigation expertise, with experi-
ence representing clients in environmental law mat-
ters before the British Columbia Supreme Court and the Supreme Court of Canada. It offers additional strength in matters involving contaminated site remediation and other hazardous waste issues.

Strengths “We found their technical capacity and insights to the regulatory process really helpful.”

“Lawson Lundell is very strong – there is always a deep bench to pull from for our various needs.”

“They are really responsive and succinct in their advice.”

Work highlights Lawson Lundell continued to rep-
resent TMAC in relation to its environmental assess-
ment, permitting and indigenous law matters in connection with its development of the Doris North and Hope Bay Belt Projects in Nunavut.

Notable practitioners

Clifford Proudfoot KC (see p.186) advises on a range of matters including environmental assessments, court challenges to the issuance of mining permits. Based in Vancouver, he serves as the firm’s managing partner. Vancouver-based Brad Armstrong KC (see p.183) regularly assists clients with environmental assessment reviews, including the public hearing phases. He is well versed in acting for mining and oil pipeline companies, particularly with regard to projects located in the Canadian North. Kinji Cour-
chier (see p.183) operates out of the firm’s Vancouver office, acting across a number of litigious matters

Miller Thomson LLP
What the team is known for Miller Thomson is a full-service law firm that houses a solid team of dedicated environmental lawyers who cover a range of litigation, regulatory and transactional matters. Its clients include renewable energy and power producers, research institutions and government agencies. The environmental law group provides top-tier, client-focused advice including in relation to environ-
mental approvals, permitting, assessment and due diligence. The firm benefits from lawyers based throughout numerous offices in BC, Ontario, Québec and Saskatchewan.

Strengths “Miller Thomson has a good depth of law-
yers to handle a range of legal matters.”

“They are very strong in environmental law – always responsive and collaborative.”

Work highlights Miller Thomson represented the Stk’emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation in provincial environmental reviews of a proposed copper mine in their territory.

Notable practitioners

Vaughan-based Bryan Buttigieg has a strong reputation in the market, handling a wide variety of environmental issues in both contentious and non-contentious settings. He is particularly experi-
enced handling cases stemming from environmental damage and brownfield redevelopment. “A leader in the area.”

Tamara Farber represents clients in envi-
ronmental litigation out of the firm’s Toronto office, providing a particular specialty in contaminated land cases. “Tamara is a pleasure to work with. She is responsive to our needs and makes the right decisions to protect our interests.”

Ms Farber is able to explain complicated matters in a manner easily understand-
able to this client. She is clear, efficient, with a solid understanding of the end goal.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is a notable law firm with a strong track record for advising clients on a variety of environmental mat-
ters including project development, environmental assessment reviews, contaminated land and general compliance issues. The practice is additionally well positioned to represent clients in environmental litigation, such as administrative hearings and civil actions, as well as in the tribunal appeal process. Its regulatory, environmental, Aboriginal and land (REAL) group is respected for its representation of clients from the energy and natural resources sector. The team is primarily based out of the Toronto and Calgary offices, with national reach across Canada.

Strengths “They are excellent environment litigators and regulatory lawyers.”

“Osler is very client-focused and works collaboratively with us as a firm.”

“They provide excellent service and have a great com-
plement of partners and associates; they’re doing a fantastic job.”

Work highlights Osler advised Equinor Canada, as operator of the proposed Bay du Nord offshore oil project, on all environmental assessment, regulatory and Indigenous relations matters related to the project.

Notable practitioners

Operating out of Calgary, Shawn Denstedt KC (see p.169) is vice-chair of the firm’s Western Canada practice. He is an accomplished environmental
lawyer who is well versed in regulatory issues arising in the energy and natural resources industries, and regularly advises on permitting issues. Toronto-based Jennifer Fairfax (see p.184) is active on environmental assessments as well as remediation and contamination matters. She acts on behalf of a range of national and international clients including Honeywell and Imperial Oil. Jennifer is a great litigator and legal mind.” Toronto-based Patrick Welsh (see p.186) advises a range of clients, including natural resource and retail companies, on transactional and development mandates. “I found Patrick’s knowledge and service to be excellent.”

Sheahan LLP

What the team is known for Sheahan is a high-quality environmental boutique based in Montreal with an established reputation for environmental law, particularly litigation. The firm is well placed to handle a wide variety of issues, from contaminated land and remediation to groundwater matters and permitting strategy, as well as the application of specific legislation, such as the Fisheries Act, to industrial clients. Its diverse client roster includes companies from the forestry, aviation, energy and mining industries.

Strengths “Both on a technical and strategic level, Sheahan provide excellent guidance.” “The firm’s strengths include responsiveness, their relationships with regulators, and the ability to think on their feet and offer practical advice.”

Work highlights Sheahan advised Federal Construction in contesting a provincial remediation order to remove fill on undeveloped land before the Quebec Administrative Tribunal.

Notable practitioners Montreal-based Anne-Marie Sheahan (see p.186) is sought out by a prominent roster of clients seeking advice on the full spectrum of issues in the environmental space, including environmental assessments and regulatory compliance. “She has excellent communication skills and the ability to integrate and process complex issues.” “A great lawyer.” Marko Khan (see p.185) is developing a reputation in the Quebec market for her ability to advise on a broad array of issues. Recent work has seen her handling transactional, permitting and compliance matters. “Marko Khan was very detailed, concise and strived always to meet our time, budget and availability.” “She has an excellent knowledge of the legal and regulatory framework and how it has been applied in practice.”

Willms & Shier Environmental Lawyers LLP

What the team is known for Willms & Shier is a highly regarded environmental law boutique headquartered in Toronto, whose services run the gamut of environmental issues from litigation to transactions and regulatory advice. The firm’s clients include a broad range of municipalities and real estate, transportation and energy companies. Particular areas of strength include advising on the redevelopment of contaminated land, obtaining permits and approvals, as well as waste water treatment and management. The firm has additional offices in Ottawa, Calgary and Yellowknife.

Strengths “Willms & Shier has deep subject matter expertise and has demonstrated pragmatic thought leadership when assessing complex and sophisticated environmental law matters.” “Good knowledge of procedure, timely actions taken and a team approach employed.”

“They are extremely knowledgeable on environmental law.”

Notable practitioners Marc McAreey serves as firm co-managing partner from its Toronto office. He is a highly regarded environmental law specialist who is sought out for his expertise in contentious matters, particularly those related to operational incidents and contamination. He additionally provides counsel on environmental compliance. “Marc is a very knowledgeable, pragmatic lawyer – he excels at spotting environmental issues and evaluating potential approaches/solutions.”

“Marc is very experienced, knowledgeable as well as very hard-working.” “He’s excellent – a good legal mind.” Juli Abouchar is noted for her handling of major environmental and Aboriginal law issues. She is particularly noted for her expertise in risk management, permitting and compliance. “Juli’s service is always timely, and any advice requested is meaningful and pragmatic.”

Charles Birchall is principally engaged to assist with environmental assessments and general environmental compliance issues. He is a respected figure in the field and known for his extensive experience working at the intersection of environmental and Aboriginal law. “Charles is an excellent and knowledgeable lawyer.”

“He is very well regarded across Canada.”

John Georgakopoulos has a notable profile in the environmental law space, with particular expertise in relation to compliance and due diligence. Another major aspect of his practice involves advising on emissions trading and related issues. He serves as firm co-managing partner. “John is excellent. He is responsive to our needs/request and delivers on time, while his materials are concise and well prepared. I know my company is well represented with John as our outside environmental counsel.”

Band 4

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais is a full-service law firm with a multidisciplinary environmental law department. The practice is highly regarded for environmental litigation as well as assisting with environmental assessments and permitting. The firm offers additional expertise in relation to contaminated sites, storage and transportation of hazardous goods, and emissions. The group’s client roster spans the country and includes public and private companies, municipalities and Crown corporations.

Strengths “They have very good excellent commercial awareness; they understand the needs of the business.” “Borden Ladner Gervais was timely in responding and had a strong knowledge of our issue.”

Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais represented the Foodservice Packaging Institute in challenging the federal government’s proposed bans and restrictions of certain manufactured items under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based Gabrielle Kramer (see p.185) represents a range of public and private clients, including municipalities and oil and gas companies, engaged in regulatory proceedings and contamination disputes. “I have been impressed with Gabrielle, her subject matter knowledge and her knowledge of sector experts.” Based in Vancouver, Rick Williams (see p.186) is well versed in environmental issues and is frequently sought out to advise on matters relating to major oil and gas projects. He is additionally noted for his experience in contaminated land litigation. “Rick is a very good lawyer.”

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons Canada ably assists clients with a range of environmental concerns, including project permitting and clean-up programmes as well as land use planning and conservation issues. The firm also advises on environmental due diligence and offers expertise in relation to the transportation of dangerous goods. The practice leverages the firm’s global strength to offer support to Canadian and international clients, particularly in the field of natural resource development. The team is well versed in climate change and emissions law including carbon trading.

Strengths “A well-respected firm in Calgary.”

“Dentons has a very good knowledge of environmental law.”

Work highlights Dentons advised Capital Power on its inaugural CAD1 billion sustainability-linked credit facilities.

Notable practitioners Calgary-based Alex MacWilliam represents clients, including municipalities and notable real estate developers, in relation to their environmental obligations. He offers further expertise in guiding clients through emergency response and any subsequent disputes. “Alex is very knowledgeable, competent and experienced.” Mira Gauvin is a well-recognised lawyer based in the firm’s Montreal office. She frequently represents firms in the infrastructure and natural resources space, assisting with environmental assessments and permitting, as well as Aboriginal rights. “I appreciated her knowledge of environment law and her rigour.”

McLennan Ross LLP

What the team is known for McLennan Ross is an effective law firm based in Western and Northern Canada which has a strong environmental transnational and litigation offering. The team also advises clients on environmental matters relating to project development, water, waste management and contaminated sites. The firm’s litigation strengths include disputes before a range of regulatory bodies. Its lawyers often represent government entities and municipalities.

Strengths “They possess good bench strength with a roster of students, associates and partners who are available to ensure the work is done at the right level at the appropriate cost.”

Work highlights McLennan Ross represented Northwest Territories Power Corporation in the renewal for a water licence for a hydroelectric generating facility.

Notable practitioners Edmonton-based lawyer Ronald Kruhlak KC has a broad-ranging environmental law expertise encompassing remediation and Water Act proceedings. He has additional experience helping clients to obtain regulatory approval for various mining and energy projects. “He’s a top performer.” “An excellent lawyer.”

Calgary-based Gavin Fitch KC maintains a strong practice in Alberta, regularly assisting with permitting issues and environmental assessments. He also represents clients in litigious proceedings, including appeals.
Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is an international law firm that offers advice on all aspects of environmental law, including issues related to air, soil and water, as well as endangered species, waste management and climate change. With lawyers based in offices from coast to coast, the team has notable experience handling matters for clients from the oil and gas, infrastructure and transportation sectors. The firm also provides advisory services on the environmental aspects of large-scale M&A transactions.

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright represented SNC-Lavalin in an action initiated by the Government of Canada regarding alleged negligence in the installation of fuel tanks by SNC-Lavalin’s subcontractors at an RCMP site.

Notable practitioners

Calgary-based senior partner Alan Harvie (see p.184) is a well-known figure in the Alberta market. He acts for a number of high-profile clients on environmental regulatory compliance issues in the context of site acquisitions.

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott offers a strong bench of highly skilled practitioners frequently engaged by a roster of leading corporate clients to advise on complex environmental matters. The firm’s environmental law group offers considerable expertise assisting with permitting and infrastructure and environmental assessment issues arising from renewable energy projects. It is also noted for its cross-border capabilities, particularly involving the USA.

Strengths “The firm is extremely efficient, business-savvy and understand the fundamentals of deals.”

“A commercial and responsive law firm.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott represented A. O. Smith, a publicly traded global water technology company, in its USD192 million acquisition of Giant, a Canada-based manufacturer of residential and commercial water heaters.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Larry Cobb (see p.183) regularly assists with the environment aspects of transactional work, including the acquisition of mining companies both domestically and overseas. He is additionally well placed to advise on contaminated land and the transportation of hazardous goods.

“Larry is just fantastic.” “A competent and seasoned lawyer.” Based in Toronto, Patrick Duffy (see p.183) advises on environmental assessments and contamination issues, alongside his broader focus on project development and energy regulatory matters. He has experience appearing before the Environmental Review Tribunal. “Patrick is detail-oriented and comes to us with solutions.” “He’s knowledgeable, well connected and practical.” Montréal-based Myriam Fortin (see p.184) is praised by sources for her handling of environmental regulatory issues, often acting for manufacturers and natural resources companies. Her expertise in this field is wide-ranging, encompassing environmental impact assessments as well as remediation matters. “Myriam is excellent.” “She’s great on transactions.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Richard Bereti co-chairs the environment practice at noted BC firm Harper Grey. He handles an array of environmental litigation and regulatory matters, with considerable expertise in the management of contaminated sites. “He is highly personable and connects with clients – a reliable and highly trusted adviser.” “Richard is very knowledgeable and always willing to assist.”

Toronto-based Janet Bobechko (see p.183) is an experienced environmental lawyer with a practice encompassing both litigious and regulatory matters. Notable areas of expertise include contamination and remediation, emergency response and environmental approvals. “Janet is a great lawyer.”

Robert Daigneault is renowned in Québec for his accomplished handling of environmental litigation and his long history of representing energy and natural resources companies. He is especially noteworthy for his background as a biologist, which provides a unique perspective to his legal work. “Robert is excellent.”

Toronto-based Elisabeth DeMarco is particularly noted for her prominent work in the climate change space. In this field she acts on behalf of several well-known energy companies and is well regarded by her peers in the market. “She’s a great lawyer.” “Elisabeth is very good on climate change issues.”

Montréal-based Christine Duchaine is held in high regard for her environmental litigation practice. She is experienced handling appellate work and regularly acts on behalf of energy and natural resources companies. “Christine is a solid lawyer – a leader in Québec.”

Based in Toronto, Robin Junger (see p.12) advises on the full spectrum of issues in the environmental and Aboriginal law spaces. “Robin is a really strong lawyer and really experienced.”

Operating out of the firm’s Vancouver office, Robin Junger (see p.12) advises on the full spectrum of issues in the environmental and Aboriginal law spaces. “Robin is a really strong lawyer and really experienced.”

Jana McLean is the principal of Vancouver-based Iris Legal. Her environmental practice sees her assist with environmental assessments as well as contaminated land and species at risk matters. “Jana is an excellent advocate and can synthesise and process large amounts of expert and other evidence into a persuasive argument.” “Jana’s strength is to make the complex easy to understand.” “She’s consistent, incredibly knowledgeable and forward-thinking.”

Jean Piette is an immensely experienced lawyer who enjoys a formidable reputation in Québec. He is well known for having helped establish many of the province’s environmental regulations and policies, and he maintains an active practice representing a number of high-profile clients. "Jean is a great senior lawyer.”

Una Radoja of Harper Grey boasts a diverse environmental practice, regularly advising corporate clients on contentious and regulatory matters. “A pleasure to work with, thoughtful and careful in her work.” “Una is incredible. Her understanding of the regulatory regime is excellent and her ability to present winning arguments is outstanding.” “Una is a consummate professional. She is hard-working, conscientious and goal-oriented.”

Winnipeg-based John Stefaniuk has extensive experience in environmental law, including in regard to contaminated sites and remediation issues. His broader practice encompasses a variety of construction and real estate transactional work. “John is the go-to in Manitoba, he’s very knowledgeable.” “A very good environment lawyer.”

Vancouver-based Jim Titerle is well regarded for his expertise in permitting and contaminated site matters. He handles this work alongside a wealth of transactional and commercial contract work, notably in the real estate sector. “A very respected lawyer.” “Jim is amazing.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Environment

ARMSTRONG, Brad
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada), Aboriginal Law (Canada)

Career: Brad Armstrong, KC, has extensive experience in Indigenous law, administrative and constitutional law, and environmental law. He represents clients involved in land use issues, project development, regulatory and environmental disputes, and in a range of natural resource industries including mining, forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, energy, independent power projects, oil and gas, and transportation. His practice extends through Western Canada and the North (including Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut). Brad acts as counsel in court hearings and in public review hearings, in all levels of the British Columbia Courts and the Federal Courts, and before federal, provincial and territorial boards, panels and commissions. Brad also has extensive experience in corporate and commercial litigation, injunctions, and environmental prosecutions, as well as competition law. Brad was the firm’s Managing Partner from 2000 through 2005.

BELLEMARE, Marie-Claude
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)


Career: Marie-Claude Bellemare is a partner who has had a profound impact on the Canadian legal community. She serves on various boards and committees in a range of natural resource industries including mining, forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, energy, independent power projects, oil and gas, and transportation. Her legal practice is focused on environmental law, climate change and sustainability. Marie-Claude’s environmental law practice is focused on climate change and sustainability. Marie-Claude is also a highly sought arbitrator and mediator for environmental disputes. She also acts as counsel in court hearings and in public review hearings, in all levels of the British Columbia Courts and the Federal Courts, and before federal, provincial and territorial boards, panels and commissions. Marie-Claude has extensive experience in corporate and commercial litigation, injunctions, and environmental prosecutions, as well as competition law. Marie-Claude was the firm’s Managing Partner from 2000 through 2005.

BOBECHKO, Janet
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jbobechko@weirfoulds.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Janet Bobechko is a Certified Specialist in Environmental Law and a nationally recognized senior practitioner with extensive experience in environmental law, real estate and brownfield development and environmental dispute resolution. She advises boards of directors regarding environmental compliance, corporate reporting strategies and risk mitigation and environmental insurance, and advises clients on environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) matters. Janet sits on the external advisory committee for the University’s Corporate Social Responsibility Institute and co-chairs the Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA) Climate Change Committee. Janet is also on the Province of Ontario’s Excess Soils Engagement Group. She’s a sought after speaker at industry events. Janet received a career achievement award from the Canadian Brownfields Network as a person who has had a profound impact on the brownfield industry in Canada.

BOURCHIER, Kinji
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
604.631.9267
kbourchier@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)


Career: Kinji Bourchier has a general commercial and business litigator practice with a diverse mixture of practice areas and a broad range of experience. Kinji’s primary practice areas include complex commercial and civil litigation with a focus on contractual disputes, environmental remediation claims, product liability claims, shareholder and transactional disputes, and business torts. He has successfully defended and reached negotiated settlements on behalf of his clients in the areas of contract, environmental, tort and transactional-based litigation. Kinji has a focused practice in the field of environmental remediation costs, recovery claims and contaminated-site litigation. He regularly appears as lead counsel in the British Columbia Supreme Court, has appeared as lead counsel in the British Columbia Court of Appeal, and has appeared before several administrative tribunals, including the BC Securities Commission and Property Assessment Appeal Board. Kinji has also been involved in seeking leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada and has appeared as lead counsel in the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench. Kinji is a member of the bar of British Columbia (2000).

CHARLEBOIS, Pierre-Olivier
Fasken, Montréal
+1 514 397 5291
pcharlebois@fasken.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Pierre-Olivier Charlebois is a leading lawyer in the areas of environmental, mining, energy, climate change and corporate social responsibility law. Recognized by his peers across Canada and internationally due to his multidisciplinary expertise, Pierre-Olivier is the go-to legal reference. Pierre-Olivier is the leader of the Corporate Social Responsibility group. He also heads the Environmental, Energy and Climate Change group for the Quebec region. Pierre-Olivier advises clients on compliance with environmental laws and regulations. He participates in obtaining government authority that needed to develop new industrial and energy projects. He also represents clients during environmental administrative, penal and civil litigation.

COBB, Larry
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5816
lcobbl@stikeman.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Larry Cobb is a partner with a broad-based environmental practice focusing on business transactions, including financings, acquisitions and divestitures. He regularly advises clients on environmental liabilities and structuring business transactions to minimize those liabilities. Larry regularly offers environmental advice concerning contaminated sites and remediation, environmental permits, director and officer liabilities, insolvency and bankruptcy matters, the sale and purchase of real property, transportation of dangerous goods, trans-border movement of hazardous waste and regulated substances, and “brownfields” redevelopment. In addition, he has conducted environmental assessments and compliance reviews, both as an audit team leader and member, for numerous manufacturing, mining and pulp and paper operations.

CROSSMAN, Tony
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 3333
tony.crossman@blakes.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: With more than 25 years of experience, Tony’s practice focuses on environmental and natural resource regulation, corporate compliance, due diligence, and litigation matters. His work includes contaminated sites (sale and remediation), environmental permitting of projects and facilities, hazardous substances and defending environmental charges. Tony works in the energy (including renewable), mining, forestry, manufacturing, real estate, infrastructure, waste management and transportation sectors.

COOPER, Rosalind
Fasken, Toronto
(416) 865-5127
rcscooper@fasken.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Rosalind Cooper is one of Canada’s leading and most widely recognized environmental lawyers in Canada. She defends environmental charges, and litigates contaminated land and other environmental disputes before all levels of court. Rosalind is also involved in appeals and environmental assessment proceedings before the Environmental Review Tribunal and provides regulatory advice in all areas of environmental law. She is also a recognized environmental mediator and certified by the Law Society as an expert in environmental law. Litigating environmental disputes including contaminated land disputes, defending environmental charges, and appealing orders and approvals to the Environmental Review Tribunal, Rosalind brings her knowledge of environmental law to bear in achieving results. Effectively advising on environmental issues including regulatory advice, exposing environmental liability, contaminated lands, land development, and environmental compliance approvals, Rosalind is also a highly sought arbitrator and mediator for environmental disputes. Rosalind also provides advice on a variety of transactions including mergers and acquisitions, the purchase and sale of real estate, secured lending transactions, and leasing arrangements. Rosalind advises on various aspects of due diligence.

DENSTEDT, Shawn
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 7088
sdnstedt@osler.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: See under Energy & Natural Resources

DUFFY, Patrick
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5257
pduffy@stikeman.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada), Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Patrick Duffy is a partner and Co-Head of the Projects & Infrastructure Group. His practice focuses on project development that includes municipal and planning law, environmental permitting and litigation, energy regulation, and transactional engagement. He is highly sought after for his considerable experience with environmental assessments and other regulatory approvals in a variety of sectors, including renewable and non-renewable electricity generation, electricity transmission, mining, transit
Jennifer Fairfax has significant experience conducting environmental proceedings and arbitrations, and representing a wide range of project and infrastructure clients in their negotiations with Indigenous Peoples. Jennifer also advises on regulatory and environmental affairs relating to project development, permitting, and contracting. Jennifer’s practice with Osler, Jennifer clerked for The Ontario Court of Appeal in 1997. She is a graduate of Queen’s University, BAH Ontario, 2001, and holds a Master’s Degree in Environmental Studies from York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.B. Queen’s University, 2003.

Michael Fortin is a senior partner at Stikeman Elliott LLP, with extensive experience in all aspects of Canadian energy and natural resources law. Michael’s practice includes advising on environmental matters, the negotiation and structuring of joint-venture arrangements, and the development of projects in the oil and gas, mining, and power generation sectors. Michael has acted as lead counsel in several litigation cases involving contaminated sites and has appeared before numerous levels of courts, regulators and assessment tribunals. Michael’s work has involved any aspect of energy, including the real estate, financial, environmental, labour, and public policy aspects of energy projects. He has also been involved in creating rules and policies for the development of energy projects, and has participated in the development of environmental law for the Energy Resources Conservation Board.

Lana Finney is a partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP in Toronto. Lana’s practice focuses on renewable-energy projects, including the development, permitting and financing of renewable energy projects, and on advising clients on corporate and commercial matters related to the renewable-energy industry. Lana is a member of the Ontario Law Association and the Canadian Bar Association. She has presented at numerous conferences and seminars on renewable-energy projects and has written extensively on the topic. She has been involved in the development of wind-energy projects in Canada and abroad, and has advised clients on issues related to the acquisition and financing of renewable-energy projects. Her work has been recognized by several industry publications, and she has been named a Leading Individual by Chambers and Partners in the area of Environmental Law.

Patrick Fournier is a partner at Torys LLP in Toronto. Patrick is a litigator in the firm’s environmental law group and has a broad range of experience in environmental litigation. Patrick has represented clients in a variety of environmental matters, including regulatory proceedings, enforcement actions, and litigation in the courts. He has appeared before the Federal Court of Appeal and the Ontario Court of Justice, and has been involved in many high-profile cases. Patrick is a co-author of “Environnement: L’Environnement Canadien en Perspective,” a comprehensive guide to Canadian environmental law. He is a member of the Canadian Environmental Law Association and the Environmental Bar Association of Canada. Patrick is also a frequent speaker at conferences and seminars on environmental law.

Myriam Fortin is a senior partner at Stikeman Elliott LLP in Montreal. Myriam’s practice includes all aspects of environmental law, with a particular focus on environmental litigation, including class actions, mass torts, and cross-border litigation. Myriam has represented clients in a wide range of environmental matters, including regulatory proceedings, enforcement actions, and litigation in the courts. She is a co-author of “Environnement: L’Environnement Canadien en Perspective,” a comprehensive guide to Canadian environmental law. Myriam is a frequent speaker at conferences and seminars on environmental law and is a member of the Canadian Environmental Law Association and the Environmental Bar Association of Canada.
mission and distribution lines, tourism and recreation projects, forestry, mining, agriculture, commercial real estate, industrial facilities, sewage plants, hazardous waste landfills and treatment facilities, transportation of dangerous goods and water storage reservoirs.

HUGHES, Nicholas
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
(604) 643-7106
nhughes@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Mr. Hughes is a senior litigation in McCarthy Tétrault’s Vancouver office who specializes in regulatory litigation, administrative law, environmental litigation and constitutional litigation primarily in the mining, transportation and industrial sectors, including defending and prosecuting civil suits, acting on appeals and judicial reviews of regulatory decisions, and the defence of clients in regulatory and quasi-criminal prosecutions. He regularly represents clients before the Environmental Appeal Board (EAB) and on judicial review applications of regulatory decisions and appeals therefrom.


Publications: For more details see Mr. Hughes’ firm bio at: https://www.mccarthy.ca/en/people/nicholas-hughes

JUNGER, Robin
McMillan LLP, Vancouver
778-329-7523
robin.junger@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jonathan is a partner in the firm’s Vancouver Business Law Group. Specializes in environmental law, corporate/ commercial law, regulatory law, compliance, and Aboriginal law issues across sectors. Areas of specialization include environmental assessment and permitting, contaminated sites, environmental management systems, fuel standards, product stewardship, product and food safety, and partnering with Indigenous groups. Expertise in climate change law and advising clients on matters relating to carbon pricing, emissions trading, offset systems, compliance, and carbon security. Regularly advises non-profit organizations on regulatory and commercial aspects of managing plastic waste in the ocean.


Publications: Widely published in the areas of carbon transactions and emissions trading, and a frequent contributor to industry blogs and publications. Regularly speaks on environmental and Aboriginal law issues at major conferences.

Contact: +1 416.367.6989
apike@dwpv.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Alex is a partner in the Environmental & Indigenous and Energy practices at Davies and is the past chair of the Canadian Bar Association’s National Environmental, Energy and Resource Law Section. She advises on environmental liability in various sectors, including mining, manufacturing, chemical, pulp and paper, transportation and real estate. Alex is an expert on contaminated lands, addressing liability in transactions and redevelopment. She advises on environmental risk and permitting requirements in complex energy, infrastructure and resource projects. Alex has expertise in Indigenous matters and advised on the creation of environmental protection and assessment regimes under Canada’s First Nations Land Management Act.

She also represents clients in regulatory proceedings and provides environmental expertise in litigation, including with respect to directors’ and officers’ liability. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; The Legal 500 Canada; The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexspect Special Edition: Energy and Mining; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Expert Guides’ Women in Business Law.
and chemical industries as well as private landfill operations. He has successfully defended clients against numerous regul-
atory and environmental prosecutions and has appeared as counsel in British Columbia, Ontario, Alberta, Saskatchewan and
Manitoba and before the Supreme Court of Canada. In addition to this court
work, Cliff has also conducted administra-
tive hearings before the BC Environmental
Appeal Board, BC Forests Appeals Commis-
sion, the Natural Resources Conservation
Board of Alberta, the Alberta Energy and
Utilities Board, the Workers Compensation
Appeal Tribunal of BC, and the BC Tobac-
co Control Act Administrative Board. Cliff
acts for resource developers in a number of
major Indigenous litigation cases including
actions involving land claims and the
infringement of treaty and Indigenous
rights. Cliff has also acted for industry on
numerous court and administrative actions in
which First Nations are challenging regulatory permits or appeals. He has
extensive experience in negotiating
drafting co-operation agreements,
consultation protocols and impact benefit
agreements. Cliff is a member of the bars of
Manitoba (1990) and British Columbia

Professional Memberships:
Allard School of Law Centre for Business Law's
Dean's Advisory Committee Law Society of
BC Finance and Audit Committee

ROSENJARNA, Joanna
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 7556
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Featured in Environment (Nationwide –
Canada)

Practice Areas:
Representing clients in the
environmental and regulatory fields,
including corporate/commercial
transactional work, corporate
litigation, environmental due
liability, and insurance claims.

Joanna has extensive experience
in disputes and in the development and
rehabilitation of contaminated land.
She has also acted in a number of
case, including ESG and energy
law, assisting clients with greenhouse
gas reporting compliance, negotiating
and drafting emission trading agreements,
underwriting ESG due diligence, advising
on issues related to obligations arising
under federal and provincial greenhouse
gas legislation, carbon offsets and
and permits under federal and provincial
environmental laws, and the
environmental issues raised in
corporate transactions, contamination
issues, climate change, contaminated
sites. Joanna also practices in
the area of climate change, ESG and
energy law, assisting clients with greenhouse
gas reporting compliance, negotiating
and drafting emission trading agreements,
underwriting ESG due diligence, advising
on issues related to obligations arising
under federal and provincial greenhouse
gas legislation, carbon offsets and

and developing strategies to meet
net-zero commitments.

Career:
Ontario Bar, 2004. B.Sc. (Hons.)
Queen's University, J.D.
Queen's University, B.A., B.H.
Member of the Tidewater Society, Queen's
University

Practice Areas:
Practice focuses
on environmental, energy, mining and
regulatory issues. Joanna advises clients
diversified sectors in the context of
project development, permitting process,
sales/purchases of business or properties,
regulatory changes and advocacy initia-
tives. She also provides trainings on liabil-
ity and due diligence measures, counsel on
contaminated land management, support
clients with government investigation
inspections and coordination of
environmental issues.

Professional Memberships:
Ontario Bar Association – Environment
and Regulatory Law Lawyer of the Year 2012
Ontario Bar Association – Environmental
Lawyer of the Year 2018; Expert Guides’ Women in Business
Law.

PROUDFOOT, Clifford
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver +1 604 631 9217
Cproudfoot@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Environment (Nationwide –
Canada)

Practice Areas:
Environmental and
Regulatory Law, Environmental
Prosecutions, Forest Products,
Indigenous Law, Litigation,
Dispute Resolution, Occupational
Health and Safety, and Regulatory
Compliance.

Career:
Partner in the firm’s
Environmental Law Group.
He represents clients in matters
pertaining to environmental
regulatory issues, including
compliance with environmental laws,
and defense of environmental prosecu-
tions. He regularly advises clients on
environmental law, environmental
permitting issues, and on the development and
rehabilitation of contaminated sites.
He also assists clients in environmental
transactions, including corporate,
commercial, environmental due
liability, and insurance claims.

Professional Memberships:
Canadian Bar Association –
Environmental Law Section.

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The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Franchising
While the COVID-19 pandemic persists, the past year has seen businesses and consumers alike increasingly return to pre-pandemic behaviours. Demand for in-restaurant dining continues to increase, sports and concert venues are once again playing in front of full (or nearly full) crowds, and most gyms are once again hosting patrons in-person. Although certain “traditional” franchise sectors continue to see lower revenue levels as compared to the period prior to the pandemic, including full-service restaurants and certain types of personal service businesses, many other franchised businesses have seen revenues remain constant (or even grow) since the onset of COVID-19.

For the well-placed (and well-financed), the pandemic has provided a wealth of opportunities for growth, often at the expense of commercial landlords and less innovative competitors.

In addition to the continuing challenges posed by COVID-19, 2022 has brought about a variety of additional global challenges that continue to significantly affect franchisors and franchisees alike. In particular, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, strong inflationary pressure, continued supply line disruptions, and a competitive labour market continue to challenge businesses across virtually all industries. Certain of these challenges, along with other prominent trends affecting franchising in Canada, are explored below.

Integrating New and Alternative Concepts in Existing Franchise Systems

As brands struggled to connect with customers throughout the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, they increasingly turned to new methods of doing business in order to remain relevant. Whether it was increased take-up and reliance on third-party delivery aggregates (such as Uber Eats or Skip the Dishes), or the introduction of ghost kitchen concepts, brands (especially in the restaurant and hospitality space) developed new methods of remaining operational, accessible, and ultimately profitable in a new and uncertain operating environment. And although many consumers are reverting to pre-pandemic behaviour, it is clear that many of these innovations are here to stay.

While these new methods of doing business provide huge opportunities to brands, they also create new challenges that franchisors must navigate, including ensuring that they are keeping their franchisees onsite. Franchisors in the provinces that have enacted franchise disclosure and relationship legislation are subject to an ongoing “duty of good faith”, which requires, among other things, that franchisors consider the interests of their franchisees and not act in such a manner as to defeat the benefit that a franchisee has bargained for under its franchise agreement. While franchisors are not required to prioritize franchisees’ interests over their own, they are required to take them (and the interest of the system, generally) into account as part of their decision-making processes.

For example, as an increasing number of franchised restaurant systems rely on third-party delivery services, how should a franchisor manage overlapping delivery areas and increasing competition among its own brick-and-mortar franchisees? Moreover, with the increased importance of delivery, what relevance does a brick-and-mortar’s protected territory continue to have, if any?

As innovation continues to change the way franchise systems do business, franchisors should consider whether their agreements, and their processes, will be able to keep up. Innovation, whether technological or otherwise, creates a variety of new opportunities for franchisors to tap into, but franchisors must ensure that their franchise agreements afford them the flexibility needed to ensure the system has the power to keep up with the times without running afoul of their obligations to franchisees.

Inflationary Pressure

The first half of 2022 saw inflation levels in Canada rise to levels not seen in decades. Inflation is causing substantial difficulties for both franchisors and their franchisees, including with respect to higher costs of goods, greater challenges to maintaining adequate inventory levels, and higher lending costs. Among other effects, high inflation rates are leading to higher costs and lower revenues for franchisees, as well as a shrinking pool of franchisee prospects as business lenders impose tighter lending conditions, this making it increasingly difficult for all but the best-positioned systems to institute significant network-wide changes, including keeping up with the innovations described above, as such innovations may not be viable in light of their attendant costs.

As systems look for ways to keep costs down, many have been tempted to shrink portion sizes in an effort to minimize price increases. In our experience, however, customers respond quite negatively to such tactics, leading to reputational damage to the business and brands that choose to implement them. Consumers have indicated a willingness to pay more for high quality products with portion sizes that they perceive as fair, and, as such, brands are cautioned to think twice before skimping on services and product quality. Alternatively, brands should consider introducing new product offerings at the same or lower price points, in order to provide consumers with choices in light of reasonable and necessary price increases.

Data Privacy and Enhanced Requirements on Business

Following the Government of Canada’s previous attempt to reform the nation’s privacy laws via its introduction of Bill C-11, which died on the order paper in 2021, the Government of Canada introduced Bill C-27, “An Act to enact the Consumer Privacy Protection Act, the Personal Information and Data Protection Tribunal Act and the Artificial Intelligence and Data Act and to make consequential and related amendments to other Acts”, in June 2022. The introduction of this bill follows the lead of several other jurisdictions, including the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation, to enhance protection of the individuals’ personal information.
Bill C-27 mimics substantial portions of Bill C-11, and proposes to replace and amend substantial elements of the existing Canadian privacy law regime. In particular, Bill C-27 will require many businesses to, among other things:

- implement a privacy management program;
- ensure service providers are providing adequate protection of consumer data transferred to them;
- determine at the time of collection the purpose for which personal information is being collected, used, and recorded;
- limit the collection of personal information to the extent necessary for the purposes established; and
- not retain personal information for a period longer than is necessary to fulfill the purpose at hand.

Bill C-27 also proposes to introduce a tribunal structure to enforce the provisions of the new Consumer Privacy Protection Act, enhance fines for potential violators, introduce a new private right of action for violations of privacy laws, and otherwise reinforce the consent-based nature of Canadian privacy laws.

While it is not known when Bill C-27 will come into force, franchisors and their franchisees should begin to consider how the introduction of Bill C-27 will impact their operations. For many businesses, these new requirements will necessitate reworks to their current privacy policies, data collection and management processes, and consumer interactions to ensure they are in legal compliance. Franchisors should begin to audit their (and their franchisees') operations to consider which aspects of these operations are, and are not, in compliance with the framework outlined under Bill C-27.

**Extreme Competition in the Labour Market**

Acute labour shortages have continued throughout Canada during the first half of 2022, including in the service and hospitality industry. The emergence of COVID-19 has seen many workers leave the service industry altogether, to seek further education, take advantage of government assistance, or otherwise find new employment—in many cases, from home. Coupled with reduced immigration levels during the last two years, and an aging population, job vacancies have continued to grow throughout 2022. As a result, many employers are scrambling to locate new employees as businesses gradually reopen in light of Canada’s largely successful mass-vaccination campaign.

Franchisors and franchisees alike should expect to continue to face challenges in filling worker vacancies and, as a result, should expect to incur higher labour costs than prior to the start of the pandemic. Many brands continue to increase pay or offer other incentives to fill gaps in their labour force, including offering increased flexibility or seeking younger or older workers. These costs were further augmented for many employers by the Province of Ontario’s minimum wage increase on January 1, 2022; Ontario being the country’s largest economy and franchise market. Franchisors currently operating in Canada, and those looking to expand to Canada in the coming months, should ensure that the competitive labour market is taken into account in formulating their expansion plans.

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**Franchising**

**Nationwide**

### Franchising

### Leading Firms

**Band 1**
- Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Sotos LLP

**Band 2**
- Dale & Lessmann LLP
- Fasken

**Band 3**
- Dentons Canada LLP
- Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
- Hoffer Adler LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP

**Band 4**
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Teplitsky Colson LLP
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Sotos LLP

*Indicates individual with profile. \( \wedge \) (ORL) - Other Ranked Lawyer. Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

### Band 1

**Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP**

What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell is a premier choice for franchising law in Canada, regularly advising large multinational franchise systems on disclosure, compliance and class action defence. The firm’s Toronto-based lawyers assist clients with expansion and wind-down operations, providing additional expertise in M&A, tax, employment and advertising, as well as due diligence and regulatory compliance. The firm’s client base includes major franchisors from the cannabis, hospitality, and food and beverage industries. It offers additional expertise advising foreign brands on entry into the Canadian market and is well positioned to advise on the franchise aspects of major transactions.

**Strengths** “They are extremely effective, with an excellent franchise distribution practice.”

The team at Cassels is always so quick and ready to support.”

**Work highlights** A Cassels team led by Frank Robinson represented the Firehouse Restaurant Group in its CAD1 billion sale to Restaurant Brands International.

**Notable practitioners**
- Larry Weinberg (see p.193) is a prominent franchising lawyer based in Toronto who is recognised as...
a leader in the field. His practice includes assisting on brand expansion for international clients into Canadian jurisdictions, drafting franchise agreements and related matters. A. A. M. & A. "Larry is well attuned to the needs of our brand and provides quick and knowledgeable advice in the area of franchise law. "He is effective, practical and efficient." Geoffroy Shee (see p.193) is a litigation lawyer based in Toronto who is widely recognised for his work on franchising disputes, with further experience of arbitration and mediation. His clientele includes companies in the food and beverage sectors. "Geoffroy sees things that no one else does. He is an incredible litigator." Peter Snell (see p.193) represents a wide variety of clients, most notably those from the food and beverage sectors. Based in Vancouver, he is especially strong in advising international brands on their franchising matters in Canada. 

Frank Robinson (see p.193) is a Toronto-based lawyer who advises both domestic and international clients on a range of franchising issues. He has a notable presence in compliance and is actively involved in franchising disputes. He has significant experience in the cannabis and food and beverage sectors, and also acts as co-chair of the firm’s hospitality practice. "He immerses himself in our business as if he was part of the internal team." Derek Rone (see p.193) is a litigator based in Toronto who is notably active in the franchising space. His experience includes representing franchisors in class actions and providing counsel on a variety of corporate, commercial and litigation matters. "Derek is a strong speaker and an expert in his field."

Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP is a Toronto-based law firm that is known for its representation of both franchisor and franchisee clients. The Toronto-based law firm regularly handles the preparation of franchise agreements and disclosure documents, as well as advising on regulatory compliance. It also offers substantial litigation expertise, including in relation to rescission, termination and the enforcement of non-compete covenants. The team is noted for its class action practice. It assists a wide range of clients across various industries, including the automotive, food and beverage and hospitality sectors, and is well placed to act on expansion mandates.

Strengths "The team provides deep technical legal analysis that is rooted in experience. "Their level of service is excellent and they are very detail-oriented."

Work highlights A Sotos team led by Allan Dick successfully represented a plaintiff franchisee in obtaining a rescission from a franchise they no longer wanted to be a part of. In addition, the plaintiff received CAD475,000 as compensation.

Notable practitioners

Founding partner of his firm, John Sotos is a Toronto-based lawyer who often acts on franchise agreements and related arbitration matters. "He is one of the pre-eminent franchise lawyers in Ontario, having started this specialised boutique firm at the infancy of this area of law. "John is an outstanding, experienced person. When he provides recommendations, we listen." Allan Dick is a Toronto-based lawyer who is noted for his franchise-side work. He is experienced in negotiating retailer agreements and is active in disputes in this field, including arbitrations and rescission claims. "Allan is an exceptional lawyer who provides trusted advice and is unmatched in the practicabilities and strategy of dispute resolution." Peter Vitré is a Toronto-based lawyer who often provides counsel to clients in sectors such as automotive and food and beverages. He frequently advises on rescissions and drafting master franchise agreements, as well as assisting international clients with expansion into Canada. "Peter is a leading expert in franchise law. He is trusted and accessible." "His guidance and business advice has been very strong. He’s a great person to work with."

Strengths "Fasken is always able to bring the right experts to the table to address our issues, regardless of the field of inquiry. "The lawyers I interact with have a great knowledge of the theoretical and practical aspects of franchising."

Work highlights Fasken acted for White Spot on a variety of franchising issues, such as drafting and renewing its franchise agreements and acting on litigation matters.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Darrell Jarvis (see p.192) is a corporate/commercial lawyer who advises on a variety of non-contentious franchising mandates, including franchise agreements and rescissions. He has experience in the automotive and food and beverage sectors, among others. Notable clients include the Canadian Tire Dealers’ Association. "He is an expert in his field and deals very high levels of client service."

Jean Gagnon (see p.192) is a respected senior figure in the Montréal market. He acts on franchising disputes and has notable experience in the pharmaceutical sector. Montréal-based Frédéric Gilbert (see p.192) acts on franchising disputes, with experience acting for franchisors as well as franchisees. He frequently acts on behalf of prominent clients in the food and beverage sector.
Band 3

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons has a well-reputed franchising law team primarily based in Toronto with experience across a wide array of franchising matters in Canada, including the acquisition and termination of franchises, and the preparation of disclosure documents and franchise agreements. It is further experienced in handling contentious mandates in the space and serves clients in sectors such as automotive, hospitality, retail and food and beverages.

Strengths “Dentons have some of the best expertise we have seen in the business. The experience they are able to draw upon is very impressive.”

“Their senior level employees are excellent and the depth of knowledge in the firm is great.”

Work highlights A Dentons team led by Helen Fotinos advised Fire and Flower Holdings on the expansion of its cannabis retail franchise in Canada.

Notable practitioners

Department head Helen Fotinos represents clients from a wide range of industries, including hospitality, cannabis, retail and food and beverages. She is based in Toronto and regularly handles franchise law matters including both as litigation and contracts. “Helen is extremely responsive and helpful – she has provided excellent and extremely timely advice.”

“Helen is an excellent lawyer with a strong business sense and excellent client management skills.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG houses a prominent franchising team known for its work throughout Canada, as well as assisting clients with international expansion plans and foreign entry. Operating primarily from the firm’s Hamilton office, the team services clients across a range of sectors including food and beverages, education, and hospitality. It frequently advises on compliance and disclosure matters as well as IP and brand protection, real estate and employment matters. The firm’s extensive experience spans franchising issues relating to both emerging and well-known international brands. It is additionally able to offer dispute resolution support.

Work highlights A Gowling team led by Debi Sutin advised DKI Canada on its transition from a membership-based organisation to a franchise system.

Notable practitioners

Debi Sutin is an accomplished lawyer whose clients include companies in the education and food and beverage sectors. She frequently advises on the establishment and development of international franchises within Canada. She is based in the firm’s Hamilton office. “Debi is the most insightful, strategic, responsive and informed lawyer I have ever worked with. I would highly recommend her to any franchisee or franchisor.” “Debi Sutin is a very highly experienced franchise lawyer. We are confident in her level of expertise.” “I have always found her to be very knowledgeable and responsive.”

Hoffer Adler LLP

What the team is known for Hoffer Adler is a well-regarded franchising boutique based in Toronto, with an accomplished suite of lawyers acting on franchising mandates. The firm demonstrates strength in both corporate matters and disputes in the space, and possesses experience acting for franchisors and franchisees, as well as franchise associations. Clients benefit from the firm’s complementary strength in intellectual property law.

Notable practitioners

Joseph Adler often acts for franchisors and franchisees, and is a well-established figure in the market. He is based in Toronto and has both domestic and international experience in this space. Lloyd Hoffer is a prominent disputes lawyer in the franchising space. He is a seasoned litigator with experience before a wide range of courts and tribunals.

McCarty Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault has a recognised national footprint and is well versed in both transactional and contentious franchising law matters. The firm offers expertise in the full gamut of matters arising in this space, drawing on its broad service offering to act as a one-stop shop for franchisors. Partners and associates based in Toronto and Vancouver advise clients ranging in size from emerging businesses and mid-market players to global corporations in a variety of sectors, including food and beverages, electronics, medical, education, hospitality and automotive. The firm’s offices in New York and London, England, position it well to assist international franchising clients.

Strengths “There is no issue that I could raise with them, no matter how novel or obscure, that they won’t be able to handle.”

“The partners and associates approach each of our complex matters with a very methodical and pragmatic approach.”

Work highlights A McCarthy team led by Adam Ship acted as lead counsel for Bell Aliant and The Source in litigation against a former dealer, in a matter valued at approximately CAD2 million.

Notable practitioners

Adam Ship (see p.193) is the head of the firm’s franchise and distribution department. His practice includes an emphasis on franchise disputes, tackling issues such as rescissions, but also includes franchise disclosure matters and compliance. “Adam is an excellent lawyer. He is practical and insightful, timely and thoughtful.” “His understanding of our business and accessibility are second to none.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

David Altshuller is a partner at Toronto-based litigation boutique Teplitzky Colson, from where he operates a respected litigation practice with a notable focus on franchise disputes. He is a seasoned and well-established lawyer in the market. “David’s cases are often at the forefront of a lot of recent legal decisions.”

Montréal-based Bruno Floriani of Lapointe Rosenstein Marchand Melançon acts on a variety of franchising and licensing mandates. “Bruno has a good commercial mindset and is active in franchising associations.”

Ned Levitt is a longstanding and highly respected lawyer in the market, with experience acting for major franchisors. He was also previously the general counsel to the Canadian Franchise Association and has written extensively in the franchise space. Levitt is based in Dickinson Wright’s Toronto office.

Andrae Marrocco (see p.192) is the co-chair of the franchising and distribution law group at McMillan and is based in Toronto. He often provides advice regarding disclosure documents, M&A and franchise expansion into Canada. He is particularly active in sectors such as fitness and food and beverages. “Andrae is always on top of the market trends and the most current legal updates affecting franchising.”

Michael Melvin is a corporate/commercial partner in McInnes Cooper’s Fredericton office. He drafts franchise and licence agreements and prepares franchise disclosure documents, and has experience advising franchise clients on their corporate structuring and restructuring concerns. “Michael has high-profile clients and is very knowledgeable and practical.”

Vancouver-based Blair Rebane (see p.192) of Borden Ladner Gervais provides counsel to franchisors as well as assisting with disputes. He is notably active in the automotive sector. “He gives the most practical legal advice and achieves great results because of this.”

“Blair is a fantastic franchise lawyer who provides reliable, timely, efficient and excellent advice.”

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Leaders’ Profiles in Franchising

DOLMAN, Jennifer
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 5991
jdloman@osler.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jennifer’s practice focuses primarily on assisting Canadian and international franchisors, from a variety of industries including quick service restaurants, convenience stores, retail, pharmacy, automotive, real estate, hospitality, education, manufacturing and technology, with their business disputes. She regularly defends claims by franchisees, as well as franchise group and class actions, under Ontario’s Arthur Wishart Act and other Canadian franchise statutes, for rescission, breach of the duty of good faith and fair dealing, misrepresentation and interference with the right to associate, and enforcing terminations. In addition to franchise matters, Jennifer also represents manufacturers and suppliers in their disputes with agents and distributors, defends wrongful dismissal claims (in which she has responded to a number of summary judgment motions) and human rights complaints for employers, and has experience in intellectual property (including trade-mark and copyright infringement, and the protection of trade secrets and confidential information), defamation (including statements made via the Internet) and privacy matters. Jennifer has particular expertise in the area of injunctions and emergency applications, especially regarding the enforcement of restrictive covenants against franchisors, dealers, distributors, licensees or departing senior employees.

Career: Clerk for Chief Justice of the Ontario Court (General Division). 

Professional Memberships: Past Chair, OBA Franchise Law Section; Member, ABA Forum on Franchising; Advocates’ Society; CFA; IFA; and Women on the Bench.


FRITH, Andrae
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto +1 416 862 4718
afrith@osler.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Andrae practices commercial law with an emphasis on real estate, franchising, consumer protection, supply chain, distribution, and e-commerce law. With nearly 25 years of experience, Andrae is a trusted advisor to Canadian and International franchisors, retailers and consumer-facing businesses of all sizes operating in a broad range of industries, including quick service restaurants, convenience stores, personal care, pharmacy, oil and gasoline, automotive, car rental, real estate and hospitality. He counsels franchisors on structuring international and domestic franchise transactions and preparing “best in class” franchise agreements and franchise disclosure documents for use in Canada’s increasingly complex franchise regulatory environment. Andrae has particular expertise in advising foreign franchisors and retailers expanding their operations to Canada. He helps them maneuver through significant judicial, statutory and cultural differences between their home states and Canada to help ensure a smooth and successful entry into the Canadian market. He also regularly advises franchisors, retailers and on-line businesses on Canadian marketing, distribution and trade practice law, including privacy, anti-spam, consumer protection, consumer lending and leasing, Internet sales, advertising, and telecommunication.

Career: Chair of Osler’s National Franchise and Distribution Practice Group and Co-Lead of Osler’s Retail Group.


GAGNON, Jean H
Fasken, Montréal +1 514 397 7609
jhgagnon@fasken.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jean H. Gagnon is a mediator, arbitrator and counsel. Jean H. Gagnon has more than 40 years of experience as a mediator and arbitrator for the resolution difficulties and disputes between businesses, shareholders, partners, entrepreneurs, managers and professionals, as well as within business families. He is an accredited mediator (by the Barreau du Québec and the Institut de médiation et d’arbitrage du Québec) and an accredited arbitrator (by the Institut de médiation et d’arbitrage du Québec). He is recognized by his peers for his integrity, his ability to listen and his determination to seek practical and realistic solutions. He also has an exceptional understanding of business issues and non-judicial methods of resolving business disputes. He also has extensive expertise in the design and implementation of non-judicial dispute resolution mechanisms, as well as in the drafting of appropriate clauses to that effect.

GILBERT, Frédéric
Fasken, Montréal +1 647 797 2232
fgilbert@fasken.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Frédéric Gilbert is an excellent litigator and Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers who specializes in franchise and real estate law. Frédéric is one of the most involved and recognized Canadian lawyers in the franchise industry. He regularly participates on different panels and authored the latest reference work on franchise law in Quebec. Frédéric successfully pleaded some of the leading franchise cases in Canada, including Dunkin’ Brands and Freighterline. Frédéric also lectured on obligations and civil liability at the École du Barreau in Montréal. He is currently teaching a graduate course on Quebec franchise law at the Université de Montréal.

JARVIS, Darrell
Fasken, Toronto +1 416 868 3530
djarvis@fasken.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Darrell Jarvis’ business law practice is focused on franchising, distribution, leasing and construction, with a focus on the retail and hospitality sectors. Darrell has extensive experience advising franchisors with respect to disclosure documents, franchise agreements, default enforcement, insolvent franchisees and the purchase and sale of franchised businesses. Darrell has extensive experience with respect to non-traditional franchises in highways facilities, hospital and educational institutions. He has advised on the co-branding of franchised businesses and in the acquisition and divestiture of franchise systems. Darrell also represents Canada’s most sophisticated franchise association. He advises manufacturers and distributors with respect to supply and distribution arrangements, co-manufacturing agreements, warehousing agreements and disputes.

MORROCCO, Andrae
McMillan LLP, Toronto (416) 454-2244
andrae.morocco@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Andrae Morrocco is a partner in the Business Law Group and Co-Chair of the Franchise and Distribution Law Group in the Toronto office of McMillan LLP. His transactional practice is focused on advising domestic franchise systems, franchise mergers and acquisitions, and cross-border/international transactions. He works with businesses and franchise systems from start-ups to mature international enterprises – across a range of industries including professional services, technology, automotive, restaurant, retailing, fitness and healthcare, childcare and education, marketing, and commercial services. More particularly, Andrae routinely advises clients on structuring and expansion strategies, negotiation of franchise, distribution and licensing agreements, regulatory and disclosure compliance, trademarks, acquisitions and dispositions, system changes, disputes and enforcement. He has specific expertise advising foreign franchisors on expanding and adapting their systems to the Canadian market. Andrae frequently presents at Canadian and international franchise conferences, and writes for national and international franchise publications. He is an active member of North American franchise organizations, serves on several steering committees, and holds the “Certified Franchise Executive” designation from the Institute of Certified Franchise Executives.

MOCHRINE, Dominic
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto +1 416 862 5994
dmochrine@osler.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Dominic focuses on franchise and distribution, product marketing law, including privacy, anti-spam, consumer protection, retail and marketing matters. Dominic also advises clients engaged in distribution and franchising matters, from start-up franchisors working to establish a new franchise system, to large, multi-national franchisors with thousands of franchisees. Dominic also supports clients in respect of various trade practice matters, including consumer protection, retail and marketing matters, including advice on dealer structure, risk analysis and risk mitigation. He has also recently assisted several franchisors “clean up” their franchise system prior to sale.

Career: Dominic is actively in industry events and associations. He has been on many planning committees for the Canadian Franchise Association, the American Bar Association, the International Franchise Association, and the Ontario Bar Association. Dominic is also the International Distribution Institute’s designated franchise country expert for Canada.

Professional Memberships: Ontario Bar Association; Canadian Franchise Association; American Bar Association Forum on Franchising; IDI Institute’s franchise country expert for Canada.

Publications: Dominic is a frequent speaker and writer, including at Ontario Bar Association’s Franchise Law Conferences, the American Bar Association’s Forum on Franchising, the Canadian Franchise Association’s law days and national conferences, and the International Franchise Association’s Legal Symposium.

Personal: B.S., University of Toronto, L.L.B., Queen’s University, Ontario, Bar, 2002.

REBANE, Blair
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver +1 604 640 4130
bbl@blg.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationally – Canada)

Practice Areas: Blair Rebane is a partner in the BLG Vancouver office. He has experience advising on M&A transactions in all types of franchise matters. Blair’s practice also focuses on the area of contract law, with an emphasis on landlord/tenant matters, construction disputes, and creditors’ remedies. His clients include Canada’s largest franchisors, manufac-
turers, landlords, and those involved at all levels of the construction industry. Blair has appeared before the Supreme Court of British Columbia, Court of Appeal, and Federal Court of Canada on franchise, construction, and landlord/tenant matters. In addition, Blair has taught, published, and presented extensively on franchise law. Blair was named Vancouver Franchise Law Lawyer of the Year by The Best Lawyers in Canada (2021, 2019, 2017, and 2013).

Career: Called to the British Columbia Bar in 1995. Adjunct Professor at the University of British Columbia, Faculty of Law from 1999-2011.

Publications: Contributor to various publications including globemail.com, Franchise Canada magazine and Canadian Business Franchise Directory.

ROBINSON, Frank
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
+1 416-869-5991
frobinson@casselsbrock.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Focuses on franchising, licensing, distribution, commercial and transactional matters. Advises Canadian and international companies on franchise and retail structuring and expansion strategies, franchise disclosure and regulatory compliance, contract drafting and negotiation, dispute management, and mergers and acquisitions. Provides timely and solution-oriented advice to a broad range of product and service distribution and franchise companies, often acting as the Canadian entry point for foreign franchise systems.


RONDE, Derek
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 869 5428
droned@cassels.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on the resolution of franchise law disputes on behalf of franchisors through trial, appeal, mediation or arbitration. Has worked on significant Canadian class actions as well as injunctions and franchise terminations. Speaks regularly at Canadian Franchise Association, Ontario Bar Association, and International Franchise Association events. Also has significant experience in a multitude of other areas including product liability, securities litigation, contract disputes, regulatory investigations, and other commercial litigation practice areas.

Career: Recognized as a leading practitioner in Franchise Law by Who’s Who Legal and Best Lawyers and listed as a Legal Eagle by Franchise Times.

SHAW, Geoffrey B
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 869 5982
gshaw@cassels.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focus on the resolution of franchise law disputes on behalf of franchisors through trial, appeal, mediation or arbitration.

Career: Recognized as a “Legal Eagle” by Franchise Times, a designation given to the top 100 franchise lawyers in North America. Queen’s University Law School – Course Instructor in Franchise Law. LL.M. in ADR Osgoode Hall Law (2011).

Professional Memberships: Member of the American Bar Association/Forum on Franchising and Canadian Franchise Association (Government Relations Committee). Served two terms as a member of the International Franchise Association (IFA) Legal Symposium Task Force.

SNELL, Peter
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Vancouver
604 283 1482
psnell@cassels.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Highly regarded as a recognized leader in franchise and distribution law in Canada. Specializes in Canadian and international franchise law, business transactions and devotes his practice to assisting franchise systems with Canadian and overseas expansion plans. Served as General Counsel to the Canadian Franchise Association from 2015 to 2019. Co-Editor of the American Bar Association’s Fundamentals of Franchising – Canada (2nd Ed. 2017). Served as a special advisor to British Columbia’s government in drafting BC’s franchise legislation.


Professional Memberships: American Bar Association (ABA); ABA Business Law Section Council Member; International Bar Association; Canadian Franchise Association; International Franchise Association.

WEINBERG, Larry M
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 860 2987
lweinberg@cassels.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationwide – Canada), Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Significant experience in all manner of franchising, licensing, and distribution.

Professional Memberships: Current General Counsel and Board Member of Canadian Franchise Association; Current Vice-Chair of International Franchise Association’s International Committee; Past Chair of Ontario Bar Association Franchise Law Section; Past Chair of International Bar Association Committee on International Franchising; Past Chair of International Franchise Association’s Supplier Forum Advisory Board; First Canadian lawyer appointed Director of ABA Forum’s International Division and as Co-Chair of ABA Forum’s 2009 Annual conference.

Publications: Publications include ABA Fundamentals of Franchising-Canada (2nd ed.), Canada chapter for ABA’s International Franchise Sales Law text, and CFA’s How to Franchise Your Business.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Gaming & Licensing
Gaming & Licensing Nationwide

**Leading Firms**

**Band 1**
- Aird & Berlis LLP
- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Segev LLP

**Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners**

**Senior Statespeople:** distinguished older partners
- Lipton Michael D. Dickinson Wright LLP (ORL) 
- Tuzyk John Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- **Eminent Practitioners**
- Stokes Bryson Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- **Leading Individuals**
- Band 1
  - Bush Danielle McCarthy Tétrault LLP
  - Czegledy Peter Aird & Berlis LLP
  - Segev Ron Segev LLP
- Band 2
  - Bourgeois Don Fogler Rubinoff LLP (ORL)
  - Kelleher Matthew S. McCarthy Tétrault LLP
  - Levy Eric Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
  - Liu Ted Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- **Up-and-coming individuals**
  - Levi Cory CORLEV Legal Inc. (ORL)
- **Associates to watch**
  - Maodus Mike Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

**Notable practitioners**

**Band 1**
- Aird & Berlis LLP
  - Czegledy Peter: frequently represents national and international clients with interests in the land-based and online gaming, e-sports, hi-tech and mobile gaming spaces throughout Canada. He offers wide-ranging expertise from regulatory compliance advice and risk mitigation to policy development and transactions. "Peter has a uniquely commercial approach that assists clients in quickly finding solutions to complex regulatory challenges in the gaming space." "His calm approach is certainly an asset at critical moments."

**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

**What the team is known for** Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is renowned for its representation of international gaming organisations involved in land-based and online operations. The practice frequently acts on matters relating to platform development, acquisitions and investment transactions. Leveraging the firm’s premier dispute capabilities, the group is also well equipped to handle contentious and regulatory compliance matters. With further expertise in licensing and intellectual property issues, the team has a strong track record advising premier US casino and resort operators.

**Strengths** "When the matter is particularly complex we reach out to Blake, Cassels & Graydon." "All of the attorneys at Blake’s are very knowledgeable in their subject areas and very business-minded in their approach."

"The Blakes team has been able to help us navigate a complex legal landscape with creativity and skill."

**Work highlights** Blake, Cassels & Graydon acted for Penn National Gaming in its USD2 billion acquisition of Score Media and Gaming.

**Notable practitioners**
- Tuzyk John (see p.197) continues to act as a key relationship partner to a suite of casino operators and online platforms. Acting out of Toronto, he is renowned for his wealth of experience in relation to regulatory and corporate compliance and for his role in the modernisation of Ontario’s gaming sector. "John is extremely knowledgeable and practical in his advice." Toronto-based firm managing partner Bryson Stokes (see p.197) has experience advising clients on both transactional agreements and regulatory issues in the gaming and licensing space. "I have always found Bryson to be efficient, knowledgeable and business-minded in his approach." Mike Maodus (see p.198) is highly reputed for using his regulatory insight to advise casino operators on a wide range of transactions. He demonstrates particular expertise in mergers and acquisitions involving major players in the gaming sector. "Mike is wise beyond his years and provides excellent client service." "An excellent up-and-coming solicitor, with a keen eye for detail."

**Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

**What the team is known for** Borden Ladner Gervais LLP has an increasingly strong presence in Canadian gaming law nationwide. From offices in Montréal and Toronto, the firm regularly assists a range of clients in the sports and gaming sector on the full spectrum of gaming industry requirements, including licensing and permitting, mergers and acquisitions, privacy and information management.

**Strengths** "The team has both the industry expertise as well as the legal acumen, from associate up through to partner."

"Borden Ladner Gervais has a very strong finger on the pulse both in terms of the evolving regulatory regime as well as what commercial activities are going on in the gaming sector."

"The lawyers at BLG are highly aware of all the regulatory matters, as well as what commercial activities are going on in the gaming sector."

**Notable practitioners**
- Maodus Mike: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

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- Leading Individuals p.196

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**How lawyers are ranked**

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, advice, commercial awareness/situational dexterity, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP is a noteworthy firm with significant experience representing a range of stakeholders in the gaming industry, acting for companies across Canada. The firm assists clients with a full range of matters related to the gaming industry such as technology, privacy, financial services, marketing, anti-money laundering and tax.

Strengths “Osler is truly full service, with experts in each field of gaming law and regulatory compliance.”

“The lawyers at Osler are able to expertly advise on complex and sophisticated matters in gaming law.”

Work highlights Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt advised Apollo Global Management in its acquisition of Great Canadian Gaming Corporation for a total value of USD3.3 billion.

Notable practitioners
Chair of the firm’s gaming practice Eric Levy (see p.196) is sought out for his handling of corporate and securities matters and is frequently engaged by a number of impressive global gaming brands. “Eric is excellent. He is detail-orientated and aims to understand a problem deeply, in order to give the right advice.” “Eric is very knowledgeable and practical in solving issues and guiding clients through difficult situations. He is extremely accessible and always provides excellent service.” Ted Liu (see p.196) represents major market entrants and established players in the gaming industry with a range of advice. He shows particular expertise on acquisitions and regulatory strategy for entrants into the Ontario Internet gaming market. “The level of input and advice you get from Ted is always thorough and detailed.”

Segov LLP

What the team is known for
Segov LLP is a highly rated British Columbia boutique specialising in online gaming. The firm is respected for its handling of corporate and securities matters on behalf of interests in the iGaming and e-sports spaces. The lawyers also provide notable services in relation to regulatory clearance and licensing agreements.

Strengths “Segov have attorneys that can navigate the industry better than anyone.”

Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based founding partner Ron Segov (see p.197) is distinguished in the Canadian gaming and licensing space for his deep-seated experience in the online gaming sector. With complementary securities and technology expertise, he frequently represents betting companies, as well as clients from e-sports and iGaming. “Ron is the most knowledgeable lawyer in the space.” “Ron is well versed in the gaming world and excellent at what he does.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Don Bourgeois of Fogler, Rubinoff LLP is reputed for his impressive gaming background, having worked within a number of regulatory bodies, including the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario. He is particularly well known for his knowledge of gaming regulation. “Don is exceptional.”

Cory Levi of CORLEV Legal Inc is recognised in the gaming space for his knowledge of corporate structuring and regulatory compliance. He is noted for his work on behalf of startup companies.

Toronto-based Michael Lipton KC of Dickinson Wright PLLC is held in high esteem for his long-standing practice within the Canadian gaming space. He is renowned for his significant regulatory expertise as well as advising on matters of governance and compliance. “A legend in gaming law.”

Leaders’ Profiles in Gaming & Licensing

BUSH, Danielle

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto

Practice Areas: Danielle Bush is one of the leading gaming lawyers in Canada. Ms. Bush has decades of experience in providing legal advice and services to the full range of companies, government organizations and other entities operating in or servicing the gaming industry and other highly regulated industries. Her clients include online casino operators, sportsbooks, land-based casino operators, lottery corporations, charitable gaming providers, gaming regulators, gaming software and equipment processing companies. She advises clients on a full range of gaming and gambling related issues including white-label services, co-branding, affiliate agreements, regulatory changes in provincial gaming law, and areas including loot boxes, fantasy sports leagues, and esports. Ms. Bush is senior counsel at McCarthy Tétrault and also specializes in branding, marketing, advertising and technology law including development, licensing and joint venture agreements for tech owners and customers.


Professional Memberships: Canadian Gaming Association (Corporate Secretary and Executive Committee member); International Masters of Gaming Law; Canadian Bar Association

KELLEHER, Matthew S.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto

Practice Areas: Matthew is a Partner in the Business Law Group of McCarthy Tétrault LLP and Co-Head of its Public Sector Group. Matthew has experience leading complex and important mergers, acquisitions and other commercial transactions across a wide range of industries. He is often engaged on high-profile transactions, with particular experience advising clients pursuing disruptive or transformative change within an industry or organization. His matters often involve public and governmental sensitivities or diverse stakeholder interests.


Personal: Director of True Patriot Love Foundation, Canada’s national charity supporting military service members, veterans and their families. Director of POST Promise, a private sector led initiative dedicated to supporting consumer confidence and the safe re-opening of the Canadian economy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

LEVY, Eric

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Montréal

Practice Areas: Eric is Head of Osler’s Montreal Corporate Group and Chair of the Gaming Group. He has extensive experience in cross-border M&A and securities law, which includes advising on public offerings, private placements, recapitalization and stock exchange listings. His work encompasses initial public offerings as well as other public and private placement offerings of many Quebec-based and multinational companies in various industries, including mining and gaming. Eric’s private equity expertise includes representing numerous technology-based companies and institutional private equity funds in structuring cross-border financings.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association; Canadian Bar Association; Quebec Bar

Personal: McGill University, B.C.L./L.L.B. Quebec, 1996

LIU, Ted

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto

Practice Areas: Ted is a broad technology-related practice and possesses both technology-commercial and technology M&A expertise. Ted advises clients across a broad range of industries (e.g. investment companies, financial institutions, insurance companies, energy companies, medical device manufacturing companies, security software development companies, and securities dealers), bringing a depth of perspective that others cannot provide. Ted advises large financial institutions, insurance companies, and energy companies, as well as mid-size technology companies, on complex outsourcing and strategic corporate and commercial matters, including advising such clients on infrastructure, application development, rewards program, data processing, and payment processing related services and transactions. Ted’s practice also focuses on advising emerging companies on corporate and commercial matters, including acting for such clients on M&A and financing transactions. Ted also routinely advises clients on privacy, intellectual property, and data access and management related issues, as well as contract structures for innovative arrangements.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association; Canadian IT Law Association; Law Society of Ontario; Bar Association Toronto Computer Lawyers Group


MAOUD, Mike

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto

Practice Areas: Mike specialization in Gaming & Licensing (Nationwide – Canada)

www.chambers.com
SEGEV, Ron  
Segev LLP, Vancouver  
+1 604 629 5402  
ron@segev.ca

Practice Areas: Ron Segev is a founding partner of Segev LLP. Ron is a practical-minded business lawyer with a keen eye for opportunity, but also a sensitivity to risk. Ron is a specialized iGaming lawyer and assists online gaming, social gaming, skill games, sports books, daily fantasy sports, esports, v-sports, live-dealer, and other gaming and betting clients worldwide with their commercial, IP, transactional, licensing, regulatory and compliance needs. Ron has worked with all industry participants including developers, studios, publishers, and others. Ron has extensive experience in the gaming sector and has appeared as an expert speaker on the topic for various media outlets and at various high-profile events, and conferences. Ron is also a General Member of the International Masters of Gaming Law and is ranked by Chambers & Partners as a Band-1 lawyer in Canada, Chambers’ highest ranking. Ron directs our busy Securities team through the complexities of private/public finance in a landscape that sees rapid market and legislative changes. Ron has considerable experience assisting clients in highly regulated industries (gaming, blockchain, cannabis, for example) with their financing needs and guides our team to ensure our clients meet their objectives. Ron also heads up Segev LLP’s technology practice group and works with a wide variety of technology clients including data analytics companies, digital media and creative agencies, online marketers and affiliates, e-commerce companies, software, SaaS, enterprise software (CRM, ERP, etc.) and app developers, and international clients. Ron advises, negotiates and drafts contracts for operators and companies. Under Segev LLP’s technology practice group, Ron has experience working with some of the highest distributed ledger technology companies in Canada, and worldwide. He works with blockchain application development companies, miners, brokers, token projects, DeFi, GameFi, Web3, NFT and other multi-verse related projects.

Ron is also counsel to multiple lawful cannabis companies, assisting them with their corporate, commercial, transactional and private and public financing needs. Ron can assist in establishing key relationships and partnerships, navigating mergers & acquisitions and other deals, and addressing corporate development needs. Ron also has a broad network of financial partners to help connect you with the people you need to realize your vision.


Professional Memberships: International Masters of Gaming Law Canadian Gaming Association


STOKES, Bryson  
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto  
416 863-2179  
bryson.stokes@blakes.com

Practice Areas: Bryson is the Practice Group Leader of the Firm’s national Gaming group and also serves as the Firm’s National Managing Partner. Bryson has been advising clients in the Canadian gaming sector for 30 years and has extensive industry experience and knowledge. He regularly advises gaming operators, governmental organizations/crown corporations and other businesses operating in or servicing the gaming industry (such as payment processors, financial institutions and suppliers) in both land based and online markets on a wide range of commercial, operational, and transactional matters. Bryson has extensive experience dealing with gaming regulatory matters, including gaming registration, licensing and compliance issues, responsible gaming programs and advising on the application and interpretation of federal and provincial legislation affecting the gaming sector.

TUZYK, John  
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto  
416 863-2918  
john.tuzyk@blakes.com

Featured in Gaming & Licensing ( Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: John has an extensive practice representing Canadian gaming industry clients, principally casino developers and operators, having been involved since the sector’s inception in Canada. He is well versed in Canadian gaming law legislation, and has unmatched experience dealing with gaming regulatory agencies and negotiating with provincial government gaming corporations. He has represented Caesars Windsor since its inception. John also represented Penn National Gaming, Inc. for many years, including its operation of Casino Rama, and it’s investment in the Score, and Falls Management Group, the developer and operator of Fallsview Casino Resort. In 2021 he represented Apollo Global Management funds in their $3.3 billion acquisition of Great Canadian Gaming, Canada’s largest gaming transaction. In 2022 he acted for Caesars Sportsbook on its entry into the Ontario igaming market and as Canadian counsel for Boyd Gaming Corporation on its acquisition of Pala Interactive, a global igaming technology company. He also advises suppliers, media, financial institutions and sports organizations.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Health Law
Nationwide

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The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for: Bennett Jones possesses a robust litigation group that enjoys a strong reputation for its expertise of medical malpractice defence. Noted for its representation of health professionals in Alberta, the firm’s practice spans regulatory and corporate transactional matters, as well as providing support to medical service providers and hospitals.

Strengths: “The team is experienced, insightful and strategic.”

“Barbara is a remarkable lawyer, you know you are in great hands with her.” “She has a high level of commitment to those she represents.” “Barbara is a remarkable lawyer, you know you are in great hands with her.”

Work highlights: Bennett Jones’ team successfully represented a defendant on behalf of the CMPA before the Administrative Hearing Tribunal of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta. The respondent was accused of inappropriately striking a patient on the head during their attendance at the emergency room.

**Notable practitioners**

Calgary-based Valerie Prather KC is often retained by the CMPA for representation of individual physicians in malpractice and negligence trials. “She is determined in her preparation and analysis of complex situations.” “Valerie is a very knowledgeable and hard-working individual. She is attentive to details, conscientious and insightful.”

**Healthcare Corporate/Commercial & Regulatory**

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The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/suitability, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

Contents:

- Healthcare Nationwide p.199
- Leading Individuals p.202
co-chairs BLG’s health sector services group. Toronto-based Cindy Clarke (see p.202) is noted for her extensive experience representing pharmaceutical clients, hospitals and other institutions in a range of disputes. Her practice includes malpractice and negligence suits, as well as product liability claims. Toronto-based Patrick Hawkins (see p.203) acts for hospitals and other healthcare providers in a range of lawsuits, including malpractice claims and class action proceedings. “He offers excellent support and is very astute, smart and patient.” Daphne Jarvis maintains an impressive litigation practice dedicated to the defence of hospitals and healthcare institutions. She has been particularly active defending against claims linked to controversial death certificates and ‘do not resuscitate’ instructions. She is based in Toronto. “Daphne is extremely knowledgeable on any governance and bylaw issues.” National practice leader Kate Crawford (see p.202) is an experienced Toronto-based healthcare disputes lawyer with a solid reputation among healthcare institutions.

Cox & Palmer

What the team is known for Cox & Palmer is a well-regarded firm noted for its representation of physicians on behalf of the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) in Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador, and New Brunswick. Its lawyers provide support on a range of healthcare mandates, including product liability defence, medical malpractice and advising on risk.

Notable practitioners

Halifax-based Colin Clarke KC frequently acts as a lead counsel to the CMPA and its members in Nova Scotia. His well-regarded practice covers both litigation and disciplinary proceedings, responding to allegations of malpractice and negligence. “He’s a very well-regarded practitioner.”

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is a highly esteemed law firm with an acclaimed health law practice. Often involved in general professional regulation, the team regularly assists with the drafting of by-laws for regulatory colleges. It also advises on corporate transactions and projects, and offers additional expertise in health privacy matters. The firm is increasingly active on tech procurement, privacy and e-health and data sharing mandates in the sector. Specific areas of strength include providing counsel to health industry clients on labour and employment and regulatory issues.

Strengths “The team is sophisticated and thoughtful. “I’m constantly impressed by the advice and the thoroughness of the responses. We are also pleased to be able to access a variety of subject matter experts.”

“Fasken’s team provided rapid responses to queries.”

Work highlights Fasken acted on behalf of Alexion Pharmaceuticals in a case concerning the price of a drug used to treat certain childhood haemolytic disorders. The dispute arose from The Patent Medicines Price Review Board’s order to reduce the drugs price to the lowest international price available.

Notable practitioners

Leader of the firm’s practice group, Lynne Golden (see p.203) frequently assists healthcare institutions and non-profits in navigating regulatory regimes, as well as advising on corporate and commercial mandates. She is based in Toronto. “Her expertise and experience have been of tremendous help to us.”

Laurie Turner (see p.204) is noted for her ability to provide counsel on a wide spectrum of matters, including regulatory issues, corporate restructur- ing, and ‘do not resuscitate’ instructions. “She is a brilliant healthcare attorney who works on complex and cutting-edge projects.” “Laurie always makes herself available and provides excellent service.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is an eminent law firm in the Canadian healthcare sector, renowned for its role as general counsel to the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA). The medical defence and health law team enjoys a strong reputation for its representation of physicians in medical malpractice cases in Ontario, Alberta and Nunavut. The group also acts as trusted counsel on regulatory and policy concerns at federal and provincial levels, as well as acting for health organisations and non-profits across the spectrum of corporate and commercial issues.

Strengths “The breadth of their team affords them the expertise to put the right counsel on the right issue.”

“Gowling’s team are able to manage a significant volume of work whilst sustaining great attention to detail.”

“All of the lawyers in the group are excellent.”

Work highlights Gowling’s healthcare team advised the Canadian Medical Protective Association on a range of issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including triage protocols, virtual care and vaccination requirements, among other issues.

Notable practitioners

Ottawa-based Domenic Crolla is an eminent lawyer in the healthcare market, and well known for his leadership of the firm’s CMPA dedicated team. “He’s very professional and informed and he has a great way of getting to the heart of a complex problem.” “Don is commited and skilful, he’s an exceptional leader.”

“His knowledge is exemplary.”

“Guy is an excellent advocate.”

“Our firm has superb breadth and depth of expertise in the health law sector, and our clients can count on us for our depth and breadth.”

Lenczner Slaght

What the team is known for Lenczner Slaght is an esteemed Ontario-based litigation boutique that offers deep expertise in healthcare trial work. The firm also regularly represents professional regulatory bodies in the health sector. It is particularly well regarded for its representation of Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA) member physicians in medical malpractice cases. Its lawyers also offer complementary strength in product liability proceedings in the pharmaceutical sector.

Strengths “The team has superb breadth and depth of knowledge.”

Lenczner Slaght employ a team-based approach that is highly effective and efficient. They do their utmost to provide counsel on a wide spectrum of matters, including regulatory issues, corporate restructuring, and representing clients facing commercial litigation. “She is an experienced practitioner with a solid reputation for providing measured analysis of legal matters.” Adriana Cargnello has a growing profile within the sector. She demonstrates considerable strength in advising clients on matters concerning civil liability and regulatory issues. Her practice is based in Ottawa. “She can be relied upon to provide prompt and thoughtful instructions.” “She’s a pleasure to work with and she offers very strong counsel.” Donna MacKenzie focuses her practice on professional liability and provides counsel on a wide spectrum of matters, including regulatory issues, corporate restructuring, and representing clients facing commercial litigation. “She is highly knowledgeable and exceptionally hard-working.” “The depth and breadth of her knowledge in health law makes her an exceptional resource.”

Harper Grey LLP

What the team is known for Harper Grey is highly regarded for its work on behalf of physicians, surgeons and other health specialists in British Columbia. The Vancouver-based law firm also represents medical clients in litigation in the Yukon. Its health law and professional regulation groups assist with both civil litigation and professional regulation issues and its lawyers are also heavily involved with regard to end of life issues. The firm acts as business counsel to a range of clients including medical device and technology companies.

Strengths “They have an excellent team of highly skilled and knowledgeable professionals.”

“The team have been doing this work for many years as a skilled group of advocates and they have deep knowledge of the practice area.”

Harper Grey has outstanding practitioners who are very talented. They provide top service and are quick to respond.

Notable practitioners

Kimberly Jakeman enjoys an impressive reputation for leading physician defence cases in BC. She has considerable experience in professional negligence and misconduct disputes, offering additional capabilities in mediation. “Kim is an exceptional lawyer. She is highly knowledgeable, skilled and committed to her clients.” “She has a highly sophisticated approach to medical litigation and regulatory work. She is also very experienced.” Guy Brown is highly regarded by sources for his skilful courtroom advocacy. His civil practice includes professional negligence, medical malpractice and personal injury, as well as insurance coverage mandates. “Guy is an excellent advocate.”

“His knowledge is exemplary.” William Clark leads the firm’s professional regulation practice group and is noted for his expertise in representing practitioners in disciplinary proceedings across the healthcare sector in BC. “William is an exceptional lawyer, he always achieves superb results.” “He is a skilled professional.”

Jonathan Meadows demonstrates considerable strength in defending physicians and medical practitioners against medical malpractice claims, notably those involving allegations of a lack of informed consent. “He displays great instincts and skills and he provides a compassionate service.” “He is an excellent practitioner.”

William Clarke

What the team is known for William Clarke is a noted practitioner within the health law sector. He acts for a number of non-profit organisations and professional bodies in the healthcare sector, assisting with matters ranging from governance to civil litigation. He is based in Ottawa. “He is exceptionally talented and articulate.”

“François is an experienced member of the Gowling group with strong analytical skills.” Ottawa-based Daniel Boivin has extensive experience within the health and acquisition space. He is routinely called upon to represent clients facing commercial litigation. “Daniel provides very good client service.” “He is an experienced practitioner with a solid reputation for providing measured analysis of legal matters.”

Adriana Cargnello has a growing profile within the sector. She demonstrates considerable strength in advising clients on matters concerning civil liability and regulatory issues. Her practice is based in Ottawa. “She can be relied upon to provide prompt and thoughtful instructions.” “She’s a pleasure to work with and she offers very strong counsel.” Donna MacKenzie focuses her practice on professional liability and provides counsel on a wide spectrum of matters, including regulatory issues, corporate restructuring, and representing clients facing commercial litigation. “She is highly knowledgeable and exceptionally hard-working.” “The depth and breadth of her knowledge in health law makes her an exceptional resource.”
reach excellent outcomes.”
“The practitioners are highly experienced and knowledgable in all areas of medico-legal issues.”

Work highlights Lenczner Slaght’s team defended five physicians on behalf of the CMPA in a claim related to the birth of one of the plaintiffs who was born with cerebral palsy.

Notable practitioners
Versatile litigator Tom Curry (see p.285) has represented a wide array of parties in the healthcare sector, including physicians and pharmaceutical companies. He is frequently engaged as lead defence counsel in complex medical malpractice lawsuits. “Tom is extremely knowledgeable and he works very hard for his clients to move matters to successful resolution.” “He is one of the top litigators in the province.”

Risa Kirshblum (see p.203) has significant experience representing individual physicians in complex professional negligence and medical malpractice lawsuits. “Risa is strategic and an outstanding communicator and relationship-builder.” “She’s a very good advocate who’s well respected and has excellent analytical skills.” Rebecca Jones (see p.289) has a burgeoning reputation in professional liability litigation in the healthcare industry. She also assists with workplace investigations and has an active public law practice. “She is particularly skilled at handling high stakes or high stress issues.”

Jaan Lilles (see p.203) is highlighted for his ability to defend physicians in medical malpractice cases. He has notable experience of handling matters concerning wrongful birth claims and allegations of a lack of informed consent. “He consistently provides high-quality strategic legal advice and he has vast experience of prosecuting a range of cases.” “Jaan is a great lawyer with great instincts.”

Matthew Sammon (see p.204) has significant experience in representing physicians in medical malpractice suits as well as before disciplinary bodies. “He is a forceful and focused litigator.” “Matthew is a skilled advocate.”

Peter Erik Veel (see p.204) has a growing healthcare practice, working on medical malpractice cases as well as product liability class action proceedings. “He is a very strong and committed litigator.” “One of Paul’s particular strengths is his thoughtfulness and strategic thinking.” Dena Varah (see p.204) has a burgeoning practice in the healthcare space. She is noted for her ability to represent physicians in a wide spectrum of matters, including surgical misadventure and wrongful birth cases. She is based in Toronto. “Dena is a skilled litigator.” “She is a strong and experienced lawyer.”

Lerners LLP
What the team is known for Lerners is a highly regarded Ontario law firm that enjoys a strong reputation in the field of health litigation. Its health law practice is regarded Ontario law firm that enjoys a strong reputation and it has a deep understanding of the healthcare sector, including physicians and pharmaceutical companies. The firm acts as counsel to Surgical Medical Protective Association members and other experts in health law in Ontario and Québec, as well as representing a wide array of clients in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors.

The firm is based in Toronto, London, Strathroy, Waterloo and Owen Sound.

Notable practitioners
London-based Andrea Plum is noted by sources as an experienced and respected medical negligence and malpractice lawyer. She has also led administrative appeals cases. Kevin Ross has a solid track record of representing health professionals implicated in serious malpractice and negligence lawsuits. Based in the firm’s London office, he also has a busy class action practice, representing both defendants and plaintiffs. Managing partner of the firm’s Toronto office, Anne Spafford attracts praise for her trial experience. She represents physicians in medical negligence and professional discipline proceedings.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is a prominent national law firm that is identified for its depth of expertise in medical negligence claims and other health-related litigation. The healthcare team regularly acts for the Canadian Medical Protective Association in Ontario and Québec, as well as representing a range of other healthcare clients, including community facilities, private healthcare providers and suppliers. The firm stands out for its expert handling of complex health issues, including end of life cases, regulatory health matters, privacy law and transactions.

Strengths “McCarthy is very strong in the medical liability space. They employ a team-based approach that is highly effective and efficient.” “They have a large team with solid strength at all levels.” “The team is sophisticated and strategic.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault’s team represented Lundbeck Canada and H. Lundbeck A/S in two class actions following allegations that the use of the antidepressant Cexy by pregnant women caused certain birth defects.

Notable practitioners
Tom is extremely knowledgeable and he works very hard for his clients to move matters to successful resolution.”

Todd Campbell (see p.206) has extensive experience in handling medical malpractice cases, covering negligence lawsuits and disciplinary proceedings. “Todd is an absolutely necessary resource for Québec matters.”

Emmanuelle Poupart (see p.203) is recognized by sources as one of the leading experts in medical law in Québec for her representation of pharmaceutical companies and individual physicians in negligence and damage claims. “She’s an absolutely necessary resource for Québec matters.”

Emmanuelle is very experienced in advising on both civil and disciplinary proceedings.” “She has a very strong reputation.”

Toronto-based Erica Baron (see p.202) has a burgeoning practice in the healthcare space. She routinely represents clients in complex disputes related to medical malpractice and professional negligence. “Erica is a smart and adept lawyer.” “She is a strong practitioner.”

Sarit Batner (see p.282) has extensive experience of handling complex commercial litigation related to allegations of breach of contract and patents, among other issues. She is based in Toronto. “She is a very experienced practitioner in the space.”

MLT Aikins LLP
What the team is known for MLT Aikins is a renowned full-service Prairie law firm, with particular health law strength in its Winnipeg office. The firm is regarded as go-to Manitoba counsel for the Canadian Medical Protective Association, assisting with a broad range of malpractice and negligence cases.

Notable practitioners
Todd Campbell, routinely called upon by the CMPA to defend its physicians in medical malpractice cases. He is based in Winnipeg. “Todd is a strong litigator.”

Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is respected for its handling of a range of corporate and commercial issues for healthcare clients, with particular strength in Ontario and Québec. The firm offers experience representation to healthcare authorities, medical research facilities and hospitals. The group’s capabilities are supported by the firm’s comprehensive expertise in IP and life sciences.

Strengths “The team offers outstanding support. They also have a very high knowledge and skill level.” “The group has high-level expertise in life sciences.” “Norton Rose’s practitioners are responsive and collaborative.”

Work highlights The firm acts as counsel to Surgical Safety Technologies on the ongoing development and commercialisation of its Operating Room Black Box, a machine learning platform used during medical operations that is aimed at improving safety and quality of procedures.

Notable practitioners
Véronique Barry (see p.202) continues to be noted for her impressive expertise in healthcare-related corporate and commercial issues. She is based in the firm’s Québec City office. “Véronique is absolutely amazing.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt commands respect for its representation of local and international players in public and private health. Operating out of its hub in Toronto, the health group advises on a broad range of regulatory, privacy and corporate commercial matters, with an impressive roster of clients from healthcare providers to government departments. The firm is particularly noted for its pioneering practice focused on the emerging e-health sector.

Strengths “The team has excellent industry knowledge and they are on top of key trends and developments.”

McKercher LLP
What the team is known for With a respected healthcare care department across its offices in Saskatoon and Regina, McKercher is regularly deployed in provincial medical malpractice and negligence cases on behalf of the Canadian Medical Protective Association.

Notable practitioners
Christine Glazer KC (see p.203) is noted for her considerable experience handling medical malpractice cases and wider personal injury claims. Her litigation expertise also covers administrative and professional regulation law. She is based in Saskatoon. “She is a very experienced practitioner in the space.”

www.chambers.com
Notable practitioners

Rosen Sunshine LLP
What the team is known for: Rosen Sunshine is a distinguished boutique health and regulatory firm based in Toronto. The team routinely provides counsel to healthcare associations and professionals. The group has notable expertise in handling matters arising from allegations of misconduct and privacy breaches. Its practitioners are also relied upon to advise clients on regulatory policies and procedures.

Strengths: "The team specialises in the healthcare space. "Rosen Sunshine's group is well regarded."

Monitor, Cindy
LITIGATION, and winner of one of the 2018 Powerful Women by the Women’s Executive Network (WXN), a Rising Star by Lexpert, and a member of the Ontario Bar. She achieved the awards for the top standing in both evidence and conflict of laws. She graduated with distinction from the University of Western Ontario with a BA (Hons.) in philosophy. She is an adjunct professor at Western University Law School teaching Advanced Contracts.


BARRY, Véronique
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Practice Areas: Véronique Barry’s practice covers all aspects of commercial and corporate law, with a particular focus on drafting commercial contracts and on matters relating to life sciences and healthcare. Véronique has gained valuable experience in personalized medicine, clinical trials and the use of technology in healthcare. She has also developed a keen interest in access to information and protection of personal information, as well as French language and Canada’s anti-spam legislation requirements. Over the last few years, Véronique has given several presentations on these topics. While pursuing her bachelor of laws—international profile at Laval University, Véronique studied at Birmingham University in England where she furthered her knowledge of international commercial law, among other topics. Véronique also studied at Queen’s University and subsequently became a member of the Ontario Bar.

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Practice Areas: Véronique Barry’s practice covers all aspects of commercial and corporate law, with a particular focus on drafting commercial contracts and on matters relating to life sciences and healthcare. Véronique has gained valuable experience in personalized medicine, clinical trials and the use of technology in healthcare. She has also developed a keen interest in access to information and protection of personal information, as well as French language and Canada’s anti-spam legislation requirements. Over the last few years, Véronique has given several presentations on these topics. While pursuing her bachelor of laws—international profile at Laval University, Véronique studied at Birmingham University in England where she furthered her knowledge of international commercial law, among other topics. Véronique also studied at Queen’s University and subsequently became a member of the Ontario Bar.

BATTER, Sarit E
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
(416) 601-7756
sbatter@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sarit E. Batter’s practice covers all aspects of commercial and corporate law, with a particular focus on drafting commercial contracts and on matters relating to life sciences and healthcare. Batter has gained valuable experience in personalized medicine, clinical trials and the use of technology in healthcare. She has also developed a keen interest in access to information and protection of personal information, as well as French language and Canada’s anti-spam legislation requirements. Over the last few years, Batter has given several presentations on these topics. While pursuing her bachelor of laws—international profile at Laval University, Batter studied at Birmingham University in England where she furthered her knowledge of international commercial law, among other topics. Batter also studied at Queen’s University and subsequently became a member of the Ontario Bar. Batter is called upon by both health associations and professionals to provide counsel on complex regulatory and civil issues. Her practice is based out of Toronto.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Michelle Roth (see p.203) continues to be well regarded for her experience advising entities focused on senior living and elderly care. Her practice encompasses corporate governance and financing, as well as regulatory law. "Michelle is an amazing lawyer."

Rosen Sunshine LLP
What the team is known for: Rosen Sunshine is a distinguished boutique health and regulatory firm based in Toronto. The team routinely provides counsel to healthcare associations and professionals. The group has notable expertise in handling matters arising from allegations of misconduct and privacy breaches. Its practitioners are also relied upon to advise clients on regulatory policies and procedures.

Strengths: "The team specialises in the healthcare space. "Rosen Sunshine's group is well regarded."

Notable practitioners

Lonny Rosen
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
(416) 367-6203
krisinger@blg.com

Practice Areas: Solving complex medical malpractice and public law actions, and class actions. Outside of civil litigation, Kate practices administrative law with a special focus on physician credentialing issues. Kate also represents health care clients before tribunals, public inquiries, inquests and other types of proceedings. Kate also provides day-to-day general counsel-type advice to executive teams at hospitals, long term care facilities and retirement homes, providing strategic day-to-day advice on risk management, crisis response and policy issues.

Professional Memberships: Member, Canadian Bar Association Member, Medico-Legal Society of Toronto Member, Ontario Bar Association Health Law Section and Class Actions Section Member, The Advocates Society.

CRUZ, Darryl A
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dcruz@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Darryl’s litigation practice is focused on professional liability and commercial law. He has appeared in Toronto and in the Supreme Court of Canada. Darryl has conducted many trials, both jury and non-jury, over his litigation career. His trials have been in relation to all areas of law, including contracts, advertising, competition, insurance, tax, environmental, intellectual property, technology, defamation, employment and professional negligence. In the
professional negligence context, Darryl is known for his work as lead counsel for physicians in a wide variety of negligence and discipline cases. Darryl teaches Trial Advocacy and Professional Negligence at Queen's Law School.

**Career:** Ontario Bar, 1992.

**CURRY, Tom**
Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3096
tcurry@lsligate.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationalwide – Canada), Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)
See under Litigation for profile.

**GLAZER, Christine J**
McKercher LLP, Saskatoon
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Health Care Medical Malpractice Defense Administrative Law Civil Litigation
**Professional Memberships:** Member and Past President, Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch Member and Past Chair, Canadian Bar Association, National Health Law Section Member, American College of Trial Lawyers Member, Joint Committee of Law Society and CBA on No Fault Insurance Member, Trial Lawyers Association of Saskatchewan

**GOLDING, Lynne**
Fasken, Toronto
416-865-5106
lgolding@fasken.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Lynne Golding is Co-Leader of the firm’s Health Law Group. She has an active corporate/commercial practice based principally in the health industry. Dealing with both for-profit and not-for-profit entities, Lynne advises clients on transactions in regulated and unregulated industries. A highly regarded name in the health regulatory space, Lynne’s practice is principally comprised of clients in the health sector for whom she provides governance advice and structuring and transactional services. Lynne is a frequent speaker on issues affecting the health sector and has been recognized for her expertise in healthcare law by Chambers Global, and the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory.

**HAWKINS, Patrick**
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
416 367 6065
phawkins@blg.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Patrick is a Partner in BLG’s Health Law Group. He defends hospitals, healthcare organizations and employees in medical malpractice and class-action litigation as counsel to the Healthcare Insurance Reciprocal of Canada. He acts as general counsel to healthcare organizations and regulated professionals, appearing regularly before the court and administrative tribunals. He provides advice to clients in areas including privacy and cybersecurity, physician credentialing, quality of care reviews and adverse event management.

**Career:** Ontario Bar, 1992. LL.M, University of Cambridge, LLB, Queen’s University.
**Professional Memberships:** President, Medico-Legal Society of Toronto; Member, Ontario Bar Association; Past Executive, Health Law Section; Member, Advocates Society.

**JONES, Rebecca**
Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3055
rjones@lsligate.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)
See under Litigation for profile.

**KIRSHBLUM, Risa**
Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3098
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Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** As a leader of Lenczner Slaght’s Professional Liability Practice, Risa provides particularly strong leadership and strategic guidance on a broad range of health law matters. Throughout her career, Risa has acted for physicians in civil, regulatory and various other legal matters related to their practice of medicine. She is a recognized expert on many health law topics and is regularly asked to speak at continuing legal education programs.

**LILLES, Jaan**
Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
416-865-3052
jlilles@lsligate.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Jaan’s practice includes a diverse range of litigation, professional liability, medical malpractice, commercial disputes, employment, and administrative law. In particular, he has extensive experience acting for both health professionals and regulators. Jaan has acted for physicians in a broad range of matters, including in civil actions, regulatory matters, and criminal proceedings. In addition, he has acted as prosecution counsel for the College of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncturists of Ontario and the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario in discipline proceedings. Having acted in several significant medical negligence cases over the years, Jaan is recognized by colleagues and clients as a leading lawyer in his field. Jaan is also routinely invited to present in continuing education sessions on health law matters.

**MCLAUGHLIN, Frank**
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
416-610-7531
fmclaugh@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Frank’s practice focuses on the defence of pharmaceutical product liability class actions, medical malpractice claims and a range of commercial litigation cases. Frank is a leading pharmaceutical lawyer in medical malpractice litigation, having successfully defended over 30 cases through trial, both jury and non-jury. Frank has many high-profile representative works, including acting as National counsel for a number of pharmaceutical innovator companies. Frank and his team have taken creative approaches to the defence of class actions and have defeated certification motions on behalf of AstraZeneca, in Marlan v. AstraZeneca (involving the atypical anti- psychotic medication Seroquel), and on behalf of Lundbeck in Price v. Lundbeck (involving the anti-depressant Celsixa) (currently under appeal). Frank has been involved in many leading medical malpractice decisions and specializes in birth injury litigation. Frank is a frequent presenter at conferences on medical legal issues.

**NEWELL, Susan**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
416.866.6797
snnewell@osler.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Susan is a corporate commercial lawyer in Osler’s Health Industry and Cannabis group. Susan regularly provides strategic advice to health industry stakeholders in connection with mergers and acquisitions, healthcare corporate restructurings and integrations, corporate governance matters, shareholder agreements, commercial agreements, outsourcing, clinical trial agreements and regulatory opinions in connection with federal and provincial health and cannabis statutes. Susan has acted for a variety of health industry stakeholders from the early stages of planning through to initial public offerings or purchase and sale transactions. Examples of industries represented included digital health providers, regulated health professionals, pharmacies, pharmaceutical clients, hospitals, dental organizations, veterinary medicine, shared service organizations, long-term care homes, medical devices, natural health products, licensed independent health facilities and laboratories and a variety of other private health clinics, health providers and health management and technology clients.

**POUPART, Emmanuelle**
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
514-397-4158
mroth@goodmans.ca
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Partner based in Montreal with a general litigation practice in professional liability, class actions related to pharmaceutical products and other consumer products and insurance for policyholders. She is the lead for the firm’s Medical Liability Group, supporting both the Quebec City and Montreal offices. She frequently acts as lead counsel for doctors in a wide variety of negligence and discipline cases. She has experience at trial and appellate level and before administrative tribunals.

**ROTH, Michelle**
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
416 597 6261
mroth@goodmans.ca
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Partner, Founder and chair of Goodmans Aging & Healthcare practice and President and CEO of SenBioDe, a company focusing on seniors living, healthcare and aging. Provides ongoing and transaction-specific strategic advice to organizations, and handles a diverse range of M&A transactions involving healthcare assets. Spent several years working in-house at healthcare organizations and law practice has varied over the years to include healthcare transformation, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, banking and real estate. Specialized expertise in CMHC-backed debt financing, all levels of healthcare regulation and transactional industry mapping. Considered a foremost industry leader in Aging & Health. Co-founded numerous innovative transactions, including uniquely structured senior living, pharmacy and private medical centre restructurings, REIT/REOC combinations, long-term care development projects and life science and pharmaceutical company initiatives.

**PASQUINO, Nick**
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
416.367.6253
npasquino@blg.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Nick focuses on providing corporate, commercial and governance advice to many of BLG’s key clients. He acts as trusted advisor to boards and senior management teams of for-profit, not-for-profit and charitable organizations, with particular emphasis on the health sector. Nick has a proven track record of successfully guiding transformational transactions such as amalgamations, asset transfers, integrations, collaborations, partnerships and joint ventures. He routinely assists in the structuring and implementation of novel legal and tax compliant structures that enable collaborative governance, revenue generation activities, and other innovative service delivery activities. His clients include hospitals, long term care facilities and other healthcare service providers, universities, not-for-profit housing providers, municipalities, trade and professional associations, clubs and foundations. Within BLG, Nick serves as Regional Manager of the Corporate Commercial Group in Toronto.

**POUPART, Emmanuelle**
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
514-397-4158
mroth@goodmans.ca
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Partner based in Montreal with a general litigation practice in professional liability, class actions related to pharmaceutical products and other consumer products and insurance for policyholders. She is the lead for the firm’s Medical Liability Group, supporting both the Quebec City and Montreal offices. She frequently acts as lead counsel for doctors in a wide variety of negligence and discipline cases. She has experience at trial and appellate level and before administrative tribunals.

**Career:** Quebec Bar, 1995.
**Professional Memberships:** Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

**ROTH, Michelle**
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
416 597 6261
mroth@goodmans.ca
Featured in Healthcare (Nationalwide – Canada)
**Practice Areas:** Partner, Founder and chair of Goodmans Aging & Healthcare practice and President and CEO of SenBioDe, a company focusing on seniors living, healthcare and aging. Provides ongoing and transaction-specific strategic advice to organizations, and handles a diverse range of M&A transactions involving healthcare assets. Spent several years working in-house at healthcare organizations and law practice has varied over the years to include healthcare transformation, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, banking and real estate. Specialized expertise in CMHC-backed debt financing, all levels of healthcare regulation and transactional industry mapping. Considered a foremost industry leader in Aging & Health. Co-founded numerous innovative transactions, including uniquely structured senior living, pharmacy and private medical centre restructurings, REIT/REOC combinations, long-term care development projects and life science and pharmaceutical company initiatives.

**Career:** In 2022, the Israel Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) honored Michelle with the Carole Tanenbaum Women of Action Business Award, for her contributions to the community. Recognized by The Globe and Mail and Lexpert for her work in cross-border transactions and as one of Canada’s Leading Lawyers, and recognized in Chambers and Best Lawyers Canada. In 2018, she received the Lexpert Zenith Award recognizing mid-career excellence in the legal profession.

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**www.chambers.com**
SAMMON, Matthew
Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
(416) 865-3057
msammon@litigate.com
Featured in Employment (Ontario), Health-care (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Recognized as a leading and formidable trial counsel, Matthew has extensive litigation experience across a broad range of areas, including complex corporate and commercial litigation, professional liability and medical malpractice, and employment cases. He regularly conducts trials, regulatory hearings, and arbitral proceedings. His roster of clients include large and mid-sized corporations across a wide range of sectors, including financial services, banking, telecommunications, retail, health care, manufacturing, hospitality, and oil and gas. Matthew has deep experience in professional regulation and medical malpractice litigation, appearing regularly as lead counsel in complex medical litigation and regulatory proceedings. He also acts frequently for executives and other individuals in civil and regulatory disputes.

TRATTNER, Paula
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: As a member of the Health Industry Group, Paula continues to focus on these issues for hospitals and other health care clients, in both the public and private sector. She has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario as well as numerous administrative and statutory tribunals, including the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board, Hospital Board hearings, Medical Advisory Committee meetings and a variety of committees at Ontario’s regulated health professionals colleges. Paula is certified by the Law Society as a Specialist in Health Law.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association, Medico-Legal Society of Toronto, Canadian College of Health Leaders (Corporate Member)
Personal: Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.B. Osgoode Hall Law School, L.L.M. (Health Law) York University, B.Ed. York University, B.A. (Hons.) (summa cum laude)

TURNER, Laurie
Fasken, Toronto
Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Laurie Turner is Co-Leader of the firm’s Health Law Group. Laurie has an active corporate/commercial practice and advises clients in the for-profit and not-for profit (specifically hospital sector) on a diverse range of matters including corporate restructurings, (e.g. mergers and amalgamations) corporate governance, procurement and privacy, with a particular focus on the health sector. Laurie is a graduate of Queen’s University, Faculty of Law. Prior to attending law school, Laurie earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Toronto (Distinction) and was an Executive Research Assistant to the Canadian Research Chair in Breast Cancer at Sunnybrook & Women’s College Health Sciences Centre. Laurie also worked as a Research Assistant for Professor Jurgen Rehm at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Laurie has gained valuable experience through recent secondments at two large teaching hospitals in Toronto and a shared service organization where she advised on a wide range of matters.

VARAH, Dena N.
Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Dena’s practice has broad scope, encompassing corporate and commercial litigation, shareholder disputes and oppression claims, contract issues, professional negligence cases, employment/wrongful dismissal matters and administrative and insurance law. She has appeared in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Appeal, as well as before administrative tribunals and in private arbitrations. Prior to joining Lenczner Slaght, Dena clerked for the judges of the Court of Appeal. Dena has also taught in continuing legal education programs presented by the Law Society of Ontario, the Ontario Bar Association, The Advocates’ Society, and Osgoode Professional Development. She is a co-chair of the University of Toronto Academic Tribune.

VEEL, Paul-Erik
Lenczner Slaght, Toronto
(416) 865-2842
pveel@litigate.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Paul-Erik’s litigation practice focuses on class actions, competition law, complex commercial disputes, and professional liability. His clients include major technology companies, financial institutions, professional services firms, pharmaceutical companies, retailers, and franchisors. He also routinely acts for physicians in a number of contexts, including in civil proceedings and regulatory matters.

WATTS, Michael
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 6605
mwwatts@osler.com
Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Michael is a corporate and commercial lawyer with a focus on mergers and acquisitions, and corporate matters in the health and cannabis industries. Michael is Chair of Osler’s Health Industry Group and Co-Chair of the Cannabis Group. He advises clients in respect of a wide spectrum of matters, including purchase and sale transactions, healthcare corporate restructuring and integrations, corporate governance, shareholder agreements, commercial agreements, digital health regulatory opinions and structuring solutions, privacy and data security, clinical trials, public and private healthcare industry regulatory compliance and business structuring advice. Michael also has extensive experience in providing complex regulatory opinions that ensure statutory compliance with federal and provincial health and cannabis statutes.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association
Personal: Rotman School of Management, I.C.D. Harvard University, ADR University of British Columbia, Juris Doctor Bishops University, B.B.A.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Hospitality
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/stuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Hospitality Nationwide

Hospitality
Leading Firms
Band 1
Goodmans LLP
Band 2
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
Band 3
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Stikeman Elliott LLP

Leading Individuals
Band 1
Di Fiore Mario Goodmans LLP*
Band 2
Arbuck Jason Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*
Green Bram Goodmans LLP*
Schyven Melissa Stikeman Elliott LLP*
Band 3
Citron Jeffrey A. Goodmans LLP*
Longcroft David C. Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*
Thompson Phil Protect Transaction Advisor (ORL) 0
Weinberg Larry M Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP*
* Indicates individual with profile.
0 (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Aphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Goodmans LLP
What the team is known for
Toronto-based law firm Goodmans is a hospitality powerhouse regularly servicing global hotel chains, REITs, investors and management companies. Its hospitality law group is highly adept at handling major hotel transactions, with impressive expertise in relation to management agreements and licensing. It is frequently sought out to act on high-profile asset deals, including in the mountain resort sector. The team demonstrates further skill in related financing, development and construction mandates and is highly experienced in international mandates, notably concerning resort management and development.

Strengths “Goodmans has a very reliable and knowledgeable team.”

“Larry is an excellent lawyer and is the key to the success of my legal department.”

Notable practitioners
Mario Di Fiore (see p.207) advises clients on a variety of hospitality concerns, from acquisitions to matters involving hotel management, financing and licensing agreements. “Mario is knowledgeable and has many years of experience in the space.” “He is a very strong lawyer.” Bram Green (see p.207) is regularly retained by leading hotels in Canada to advise on the acquisition and sale of single assets and property portfolios.

Jeffrey Citron (see p.207) has experience negotiating a range of management agreements alongside his work on hotel development financing; “Jeff brings a professional touch and steady hand to even the most difficult negotiations.”

Band 2

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
What the team is known for
Cassels Brock & Blackwell has a well-respected team renowned for its stellar franchising work in the hospitality sector, as well as its handling of large M&A deals and portfolio transactions. The group demonstrates further capabilities in relation to hotel developments and litigious mandates, such as management agreement disputes, and is equally equipped to act on hospitality finance mandates. Its varied client roster includes hotel and restaurant chains, investors and developers. The firm is also adept in resort management issues and particularly well placed to act for clients across Eastern Canada.

Strengths “Cassels Brock are excellent at pointing out key deal points for further investigation and discussion. They also provide valuable insight and cross-sector expertise that helps move deals to fruition.”

Work highlights A Cassels Brock & Blackwell team acted for Firehouse Restaurant Group in its CAD1 billion sale to Restaurant Brands International.

Notable practitioners
Jason Arbuck (see p.207) is the cochair of the hospitality group. He has extensive experience in the acquisition and financing of hospitality sector assets. He also regularly advises clients on a range of licensing and management issues from the firm’s Toronto office. “I would definitely recommend him as a sophisticated, deal-minded lawyer with strong understanding and expertise in the field.” Based in Toronto, Larry Weinberg (see p.193) is noted for the strength of his franchising practice, which sees him engaged by hotel clients on contentious and non-contentious mandates. He routinely advises on the launch and regulation of franchise brands from a range of industries. “Larry is an excellent lawyer and is the key to the success of my legal department.”

Notable practitioners
Phil Thompson - Business Lawyer, Protection Transaction Advisor (ORL) 0
Thompson Phil - Protection Transaction Advisor (ORL) 0

Band 3

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais is a respected national law firm with a broad-ranging hospitality practice. The team is well equipped to advise on transactional matters, including hotel portfolio acquisitions and construction lending, as well as management and licensing. It possesses notable experience in management agreement negotiations, as well as issues surrounding the operation of mountain resorts. BLG additionally advises on hotel development and franchising matters as well as high-value lease transactions in the hospitality space.

Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based David Longcroft (see p.207) is a well-reputed real estate lawyer with experience negotiating a range of ground leases and hotel management agreements. He is the national leader of BLG’s commercial real estate group. “He has great tact with clients, accommodates our needs and is very knowledgeable.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault is a well-regarded law firm acting on a vast range of hospitality-related matters, including high-profile M&A deals, corporate structuring, franchising and intellectual property. The group is also well equipped to handle cross-border work and contentious mandates, and represents an array of clients from the hotel, restaurant, gaming and mountain tourism sectors. It frequently assists such clients with their entry into, and expansion within, the Canadian market. The team is also highly adept in supporting hospitality clients with labour and employment issues and related litigation.

Work highlights A McCarthy Tétrault team led by John Currie acted for Slate Asset Management in its CAD75 million non-revolving credit facility to InnVest Hotels.

Notable practitioners
Trevor Lawson leads the hospitality group and is a key contact for the firm.

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for
Stikeman Elliott has a well-known team of lawyers who often handle sizeable M&A transactions in the hospitality market. The firm frequently advises on portfolio and single-asset deals in the hotel and restaurant sectors, as well as acting on franchising, lending and timeshare-related matters. It is also well equipped to assist with real estate development in the sector in addition to litigation and marina transactions. The team represents...
REITs, pension funds, international investors and resort chains. The firm is also well placed to advise on employment-related mandates in the hospitality sector.

Strengths “The group is very responsive to our requirements, which often have tight timelines.”

“They are a cross-disciplinary team that handle all aspects of a transaction.”

Work highlights Mario Paura led the Stikeman Elliott team in counselling Northland Properties Corporations on its CAD74 million acquisition of the Qube Hotel Toronto.

Notable practitioners

Melissa Schyven (see p.207) in Toronto routinely acts as counsel to hospitality clients as part of her broader real estate practice, with a strong track record in the acquisition and financing of hotels. “Melissa has an incredible understanding of complex hotel matters.” She’s very good and a pleasure to work with.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Phil Thompson has a strong practice in commercial real estate and notable experience in the hospitality sector. Thompson is adept in the financing, sale and acquisition of hotels. “He is a very well-respected and experienced practitioner.”

Leaders' Profiles in Hospitality

ABRUCK, Jason
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
+1 416 860 5889
jabruck@cassels.com
Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Chair of the Hospitality and Tourism Group, has extensive experience in transactional work involving hotels, restaurants, entertainment venues, timeshares, and condominiums representing private equity funds, lenders, owners, developers, and hotel management companies. Focuses on secured lending transactions. Deep experience in negotiating credit and hotel management agreements. Significant portion of practice is devoted to cross-border transactions. Speaks at hospitality and finance conferences, including the Canadian Hotel Investment Conference and Hotel Capital Connection.
Professional Memberships: Associate of Commercial Finance Attorneys (Director and Treasurer), Commercial Financial Association (Director and Treasurer), Chamber of Commerce, Director of the Canadian Chamber, American Bar Association.

CITRÓN, Jeffrey A.
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
+1 416 597 4256
jcitrón@goodmans.ca
Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Focuses primarily on corporate lending and credit restructurings, luxury mixed-use hotel and residential resort developments and sports law matters. In 35 years of practice in the banking and finance area, he has developed extensive experience acting for both lenders and borrowers in complex domestic and international secured lending transactions and debt restructurings transactions. Also a banking counsel to, among others, Cineplex Inc., Coca-Cola Canada Bottling Limited, The Clairvest Group, The Kilmer Group and Dexterra Group Inc. Also regularly represents Bank of Montreal in connection with hotel-related financings, and has acted from time to time for The Toronto-Dominion Bank, Fortress Credit Corp., GE Capital, Algonia Steel Inc., among others.
Career: Recognized as a leading banking and finance lawyer by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Banking, Finance and Transactional Lawyers, IFLR 1000, Chambers Global and Best Lawyers in Canada. Also recognized by Who’s Who Legal: Sports & Gaming 2021 as one of Canada’s leading sports lawyers and Chambers Canada 2022 for his exceptional work in Hospitality.

DI FIORE, Mario
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
416 597 4158
mdifiore@goodmans.ca
Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Partner in the Hospitality Group at Goodmans. Practice focuses on the hotel and leisure industry and on the negotiation and implementation of acquisition, related structuring, financing and management, franchise and operational agreements. Represented a number of hotel owners and operators in their arrangements involving the development, acquisition, financing, operation and management of hotels, resorts and mixed-use projects in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the Caribbean.
Career: Since 2018, has been the only lawyer ranked Band 1 (the highest ranking) for hospitality by Chambers Canada. Also recognized by IFLR 1000 as a Notable Practitioner in M&A and real estate acquisitions, and Best Lawyers in Canada in corporate law.

GREEN, Bram
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
416 597 4153
bgregen@goodmans.ca
Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Partner. Practice focuses on commercial real estate, with a particular emphasis on acquisitions and divestitures, mixed-use development, joint ventures and hospitality. Advises REITs, foreign investors, pension funds and pension fund advisors and many of Canada’s largest real estate development firms. Recent transactions include representing InnVest Hotels in connection with its acquisition of several marquee hotel properties, including, the St. Regis Toronto (formerly Trump Tower Toronto), the Fairmont Vancouver Airport Hotel and the Marriott Ottawa Hotel; Leadon Investments in its $1.1 billion acquisition of SilverBirch Hotels & Resorts’ portfolio from a Canadian pension fund manager; RioCan REIT in the formation of its urban retail and office joint venture with Allied REIT and its joint venture partners; and Allied Properties REIT and Diamondcor’s sale of the residential component of the Will to Tridel and Woodbourne.

LONDONCROFT, David C.
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 640 4211
dlondoncroft@blg.com
Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Expertise in institutional investment transactions, hotel and resort properties, real-estate infrastructure projects, mixed-use project development and air space parcel subdivisions, with unique expertise in the development of multi-family projects on First Nations’ reserve lands. Represents developers, investors, hotel owners and managers, and railway companies.
Career: British Columbia Bar. LLB, University of Toronto.

Schyven, Melissa
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5232
mschyven@stikeman.com
Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Melissa Schyven is a partner in the Real Estate Group. She is also a member of the Banking & Finance and Energy - Power Groups, and serves on the Associates’ Committee in the Toronto office. Melissa is former Chair of the Education Committee in the Toronto office. Melissa’s practice focuses on commercial real estate, including acquisitions, dispositions, commercial leasing and related matters, as well as a variety of banking transactions with a particular emphasis on project finance and acquisition finance.

Professional Memberships: Member, Joint Task Force (air space parcel subdivisions) of the Canadian Bar Association and the Association of British Columbia Land Surveyors; Member (and former Executive Committee Member, British Columbia District Council) of the Urban Land Institute; Member, International Council of Shopping Centres.

SCHYVEN, Melissa
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5232
mschyven@stikeman.com
Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Melissa Schyven is a partner in the Real Estate Group. She is also a member of the Banking & Finance and Energy - Power Groups, and serves on the Associates’ Committee in the Toronto office. Melissa is former Chair of the Education Committee in the Toronto office. Melissa’s practice focuses on commercial real estate, including acquisitions, dispositions, commercial leasing and related matters, as well as a variety of banking transactions with a particular emphasis on project finance and acquisition finance.

She has had frequent involvement in transactions involving large real property portfolios, the hospitality sector, REITs, and the retail sector. In addition, Melissa acts for developers and lenders with respect to power generation matters including renewable energy.

WEINBERG, Larry M
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
+1 416 860 2987
lweinberg@cassels.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationwide – Canada), Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Franchising for profile.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Immigration
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Leading Individuals: Personal

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Leading Individuals: Corporate

Senior Statespeople: retired

Leading Individuals: Emerging individuals

Immigration Nationwide

Immigration

Band 1

EY Law LLP

What the team is known for

What the team is known for

Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Green and Spiegel LLP

Based in Vancouver, Jonathan Leebosh heads up EY’s Canadian and cross-border NAFTA immigration practice. His work includes preparing immigration documents and advising on immigration programme development. Calgary-based Roxanne Israel is a respected and highly experienced immigration lawyer. She maintains a strong profile in the market and is regularly retained by corporate clients on high-stakes business immigration matters.

Green and Spiegel LLP

What the team is known for

What the team is known for

Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Leading Individuals

Brunet Jean-Philippe + Galileo Partners Lawyers Inc. (ORL) o

Caruso Barbara Jo + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Duval Stéphane + McCarthy Tétrault LLP o

Garson David L. P. + Garson Immigration Law (ORL) o

Green Evan + Green and Spiegel LLP

Green Stephen + Green and Spiegel LLP

Greenberg Howard + Greenberg Henwood PC (ORL) o

Greene Michael + Sherman Greene Barristers (ORL) o

Leebosh Jonathan + EY Law LLP

Maynard Gordon + Maynard, Stojicevic Stojicevic

Band 2

Arsenault Chantal + Norton Rose Fullbright (ORL) o

Chang Henry + Dentons Canada LLP

Dalen Seth + Gomberg Dalfen

Gomberg Avi + Gomberg Dalfen

Guberman Joel + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Israel Roxanne + EY Law LLP

Jain Ravi + Jain Immigration Law (ORL) o

MacGregor Bill + Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Siddiquee Yusra + Littler Mendelson, PC (ORL) o

Stojicic Aleksandar + Maynard, Kischer Stojicic

Band 3

Dingle Brian + Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (ORL) o

Green Shoshana + Green and Spiegel LLP

Tsui Brian + DLA Piper (Canada) LLP (ORL) o

Zemp Kevin + Zemp Law Group (ORL) o

Band 4

Baldwin Andrea + Barton Labour and Employment (ORL) o

Donger Isabelle + Sode Practitioner (ORL) o

Kane Betsy + Caple Kane (ORL) o

Kischer Rudolf + Maynard, Kischer Stojicic

Landry Nadine + PwC Law LLP

Lessard Julie + BCF LLP (ORL) o

Villarán, Ad E Gilda + Galileo Partners Lawyers Inc. (ORL) o

Up-and-coming individuals

Fagan Sarah + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Schofer Krista + Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Simard-Lafontaine Nicolas + Galileo Partners (ORL) o

Band 2

Arsenault Chantal + Norton Rose Fullbright (ORL) o

Chang Henry + Dentons Canada LLP

Dalen Seth + Gomberg Dalfen

Gomberg Avi + Gomberg Dalfen

Guberman Joel + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Israel Roxanne + EY Law LLP

Jain Ravi + Jain Immigration Law (ORL) o

MacGregor Bill + Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Siddiquee Yusra + Littler Mendelson, PC (ORL) o

Stojicic Aleksandar + Maynard, Kischer Stojicic

Band 3

Dingle Brian + Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (ORL) o

Green Shoshana + Green and Spiegel LLP

Tsui Brian + DL A Piper (Canada) LLP (ORL) o

Zemp Kevin + Zemp Law Group (ORL) o

Band 4

Baldwin Andrea + Barton Labour and Employment (ORL) o

Donger Isabelle + Sode Practitioner (ORL) o

Kane Betsy + Caple Kane (ORL) o

Kischer Rudolf + Maynard, Kischer Stojicic

Landry Nadine + PwC Law LLP

Lessard Julie + BCF LLP (ORL) o

Villarán, Ad E Gilda + Galileo Partners Lawyers Inc. (ORL) o

Up-and-coming individuals

Fagan Sarah + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Schofer Krista + Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Simard-Lafontaine Nicolas + Galileo Partners (ORL) o

Leading Individuals

Brunet Jean-Philippe + Galileo Partners Lawyers Inc. (ORL) o

Caruso Barbara Jo + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Duval Stéphane + McCarthy Tétrault LLP o

Garson David L. P. + Garson Immigration Law (ORL) o

Green Evan + Green and Spiegel LLP

Green Stephen + Green and Spiegel LLP

Greenberg Howard + Greenberg Henwood PC (ORL) o

Greene Michael + Sherman Greene Barristers (ORL) o

Leebosh Jonathan + EY Law LLP

Maynard Gordon + Maynard, Kischer Stojicic

Led by Toronto-based partner Evan Green, the EY Immigration team provides comprehensive immigration services to clients in a wide range of sectors, including retail, energy, technology and finance. The team is well versed in business immigration and HR policies. Clients benefit from the team’s capacity to draw upon its expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The team provides guidance on work permits, visas and citizenship, as well as strategic counsel on corporate immigration and HR policies. Clients benefit from the team’s capacity to draw upon Ernst & Young’s global network, as well as its application of cutting-edge technology and processes.

Strengths “The team supporting us is very knowledgeable and has gained the trust and appreciation of our employees and stakeholders.”

Notable practitioners

Based in Vancouver, Jonathan Leebosh heads up EY’s Canadian and cross-border NAFTA immigration practice. His work includes preparing immigration documents and advising on immigration programme development. Calgary-based Roxanne Israel is a respected and highly experienced immigration lawyer. She maintains a strong profile in the market and is regularly retained by corporate clients on high-stakes business immigration matters.

Strengths “The team supporting us is very knowledgeable and has gained the trust and appreciation of our employees and stakeholders.”

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based senior partner Evan Green manages the firm’s US immigration practice and is licensed to practise law in both Canada and the United States. His experience includes providing immigration advice to both large multinational corporations and small and medium-sized businesses. “He is a fantastic legal partner who is always available, always ready and always happy to help.” “He thinks outside the box on every case we have and always goes above and beyond to get it done.” Toronto-based senior partner Stephen Green enjoys a formidable reputation as a go-to resource for a variety of clients, ranging from multinationals to startups and non-profit organisations. “Stephen is a charismatic, caring and creative lawyer. He is also willing to take the time to understand his clients’ culture to come up with a solution that makes sense.” “He provides excellent advice and is always up to date on the most recent developments.” Toronto-based Shoshana Green maintains a wide-ranging immigration practice that encompasses work on behalf of refugees as well as corporate employers. She is highly experienced in immigration litigation, representing her clients at the first instance and on appeal, in addition to overseeing applications for judicial review. She regularly assists with the processing of work permits for temporary foreign workers. “Shoshana is acutely aware of the changing environment in which we operate and is able to provide educated opinions on complex matters.”

a firm successful and have been very active in their community as well as internationally.” “This team is excellent. There is nothing they haven’t seen before or aren’t willing to tackle.”

Notable practitioners

Evan Green + Green and Spiegel LLP

Shoshana Green + Green and Spiegel LLP

Leading Individuals

Brunet Jean-Philippe + Galileo Partners Lawyers Inc. (ORL) o

Caruso Barbara Jo + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Duval Stéphane + McCarthy Tétrault LLP o

Garson David L. P. + Garson Immigration Law (ORL) o

Green Evan + Green and Spiegel LLP

Green Stephen + Green and Spiegel LLP

Greenberg Howard + Greenberg Henwood PC (ORL) o

Greene Michael + Sherman Greene Barristers (ORL) o

Leebosh Jonathan + EY Law LLP

Maynard Gordon + Maynard, Kischer Stojicic

Band 2

Arsenault Chantal + Norton Rose Fullbright (ORL) o

Chang Henry + Dentons Canada LLP

Dalen Seth + Gomberg Dalfen

Gomberg Avi + Gomberg Dalfen

Guberman Joel + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Israel Roxanne + EY Law LLP

Jain Ravi + Jain Immigration Law (ORL) o

MacGregor Bill + Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Siddiquee Yusra + Littler Mendelson, PC (ORL) o

Stojicic Aleksandar + Maynard, Kischer Stojicic

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Fagan Sarah + Corporate Immigration Law Firm

Schofer Krista + Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Simard-Lafontaine Nicolas + Galileo Partners (ORL) o
Corporate Immigration Law Firm

What the team is known for

Corporate Immigration Law Firm is a high-quality Toronto-based immigration boutique noted for its effective counsel on a wide range of immigration matters, including study and work permit applications, temporary and permanent residency, inadmissibility issues and citizenship. The firm’s key clients include prominent businesses, universities and non-profit organisations. It also assists companies with devising corporate immigration policies and regulatory compliance and operates a strategic alliance with Galileo Partners in Montréal.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based firm founder Barbara Jo Caruso is one of the most experienced immigration lawyers in the market. Her work includes representing high-profile senior executives. Joel Guberman is one of the best-known lawyers in the Canadian immigration law community. Based in the firm’s Toronto office, his practice spans a variety of cross-border immigration matters, with multinational corporations among his clientele. Sarah Fagan is an increasingly prominent lawyer who is currently based in Toronto. She has a wide clientele from major multinational corporations to small and medium businesses and her practice encompasses work authorisation, permanent residence and citizenship issues.

Gomberg Dalfen

What the team is known for

Gomberg Dalfen is a pre-eminent Montréal-based boutique with in-depth knowledge of regional immigration matters. The firm assists companies of all sizes with the movement of skilled workers to Canada from around the world, advising on work permits and both the Canadian and Québec permanent residence immigration programmes. The team also advises Canadian companies on outbound immigration, particularly to European, South American and Asian countries. It offers notable experience in the entertainment and IT industries, and provides services in English, French and Spanish.

Notable practitioners

Seth Dalfen is a respected figure with many years’ experience advising on business-related immigration issues. He is one of the prominent names for such matters in Québec, and has a notable focus on relocation to Canada. Avi Gomberg has extensive experience in immigration law, which includes handling matters on behalf of major corporations as well as individual executives. Based in Montréal, he is well known in the legal community and widely respected for his abilities.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for

McCarthy Tétrault has a strong team based across Toronto, Montréal, Calgary and Vancouver that is recognised for its handling of all aspects of Canadian and global business immigration law. The firm advises a broad range of clients hailing from the infrastructure, luxury goods and tourism sectors, among others.

Strengths “Everyone I’ve worked with has been excellent and I like the diversity in the group. They have an excellent grasp of complex issues.”

“Their response time is extremely good and so are their services.”

Notable practitioners

Stephane Duval (see p.212) leads the firm’s national immigration practice and is notable for his immigration work on behalf of clients in a number of industries. He is based in Montréal. “Stephane has always been responsive and knows exactly what needs to be done to meet our immigration needs.” “Stephane has been a reliable source of legal analysis for our projects and he provides excellent service.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for

Gowling WLG is a dynamic law firm with an immigration group serving an impressive array of clients, including high-profile multinational corporations. Its experience includes assisting with US expansion issues. Clients in sectors such as banking, energy and telecoms benefit from access to the firm’s offices across Canada, particularly in Calgary and Waterloo Region.

Strengths “The team is extremely responsive, resourceful and easy to work with.”

“The Gowling lawyers always demonstrate both knowledge of the law and the ability to efficiently navigate regulatory processes.”

Notable practitioners

Kitchener-based Bill MacGregor serves major clients in sectors such as technology, energy and food and beverages. He is well versed in advising on personnel movement and obtaining work permits. “Bill is thorough and routinely goes out of his way to keep me up to date on changes to the law.” “Bill’s extensive knowledge is only matched by his responsiveness and dedication to client support. He provides comprehensive support in various corporate immigration areas and his advice is practical, focused and reasonable.” Based in Calgary, Krista Schofer’s immigration expertise is complemented by a broader focus on employment and labour law. She is admitted to practice in both Alberta and Massachusetts. “She has been a reliable and trusted partner all along.” “Krista is always very responsive and a great pleasure to work with.”

Maynard Kisicher Stojevic

What the team is known for

Maynard Kisicher Stojevic is a Vancouver-based immigration boutique with a broad range of expertise covering business immigration, litigation and appeals, as well as significant experience concerning the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada.

Notable practitioners

Vancouver-based Gordon Maynard is known for his regular handling of both personal and corporate immigration matters on behalf of clients across Canada, including Federal Court appeals. He has assisted individuals with obtaining residency and citizenship through the full gamut of official processes and also has a notable presence as a commentator on immigration matters in the media. Firm founder and managing partner Aleksandar Stojevic is a well-respected litigator who assists a variety of clients with corporate immigration disputes and immigration-related humanitarian cases. He also advises an array of HR departments. Rudolf Kisicher counsels clients on immigration issues relating to labour shortages. An experienced practitioner in the immigration law space, he also acts for individual entrepreneurs seeking to enter Canada.

KPMG Law LLP

What the team is known for

KPMG Law in Canada is known for its in-depth knowledge on business immigration, working closely with the firm’s tax practice group and drawing upon the international KPMG network. Its partners based in Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver and Montréal regularly assist corporations with global mobility strategies and immigration compliance analysis, keeping abreast of ever-developing government policy. The firm offers particular expertise in the financial services, telecommunications, pharmaceutical and IT sectors.

Strengths “The lawyers are very prompt and attentive to details. The team is very focused on keeping clients aware of commercial changes to help us navigate and find alternative ways to achieve our business goals.”

Notable practitioners

US immigration practice group leader Elizabeth Nanton is a key contact.

PwC Law LLP

What the team is known for

PwC Law assists clients with a wide range of immigration matters including temporary residence applications, work permits and family sponsorship work. Its Canadian team spread across Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver can call on a vast global immigration network to support numerous multinational corporations, particularly concerning the Global Skills Strategy programme.

Notable practitioners

Nadine Landry leads the firm’s Montréal immigration practice and has a business immigration focus. Her clientele is both domestic and international in scope.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Montréal-based Chantal Arsenault (see p.212) advises on a wide range of immigration matters at Norton Rose Fullbright, with notable experience assisting clients in the energy, retail and healthcare industries.

Andrea Baldwin provides clients with a range of strategic immigration advice, acting in sectors such as transportation, energy, and pharmaceuticals. Based in Halifax, she is a key immigration lawyer in Atlantic Canada.

Michael Battista is the founding partner of Battista Smith Migration Law Group and is based in Toronto. He particularly excels in advising on sponsorships and permanent residence applications based on same-sex relationships.

Toronto lawyer Mario Bellissimo is the founding partner of Bellissimo Law Group and is a past chair of the immigration division of the Canadian Bar Association. He is well respected for his work representing...
individuals in immigration disputes before all levels of the court and is a regular commentator on Canadian immigration issues in the media.

Jean-Philippe Brunet is the founder and managing partner of Galileo Partners Lawyers and is based in Montréal. He is highly experienced in representing employers on immigration matters such as workforce relocations. “Jean-Philippe brings with him a vast amount of knowledge and experience in immigration law.”

Chantal Deslages is the founder and senior partner of Deslages Law Group and is based in Toronto. Her practice covers citizenship matters, sponsorship cases and refugee law.

Toronto-based Brian Dingle (see p.212) leads BLG’s immigration team. He represents both employers and employees, and his work includes advising on the immigration aspects of corporate reorganisations. He has a particularly notable presence in the entertainment industry. “Brian Dingle is one of the foremost experts in immigration within the entertainment sector.” “Brian is always available and has great connections to appropriate contacts for assistance.”

Montréal-based solo practitioner Isabelle Dongier is a well-experienced corporate immigration lawyer. David Garson is the founder of Garson Immigration Law and is based in Toronto. A highly experienced lawyer, he is particularly notable for his work in the technology sector, and his client base includes senior executives and multinational organisations.

Montréal-based Mitchell Goldberg is a respected immigration lawyer based at Goldberg Berger who is particularly noted for his expertise concerning the rights of refugees. He regularly acts on behalf of individuals and families in their applications for permanent residency and advocates on their behalf in cases brought before the Refugee and Immigration Board.

Toronto-based Howard Greenberg heads Greenberg Hameed’s immigration practice and maintains an excellent reputation for advising corporate clients and their high-profile employees.

Calgary-based Michael Greene KC is a senior partner at Sherritt Greene and is widely considered to be a top practitioner in the Canadian immigration law market. He demonstrates decades of experience in the field and his handling of contentious matters is particularly noteworthy. “He is excellent at sharing knowledge and his insight is very helpful.”

Toronto-based Barbara Jackman is a top immigration lawyer at Jackman & Associates. She is best known for her representation of refugees, particularly in the context of security and international human rights issues.

Toronto-based founding partner of Jain Immigration Law, Ravi Jain is notable for his expertise in both Canadian and US immigration law. He also has considerable litigation experience.

Matthew Jeffery is a sole practitioner based in Toronto who excels in immigration law. His capabilities range across family sponsorship, express entry and citizenship matters as well as immigration appeals. “He is extremely knowledgeable and experienced. Despite our complicated case we always felt like we were in good hands.” “His communication skills are superb. Matthew has a word dexterity that is impressive and he was always able to convey his explanations in a clear way.”

Betsy Kane is a founding partner of Capelle Kane, based in Ottawa. She has a wealth of experience in corporate immigration law.

Julie Lessard is a Montréal-based lawyer who heads BCF’s business immigration department. She particularly excels in advising major multinational businesses on immigration policy. “Julie is always in solution mode and gives us a lot of support through the quality of her work.”

Winnipeg-based sole practitioner David Matas enjoys a formidable reputation in the market. His practice covers personal immigration and human rights matters, including in regard to the status of refugees. He is also well known for his role as senior legal counsel to the Canadian chapter of Jewish service organisation B’nai Brith.

Yuasa Siddiquee is well versed in assisting clients from the financial services, technology and telecoms sectors with the full spectrum of corporate immigration law matters. In addition to her work advising on immigration into Canada, she also regularly handles outbound immigration mandates. She works out of Little Mendelson’s Toronto office.

Nicolas Simard-Lafontaine is an increasingly prominent lawyer based at Galileo Partners Lawyers in Montréal. He demonstrates strong capabilities in representing both domestic and international clients on staff immigration and relocation.

With close to four decades’ experience in this field, Brian Tsuji is especially known for his work on behalf of Japanese clients. He is based in Vancouver.

Gilda Villaran is a Montréal-based lawyer at Galileo Partners Lawyers who commands significant experience in corporate immigration law. Her recent experience includes work permits and immigration compliance matters. “Gilda has always provided very practical advice when solving immigration matters and complex cases.”

Lorne Waldman is a Toronto-based lawyer at Waldman & Associates who has garnered an excellent reputation among his peers. Having practised for more than 40 years, he is well versed in a wide variety of personal immigration law issues, including matters relating to the immigration rights of refugees. He has a strong profile in the media, having provided expert opinion on a variety of high-profile cases.

Based in Calgary, Kevin Zemp is admitted to practice in both Canada and the USA. He is a leading corporate immigration lawyer in Alberta, and serves clients in sectors such as energy, tech and manufacturing.
Leaders’ Profiles in Immigration

ARSENAULT, Chantal
Norton Rose Fulbright, Montréal
+1 514 847 4747
chantal.arsenault@nortonrosefulbright.com
Featured in Immigration (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Chantal Arsenault has been practising in immigration and professional mobility since 1995. She provides advice on immigration issues to small and medium-sized companies as well as international corporations. Clients span a range of industries, including technology, entertainment, sports, food service and manufacturing. Ms. Arsenault also represents individuals who wish to become permanent residents in Canada in order to live, work and/or join a family member.

DINGLE, Brian
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
(416) 367-6189
bdingle@blgcanada.com
Featured in Immigration (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Brian is BLG’s National Business Immigration Focus Group Leader. He practices administrative and regulatory law with a focus on immigration, employment and citizenship matters. Brian has more than 15 years’ experience representing clients in multiple sectors, including information technology, mining, oil and gas, finance, sports and entertainment in the acquisition and transfer of key foreign talent. He represents major film and television studios and many high-profile entertainers, including Academy Award winning actors, directors, and other professionals in movie and television production, as well Grammy and Juno award winning recording artists.


Professional Memberships: Member, Canadian Bar Association; Ontario Bar Association; American Immigration Lawyers Association.

DUVAL, Stéphane
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
+1 514-397-4284
sduval@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Immigration (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Leader of the National Immigration Law Practice. He possesses a sound expertise in various aspects of immigration law, specifically relating to corporate immigration and global mobility of foreign workers. He provides multinational corporations, executives and specialized foreign workers with high-end service and creative solutions. He provides a wide range of legal advice, including developing and advising on strategic international mobility issues, corporate restructurings, mergers and acquisitions, legal compliance with immigration rules, and filling labour shortages. Stephane has been recognized for his 20+ years of innovative, creative and responsive services adapted to the very specific needs of his clients. He is regularly asked to lecture or act as moderator at various conferences on immigration law. Frequently interviewed by journalists on immigration issues. Previously acted as a Canadian Immigration and Customs Officer. He is leading and developing the firm’s expansion of its corporate immigration practice.


Professional Memberships: Past Chair, Canadian Bar Association, Immigration Law Section; Past-President of the Québec Division.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Information Technology
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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<td>Crane David McCarthy Tétrault LLP*</td>
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<td>Goodmans LLP</td>
<td>Morgan (see p.218) has a broad-based technology practice which sees him engaged on commercial transactions, including outsourcing agreements, as well as advising on data and privacy concerns. “He has interesting practice and he has got the ear of some of the biggest tech companies.” Vancouver-based David Crane (see p.217) is increasingly visible in the market, assisting tech companies and public bodies with licensing and service agreements. He is notably experienced in procurement and e-commerce. “David Crane has an excellent ability to track complex and nuanced issues.”</td>
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<td>Bennett Jones LLP</td>
<td>Osler, Hoskin &amp; Harcourt LLP</td>
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<td>Osler, Hoskin &amp; Harcourt LLP</td>
<td>What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin &amp; Harcourt is well respected for its ability to handle an impressive range of technology mandates, with notable strength in privacy law, various data matters and cloud computing. Its technology team advises both national and international clients on sophisticated transactional matters, including large outsourcing deals. The lawyers stand out for their work on behalf of financial institutions and emerging companies. The firm is also knowledgeable on public policy issues and initiatives regarding the technology sector and innovation, particularly procurement modernisation. Its varied client roster extends to organisations from the healthcare, retail and construction sectors.</td>
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<td>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</td>
<td>Strengths “The firm is equally able to provide detailed arguments as well as articulating high-level messaging when needed to a wide variety of audiences.” “They are very responsive and familiar with our business. I can rely on them to give advice that is given to me with the understanding of what our positions are on different issues.”</td>
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<td>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</td>
<td>Notable practitioners</td>
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<td>Wendy Gross (see p.218) is renowned for her representation of leading Canadian financial institutions in a range of matters, including the negotiation of master services, licence and programme agreements. Based in Toronto, she is the chair of the firm’s commercial technology transactions team. “She is a fierce advocate and a formidable negotiator.” “She’s great at what she does.” Michael Fekete (see p.217)’s practice sees him engaged by leading tech companies on matters involving IT procurement, as well as on public policy questions regarding data and AI. He is also experienced advising on issues relating to blockchain. “Michael is an expert in technology transactions and he has great understanding of working with the federal government. He gives very practical and business-friendly advice.” “Michael Fekete especially has been strong on the speed of responsive-</td>
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McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault operates a distinguished technology practice with an impressive depth of expertise across a range of IT matters. The team often acts on outsourcings and technology infrastructure development mandates, with further capabilities in IT-related litigation.

The firm advises a prestigious portfolio of clients, including banks and large technology multinationals, together with players in the transportation, aerospace and defence sectors. It is also noted for its work on high-profile tech procurements.

Strengths “McCarthy’s has been an excellent partner providing strong legal and strategic advice.” “They were fantastic on the file: exactly what we needed. They worked hard when we needed them to protect us against what the other side was trying to do and we got a good result. We are very happy.” Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised SecureKey on the strategic acquisition by Interac of SecureKey technology infrastructure development mandates, including banks and large technology multinationals, together with players in the transportation, aerospace and defence sectors.

McCarthy Tétrault is well respected for its ability to handle an impressive range of technology mandates, with notable strength in privacy law, various data matters and cloud computing. Its technology team advises both national and international clients on sophisticated transactional matters, including large outsourcing deals. The lawyers stand out for their work on behalf of financial institutions and emerging companies. The firm is also knowledgeable on public policy issues and initiatives regarding the technology sector and innovation, particularly procurement modernisation. Its varied client roster extends to organisations from the healthcare, retail and construction sectors.

Strengths "The firm is equally able to provide detailed arguments as well as articulating high-level messaging when needed to a wide variety of audiences.” “They are very responsive and familiar with our business. I can rely on them to give advice that is given to me with the understanding of what our positions are on different issues.”

Notable practitioners

Barry Sookman (see p.237) is a pre-eminent Toronto-based technology lawyer with vast experience in complex IT contract negotiations, including master services agreements. “He has a breadth and depth of knowledge which is unsurpassed.” “He is an academic, if you need to understand something inside-out, he is your guy. “Barry is not only extremely knowledgeable but very hard to fudger.” Toronto-based George Takach (see p.219) is a highly experienced IT lawyer who centres his practice on software procurement and also assists with transactions in the IT sector. “He is very responsive and gives cogent advice.” Top-ranked Christine Ing (see p.218) is well respected for her representation of leading financial institutions in commercial tech transactions, often involving novel structuring concerns. She is based in Toronto. “Christine Ing is a technology lawyer that applies a business lens to everything she does, ensuring that a practical approach is applied to legal constructs.” “She is reasonable, easy to get along with and knew when to bring in people to help on the file.” Montreal-based Charles Morgan (see p.218) has a broad-based technology practice which sees him engaged on commercial transactions, including outsourcing agreements, as well as advising on data and privacy concerns. “He has interesting practice and he has got the ear of some of the biggest tech companies.” Vancouver-based David Crane (see p.217) is increasingly visible in the market, assisting tech companies and public bodies with licensing and service agreements. He is notably experienced in procurement and e-commerce. “David Crane has an excellent ability to track complex and nuanced issues.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is well respected for its ability to handle an impressive range of technology mandates, with notable strength in privacy law, various data matters and cloud computing. Its technology team advises both national and international clients on sophisticated transactional matters, including large outsourcing deals. The lawyers stand out for their work on behalf of financial institutions and emerging companies. The firm is also knowledgeable on public policy issues and initiatives regarding the technology sector and innovation, particularly procurement modernisation. Its varied client roster extends to organisations from the healthcare, retail and construction sectors.

Strengths “The firm is equally able to provide detailed arguments as well as articulating high-level messaging when needed to a wide variety of audiences.” “They are very responsive and familiar with our business. I can rely on them to give advice that is given to me with the understanding of what our positions are on different issues.”
assists growth-stage and established tech companies with commercial transactions, such as practical and outsourcing agreements. Based in Toronto, he also has a deep understanding of AI and fintech matters. "Simon is a solid lawyer." Toronto-based Ted Liu (see p.196) has experience negotiating on behalf of leading Canadian banks in commercial agreements involving a variety of technology-related matters including outsourcing and strategic master services agreements.

Band 2

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for

Blake, Cassels & Graydon operates a well-established technology practice with a strong track record of handling a diverse array of IT mandates, including regulatory matters and transactions. The firm acts for a range of high-end technology companies and major corporate clients in the financial services and retail space, as well as emerging tech startups. It also advises on commercial agreements, outsourcing and licensing issues.

Strengths "The time the team spent was appropriate and focused on driving a solution for us." "Blakes did a good job of managing the process. They were able to negotiate and manage the complications that arose during the transaction." "Blakes has a strong team that is very responsive to client needs and demands."

Work highlights

Blake, Cassels & Graydon advised Payit on a three-year contract deal with the City of Toronto concerning replacing a platform managing municipal payment services.

Notable practitioners

Sunny Honda (see p.218) advises his client base of technology companies on a broad range of matters, involving procurement, IP and privacy concerns. His expertise and counsel extend to both transactional and regulatory matters. Based in Montréal, Honda is the national head of both the firm’s technology and communications law groups. "He’s aware of practical business limitations.” "Sunny is an academic, he has written a number of books." Toronto-based Robert Percival (see p.219) routinely advises clients on outsourcing agreements and a range of licensing matters. "He is willing to listen and then advise, lead and ensure the best approach." David Feldman (see p.218) is a Toronto-based lawyer who focuses his practice on the negotiation of outsourcing agreements for clients from the financial sector. His client roster features a number of banks, as well as financial companies. "David makes my life easy as he does the problem solving for us and comes up with solutions that are a right fit for our approaches.”

Torys LLP

What the team is known for

Torys has a well-regarded technology group with an impressive IT offering. The Toronto-headquartered firm often assists insurance companies, banks and pension plans with technology development and licensing matters, as well as advising on outsourcing transactions. It offers impressive experience in relation to payment and card systems, with further coverage of blockchain, AI and large-scale cloud implementations.

Strengths "Whatever challenge we came across, they had dealt with something similar and had advice ready for the circumstances.” "The team had a firm understanding of the market and provided practical solutions to help advance negotiations.” "They’re very reliable for consistent, practical and efficient service.”

Work highlights

Torys advised Prairie Centrals on the negotiation of a master services agreement and related statements of work related to outsourcing payments processing to IBM’s PaaS solution.

Notable practitioners

Adam Armstrong (see p.217) has particular experience guiding clients through complex modernisation initiatives and also has a strong track record in outsourcing and acquisition matters. His clients include insurance and other financial services companies, "With Adam, we know that we are getting sound and practical advice.” “He helps to interpret a contract and advise our position.” Joel Ramsey (see p.219) regularly advises leading Canadian banks on major outsourcing and technology services agreements. He is additionally well placed to advise on fintech and cloud computing mandates. "Joel Ramsey is a talented technology lawyer.”

Band 3

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for

Borden Ladner Gervais is highly regarded for its representation of health industry clients and other public sector organisations in relation to licensing and service agreements, technology-related litigation and the privacy regulatory framework. The firm acts for both purchasers and providers of technology. It is also well versed in assisting with cybersecurity issues as well as technology-related procurement mandates.

Strengths "They have an excellent ability to understand what is happening in the markets that is relevant to our business.”

Work highlights

A Borden Ladner Gervais team represented PayBright in its acquisition by Affirm for an estimated CAD340 million.

Notable practitioners

Eric Boehm (see p.217) is a well-regarded Toronto-based technology lawyer who advises his client base of retailers and financial bodies on a range of tech-related commercial transactions. He is particularly well versed in e-commerce and cloud services. "He is a very practical and efficient lawyer who gives good advice.” Mark Fecenko (see p.336) is based in Toronto and is experienced in handling a multitude of software-related contract negotiations for public sector bodies, including health industry. He also offers expertise in procurement and cloud solutions projects. "Mark is deeply knowledgeable and excellent at communicating to ensure expectations are clear and met.”

Bradley Freedman (see p.218) operates a wide-reaching Vancouver-based technology practice spanning privacy, e-commerce and cybersecurity. He is noted for his proficiency in the structuring of commercial transactions. “I trust Brad implicitly and enjoy working with him.”

Fasken

What the team is known for

Fasken has a well-established technology practice that is valued for its extensive knowledge of both mature and emerging company IT concerns. The firm leverages its multi-disciplinary strength to represent an impressive portfolio of public clients, including insurance companies, in complex outsourcing transactions. The information technology team's expertise extends to the negotiation of service agreements, SaaS contracts and software licensing. Its lawyers also stand out for their knowledge of developments in the technology field, in addition to providing invaluable advice on tech-related M&A transactions.

Strengths "Fasken’s team were deeply invested in understanding the technical subject matter, commercial issues and risks.” "They have consistently identified complex commercial implications and have provided excellent counsel and pragmatic solutions to address them.” "They are responsive, thorough, detail-oriented and very good at client service.”

Work highlights

Fasken assisted Green Shield Canada with amending agreements with multiple technology vendors.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Andrew Nunes (see p.219) possesses experience across a range of information technology issues, from outsourcing to cloud computing. He is additionally recognised for his handling of e-commerce and SaaS-related matters. Andrew Alleyne (see p.217) advises clients on matters including master supplier agreements and software licensing concerns. He is based in Toronto. Karam Bayrakal (see p.217) represents tech companies from a range of sectors, including video gaming and AI, in complex commercial transactions. He is particularly active assisting with procurement and service agreements. He co-leads the firm’s technology, media and telecommunications group from Vancouver. "Karam consistently has gone over and above.”

Goodmans LLP

What the team is known for

Goodmans is a prestigious Toronto-based firm that is well known for acting for technology suppliers, government entities and service providers on a range of IT-related M&A and outsourcing transactions. It is also known for its strength in IT-related litigation and regulatory work. The team has a strong track record of advising clients on early-stage investments in the technology sector.

Strengths "Goodmans is good at explaining things in business terms and are a very client-focused firm.”

Work highlights

Goodmans advised Vivid Seats regarding the USD60 million acquisition of Fanxchange.

Notable practitioners

Richard Corley (see p.217) possesses expansive knowledge of IT law, including complex procurement and outsourcing issues. He is additionally accom-
Band 4

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for Bennett Jones operates a Calgary and Toronto-based technology practice with deep and broad expertise. The firm advises both public and private sector clients on e-commerce, compliance and licensing matters, often involving a cross-border element. Its lawyers represent venture funds and growth-stage companies in the tech space. The team is also known for advising energy and natural resource clients on broad technology matters and transactions.

Strengths “The firm offers extraordinary attention to detail even when contracts and legal work require an expedited response.”

“The Bennett Jones team understands my business, my priorities and my constraints.”

“They are very responsive and client-focused.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones acted for Loblaw in structuring a Master Infrastructure Development Agreement regarding electric vehicle charging and 5G.

Notable practitioners Stephen Burns is a key contact for clients.

Deeth Williams Wall LLP
What the team is known for Deeth Williams Wall is a highly reputed IP and technology-focused boutique with an experienced and dedicated team of practitioners. The firm acts on a range of outsourcing transactions, licensing agreements, and procurement and e-commerce matters for both private and public sector clients. It offers additional expertise in relation to mobile applications and payments.

Notable practitioners Fraser Mann is a seasoned Toronto-based technology law practitioner who is highlighted for his public sector engagement. He represents clients in licensing and development agreements, as well as outsourcing transactions. Amy-Lynne Williams is an experienced technology lawyer who advises clients on systems acquisition, outsourcing and licensing matters. “She has been a prominent figure in the Toronto market for many years.”

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for Dentons has a solid technology practice in Canada, offering expertise in a range of technology-related mandates spanning M&A transactions as well as licensing and service agreements. The firm’s client base includes public and private companies and venture funds. Its strong international network of offices means the team is routinely engaged on cross-border matters.

Strengths “They are responsive and practical. They offer high-quality advice with a full appreciation for business concerns.”

Work highlights Dentons acted for Shaw Cablesystems on the renegotiation of a master services agreement with Comcast.

Notable practitioners Michael Bearisto is based in the firm’s Toronto office from where he routinely assists clients with large-scale acquisitions, recapitalization, alongside advising on debt financing.

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for Gowling has a well-resourced Canadian group with broad, multidisciplinary knowledge across technology, outsourcing and e-commerce. The firm regularly assists with technology-based transactions, including M&A and venture capital investments. The tech team offers particular expertise in the telecommunications and retail sectors. Its lawyers are knowledgeable on the latest developments in the sector, including privacy, blockchain and fintech matters.

Strengths “They have strong business acumen when providing legal support.”

Work highlights Gowling advised Napkyn regarding the company’s acquisition by Kepler Group.

Notable practitioners Parna Sabet-Stephenson draws upon her experience in IT law to assist a broad client base drawn from sectors including retail, transportation and telecommunications. She is based in Toronto. “Parna exceeded our expectations.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott’s robust IT practice is reputed for its handling of technology-related M&A transactions. The firm’s clients include a range of tech companies, as well as public authority clients. It has notable experience in large-scale outsourcing and software procurement.

Strengths “They are responsive, detailed and organized.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott advised the Province of Manitoba on the expansion of rural internet in the region.

Notable practitioners Wesley Ng (see p.219) regularly acts for clients on access agreements, procurement and blockchain matters. He also has strong experience advising on the commercial aspects of AI and smart device development. Based in Toronto, Ng is the head of the firm’s technology group. “He understands our business very well and is very prompt, responsive and technically sound. He goes above and beyond.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

James Kosa (see p.218) of WeirFoulds LLP advises clients across a range of IT issues including software licensing, privacy and related IP concerns. He is based in Toronto.

Lisa Lifshitz of Torkin Manes LLP has a broad Toronto-based tech practice that includes the negotiation of e-commerce and cloud computing agreements. She is also experienced at assisting clients with privacy and data security matters. “I really felt Lisa fundamentally understood my goals – she shepherd ed me through the process and always had my best interests in mind.” “She is a keen negotiator who knows what to give and not give in each matter.”

Theo Ling provides technology-related regulatory assistance to a range of clients from Baker McKenzie’s Toronto office, including organisations from the life sciences, energy and financial services sectors. He often works on matters with cross-border elements. “Theo always has actionable insights and provides a valuable perspective.”
ALLEYNE, Andrew
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Andrew Alleyne’s practice is focused primarily on corporate and commercial transactions, particularly technology and M&A matters. Serving on the Steering Committee of the firm’s Technology practice group, Andrew is highly experienced in Technology related contracting. He advises a broad array of clients (from blue-chip to emerging technology) on the challenges and complexities of commercializing, acquiring and implementing technology solutions. Andrew works on complex outsourcings (including cloud and SaaS arrangements), software licensing and all Technology aspects of M&A transactions, including transition services arrangements. His experience also extends to a wide variety of Internet and e-commerce matters, and to the legal and regulatory aspects of online gambling in Canada. Advising Fortune 100 companies, leading edge software, e-commerce, cloud, media and other technology companies, as well as a variety of financial institutions, mining, health care, transportation and communications companies, Andrew is a trusted counselor regarding business critical legal matters.

ARMSTRONG, Adam S
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Practice Areas: Adam is recognized for his industry-leading experience in complex technology licensing and outsourcing transactions, and is a trusted advisor for all stages of the technology procurement process. Co-head of Toris’ Technology Contracting Practice, Adam advises clients on outsourcings and on the licensing and conveying of hardware, software and other intellectual property. He has played a leading role on major technology outsourcing transactions undertaken by clients and has a long history of running large-scale transactions and consortium arrangements for Canada’s major financial institutions. Adam is also the coordinator of Toris’ Corporate Department; in addition to his technology practice, he has extensive corporate and securities experience, supporting clients in public and private financings (including initial public offerings), shareholder arrangements and mergers and acquisitions.

BAYRKAL, Karam
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Karam Bayrkal is a business lawyer in Vancouver, and co-leader of the Technology, Media and Telecommunications group, who focuses in the areas of information technology, online services, interactive media, emerging technology and intellectual property. He is involved in the related issues around cyber security, privacy and confidentiality. Global and regional technology clients want Karam for his advice on the strategic, legal and commercial aspects of acquiring, developing and transferring technology.

BEARDWOOD, John
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Practice Areas: John is a senior partner who is Past Chair of the firm’s Technology practice group, and was Co-founder of both the Outsourcing practice group and the Privacy and Access to Information practice group. His practice is focused on technology, outsourcing and procurement, and privacy law matters. John works closely with clients in advising on and negotiating various technology-related transactions, including outsourcing/procurement, privacy, development, implementation, distribution, technology transfer, strategic alliance and e-commerce related transactions, including in the health care, financial/insurance institution and sector contexts. John often advises clients on privacy law, and access to information matters, and has been developing and implementing privacy compliance programs for more than twenty years.

BISHOP, Jessica
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in a business law group at Goodmans. Jessica practices on corporate and commercial law with a focus on complex commercial technology transactions. Represents financial institutions, insurance companies, technology service providers, pension funds, government agencies and companies in the asset management, health care, energy, securities, and other sectors which are involved in the development, acquisition and use of technology. Extensive experience advising clients on technology procurement, outsourcing, cloud computing, payment systems, licensing, fintech, digital and e-commerce solutions, software development and systems implementation, data processing and privacy compliance. Also advises on a range of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and blockchain.

Career: Honoured as one of Lexpert’s Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40. Also recognized as an Associate to Watch in Information Technology in Chambers Canada, a Rising Star in Technology by The Legal 500 Canada and a Leading Lawyer to Watch by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Ontario; Canadian Bar Association; International Technology Law Association; International Association of Privacy Professionals; Canadian Technology Law Association

Personal: Served as a communications and policy advisor to the former Attorney General of Ontario and policy advisor to the former Solicitor General of Ontario.

BOEHN, Eric
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Practice Areas: Practice focuses on technology and payments law, with emphasis on bringing significant value for his clients in their long-term outsourcing, technology and innovative payments arrangements, and e-commerce and privacy matters. Has extensive Canadian and international experience advising on complex information technology and intellectual property transactions, particularly in the financial services space. Has worked with international firms in Paris, France and Toronto, Ontario. Advises banks, fintech, payment providers, developers, national grocery chains and governments.


Professional Memberships: Regis- tered trademark agent in Canada. Past chair of the Ontario Bar Association, IT & E-Commerce Section.


CORLEY, Richard
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Counsel in a business law group at Goodmans and leads the firm’s CleanTech and Outsourcing Groups. Advising clients on complex outsourcing transactions, technology M&A, joint ventures, cleantech and other technology-related matters. He assists companies in financial services, manufacturing, clean energy, public, computing, telecommunication, data protection, cybersecurity, privacy, intellectual property, e-commerce, privacy and data protection, cybersecurity, procurement, open source software, blockchain, artificial intelligence, anti-spam and social media.

Career: British Columbia bar - 2002

Professional Memberships: David is a former director of the Canadian Technology Law Association. He is a frequent course instructor for Supply Chain Canada (formerly the Centre for Outsourcing Research and Education (CORE)).

FECENKO, Mark J
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Mark is a partner in the Technology, Media and Telecommunications group, and was Co-founder of McCarthy Tétrault. His practice focuses on complex commercial transactions involving technology and intellectual property. For over 20 years, David has been assisting clients in a wide range of sectors with their complex and strategic technology-related transactions, including technology procurement, business process and technology-based outsourcing, IT system development, integration and implementation projects, inbound and outbound technology licensing, cloud (SaaS, IaaS, PaaS) services agreements, telecommunications services agreements, supply agreements, data sharing arrangements, joint venture and other strategic alliance arrangements, mergers and acquisitions, and financings. David also provides strategic advice with respect to technology and data commercialization, intellectual property, e-commerce, privacy and data protection, cybersecurity, procurement, open source software, blockchain, artificial intelligence, anti-spam and social media.

FETHKE, Michael
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael is Osler’s National Innovation Leader and partner in the Technology Law Group. He is a leading practitioner in the area of information technology, government procurement, Internet and privacy/anti-spam law and is recognized in all major peer rankings. As National Innovation Leader, Michael is leading Osler’s modernization of legal service delivery, including the development of products and tools that help meet the business imperative of doing more with less.
Career: Recognized in numerous peer rankings in the areas of Computer and IT Law, Public Procurement and Technology Law. Former chair of Osler’s Technology Group and former co-lead of Osler’s legal project management program.


Personal: University of British Columbia, LL.B.

FELDMAN, David
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: David is a Partner in the Technology Group at Blakes, based in Toronto. David provides practical, business-oriented advice to clients who are implementing digital transformation projects, negotiating complex commercial agreements related to payments or financial services innovation, or outsourcing IT services or other business processes. David assists clients with commercial agreements related to their payments and financial services innovation business goals, including agreements with payment networks, payment processors, co-brand programs, mobile wallets and strategic alliances. David also regularly advises on commercial agreements relating to IT services, cloud computing, software licensing, software/technology development (including agile development), system implementations, data sharing, mobile apps, cybersecurity, fintech/insurtech, and outsourcing (including ITO and BPO). David has experience working with clients in a variety of different industries, including banking and financial services, insurance, power, oil and gas, mining, and retail.

Professional Memberships: David has served as chair of the Toronto Computer Lawyers’ Group (TCLG), a conference and conference co-chair for the Canada Technology Law Association (CANTECH) and an executive member of the Information Technology and Intellectual Property Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association.

FREEDMAN, Bradley
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide - Canada)


Career: Partner, LLM, University of California, Berkeley, 1990. LLB, University of British Columbia, 1986. Recognized as a leading lawyer in his areas of practice by the foremost legal rankings publications.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, American Bar Associa- tion, Technology Law Association of Canada (Director, 2002-06).

Publications: Has contributed to commercial publications, authored scholarly articles and written and presented at industry and lawyers’ associations. Personal website: www.cybersecuritylaw.ca

GROSS, Wendy J
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationale wide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Wendy is Chair of Osler’s Technology Group. Wendy specializes in outsourcing and other complex corporate and commercial transactions relating to technology products and services and business processes and related regulatory and other legal issues including the following: payment systems and networks – cloud computing – OSI B10 compliance – open banking – artificial intelligence (AI) – fintech transactions – blockchain and other distributed ledger technologies, data agreements, outsourcing arrangements, software licensing, government contracting, e-commerce and payment systems. Wendy has been lead counsel for outsourcing transactions related to projects in the banking, pension, investment, healthcare, energy and other sectors. Her practice includes advising on FinTech, artificial intelligence-related agreements, data agreements, outsourcing arrangements, software licensing, government contracting, e-commerce and payment systems. Wendy has been lead counsel for outsourcing transactions related to projects in the banking, pension, investment, healthcare, energy and other sectors. Her practice includes advising on FinTech, artificial intelligence-related agreements, data agreements, outsourcing arrangements, software licensing, government contracting, e-commerce and payment systems. Wendy has been lead counsel for outsourcing transactions related to projects in the banking, pension, investment, healthcare, energy and other sectors. Her practice includes advising on FinTech, artificial intelligence-related agreements, data agreements, outsourcing arrangements, software licensing, government contracting, e-commerce and payment systems.

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Practice Areas: Simon's practice concentrates on technology outsourcing, complex services arrangements and procurement. He also advises technology suppliers ranging from established software providers to early stage technology companies. Simon has been lead counsel on projects in the banking, pension, investment, healthcare, energy and other sectors. His practice includes advising on FinTech, artificial intelligence-related agreements, data agreements, outsourcing arrangements, software licensing, government contracting, e-commerce and payment systems. Simon is a member of the FinTech Working Group for the Ontario Ministry of Finance, a team comprised of leading financial services and technology experts appointed by the Ministry to shape Ontario’s FinTech strategy. Simon writes and lectures on various aspects of technology law, including emerging privacy law and client education venues.

Career: Simon is a Past President of the Canadian Information Technology Law Association (CITAL) and former co-lead of Osler’s Technology Law Group and part-ner of IT/Can Law Association (CANTECH) and an executive member of the Information Technology and Intellectual Property Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association.

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Practice Areas: Simon's practice concentrates on technology outsourcing, complex services arrangements and procurement. He also advises technology suppliers ranging from established software providers to early stage technology companies. Simon has been lead counsel on projects in the banking, pension, investment, healthcare, energy and other sectors. His practice includes advising on FinTech, artificial intelligence-related agreements, data agreements, outsourcing arrangements, software licensing, government contracting, e-commerce and payment systems. Simon is a member of the FinTech Working Group for the Ontario Ministry of Finance, a team comprised of leading financial services and technology experts appointed by the Ministry to shape Ontario’s FinTech strategy. Simon writes and lectures on various aspects of technology law, including emerging privacy law and client education venues.

Career: Simon is a Past President of the Canadian Information Technology Law Association (CITAL) and former co-lead of Osler’s Technology Law Group and part-ner of IT/Can Law Association (CANTECH) and an executive member of the Information Technology and Intellectual Property Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association.
on the responsible deployment of artificial intelligence. Focus on cybersecurity, data protection, artificial intelligence, big data, tech sourcing, licensing, e-commerce, fintech and telecommunications. Represents a broad range of clients, including financial institutions, communications, aeronautics and digital media companies in data management, outsourcing, systems integration and other complex commercial transactions. Regularly assists clients as breach coach (cyber readiness and response).


Personal: President of the board, RUB-BERBAN Dance.

NG, Wesley
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Wesley Ng is Head of the Technology Group and Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee in the Toronto office. His practice focuses on information technology, e-commerce, and biotechnology transactions, as well as privacy related matters including compliance with Canada’s new anti-spam legislation (CASL). Wesley regularly advises on business process outsourcing, service arrangements, technology exploitation (including development, commercialization and licensing), transformational procurements, and domestic and cross-border acquisitions and divestitures involving technology companies, businesses or assets. He has significant experience assisting with technology issues across a broad range of industries, including financial services, insurance, mining, telecommunications, postal services, manufacturing, oil and gas, retail and healthcare. In addition, Wesley advises clients on privacy and social media issues, including privacy complaints, privacy breaches, notifications and working with the relevant regulators in connection with privacy investigations. He provides guidance on all aspects of CASL compliance, including interpretation of the law, review and analysis of e-marketing practices, providing relevant training, and advice with respect to consent outreach campaigns. In addition, Wesley regularly assists clients with licensing, joint ventures, strategic partnerships, financing, online trading and technology development.

NUNES, Andrew
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Andrew is a Vice-Chair of Fasken’s Business Law Department (Ontario) and the Ontario IT representative on the firm’s Technology, Media and Telecommunications (TMT) industry group Steering Committee. Andrew’s corporate and commercial practice is focused on mergers and acquisitions, reorganizations, joint ventures, business partnerships, complex outsourcing and other business transactions, with a particular emphasis on the technology sector and technology related matters. From blue-chip corporations to leading-edge technology companies, Andrew assists a broad range of Canadian and U.S. based organizations with traditional and online transaction, governance and compliance issues.

PERCIVAL, Robert
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Robert’s practice focuses on technology transactions and outsourcing. Extensive experience advising both national and international clients on a wide range of technology transactions across a broad range of industries, including cloud computing, strategic alliances, technology acquisition and transfer, licensing, distribution, open source software, privacy and data protection, cybersecurity, e-commerce / Internet, blockchain and smart contracts.

Professional Memberships: Robert is a member of the International Technology Law Association and the CAN-TECH Law Association; and a past director of the CAN-TECH Law Association.

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Torys LLP, Toronto +1 416 865 7638 eranhaman@torys.com

Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Ebad is an experienced corporate lawyer with deep technology industry knowledge, counselling leading financial institutions, retailers and other organizations spanning sectors in their outsourcing, transactional and other commercial work. Ebad’s diverse technology practice includes advising on technology contracting, outsourcing and general commercial agreements, as well as on software development, cloud computing and procurement matters. He also counsels clients on sponsorship, licensing and naming rights agreements, frequently sought out by corporate sponsors to advise on how best to structure their sponsorship arrangements to maximize their return on investment. Ebad heads Torys’ Payments and Cards practice and supports clients in the acquisition and development of card programs, payment systems and mobile payment solutions, as well as related outsourcing arrangements.

RAMSEY, Joel
Torys LLP, Toronto +1 416 865 7638 jmramsey@torys.com

Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A leading technology lawyer, Joel has extensive knowledge in tech outsourcing, fintech, cloud computing and payment cards and systems. Joel works closely with financial institutions and leading businesses, advising on complex and innovative transactions, data governance practices and other tech-related initiatives. As co-head of Torys’ Technology Contracting Practice, Joel advises clients in Canada and the United States relating to the energy industry, technology, and other complex and innovative transactions involving technology development and procurement, outsourcing, payment systems, fintech, blockchain, cloud computing, digital and e-commerce solutions, data distribution, privacy compliance and breach response. Joel’s clients include technology service providers, retailers, pension funds, financial institutions, government agencies and companies in the asset management, energy and securities sectors. Joel also co-chairs Torys’ Data Governance and Strategy Group and regularly counsels clients on critical data protection issues, offering bespoke, best practices, including data protection, management, development and commercialization.

RUBY, Peter
Goodmans LLP, Toronto (Nationwide – Canada) +1 416 597 4184 pruby@goodmans.ca

Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Peter is a leading litigation lawyer in Canada representing technology companies in disputes involving privacy law and data breaches, including class actions, matters involving the use and collection of data, and matters of financial and commercial importance. Peter also represents digital technology companies in a wide range of matters, including commercial/national and international economic sanctions, competition and technology licensing matters.

TAKACH, George
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 7662 gtakach@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Partner in the Dispute Resolution Group. National and international practice focused on the litigation and arbitration of a wide variety of business disputes, including related to technology, energy, corporate, commercial, and restructuring matters. Technology dispute resolution work includes software, cloud services, hardware, software, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, telecommunications, film, television, privacy and data protection, intellectual property, e-commerce and internet litigation, and Canadian and cross-border arbitration and mediation. Handles disputes and regulatory matters relating to the energy industry, has acted as counsel for the Canadian Electricity Association, the Electricity Distributors Association, electricity utilities, developers and operators of renewable power projects, resource companies and provincial government bodies.


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, ITechLaw Arbitrator/Mediator, Arbitration Place Arbitrator/Mediator, American Arbitration Association, ICDR Co-Lead of North America Committee, Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center Member, Toronto Computer Lawyers Group Member, The Advocates’ Society Member, Canadian Bar Association.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Insurance
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/risk assessment, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Insurance Nationwide

Leading Firms

Band 1
Clyde & Co
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Band 2
Blaney McMurtry LLP
Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
Langlois Lawyers, LLP
Lenczner Slaght
Norton Rose Fullbright

Band 3
Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP
Dolden Wallace Folick LLP
Stikeman Elliott LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1
Legrand André Norton Rose Fullbright
Nicholl, Ad & John Clyde & Co

Band 2
Stieber Steven Stieber Law (ORL)

Band 3
Clarke Dominic Blaney McMurtry LLP
Delong Ariel McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Donnelly Thomas Thomas Gold Pettingill LLP (ORL)
Embleton Robert Clyde & Co
Frederick Mark R Miller Thomson LLP (ORL)
Gagnon Jean-François Langlois Lawyers, LLP
Gordon Carolena Clyde & Co
Scott William McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Band 4
Afrikan Hovey Lax O'Sullivan Liu Gottlieb LLP (ORL)
Bertiach Deborah Stieber Berlach LLP (ORL)
D'Silva Alan Stikeman Elliott LLP
Dolden Eric Dolden Wallace Folick LLP
Lemaire Valerie Langlois Lawyers, LLP
McKibbin Chris FCL LLP (ORL)
Parish Michael Fasken

Indicates individual with profile. 
(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP

What the team is known for

Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP is a notable full-service law firm based in Vancouver with a recognised and broad insurance offering. It wins particular recognition for its work on construction disputes, as well as experience handling claims in the aviation and healthcare sectors.

What the team is known for

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is one of the leading insurance and reinsurance practices in Canada. It has extensive transactional and regulatory capabilities, as well as the ability to advise on big-ticket litigation. The firm supports clients across Canada in coverage disputes, indemnity claims and product liability litigation, and is additionally recognised for its experience defending insurers in class action litigation. On the transactional side the team represents clients in M&A and financing matters, as well as in cross-border insurance arrangements, reinsurance programmes, pensions de-risking and demutualisation transactions.

Strengths "I thought it was a very thorough work product that met all expectations – it was very polished. Extremely competent group and capacity to address complex matters."

“Blakes has expertise in all areas and so when complex issues arise, the advisory team can reach out to their colleagues to get proper advice from relevant experts.”

Work highlights

Blakes represented the RSA Group in a coverage dispute brought by the Prairies Regional Health Authority involving complex coverage issues related to a number of weather events.

Notable practitioners

Toronto partner Paul Belanger (see p.36) is a highly experienced regulatory lawyer with considerable insurance expertise. His skill set applies across a range of mandates, from demutualisation to reinsurance matters. "Paul's knowledge of the industry and the matters we deal with on a day-to-day is impressive.” Calgary-based David Tupper (see p.297) is an experienced insurance and commercial litigator who represents an impressive roster of industry-leading insurers in claims relating to the energy sector in Alberta and BC. “David is extremely reliable, well considered and very pleasant to work with.”

Blaney McMurtry LLP

What the team is known for

Blaney McMurtry is a compact Toronto-based law firm recognised for its experience advising on a broad array of coverage disputes and insurance litigation matters. Its insurance team has a noteworthy track record in D&O and E&O claims as well as insurance cases arising from social engineering fraud. Its increasing areas of focus include fidelity insurance and cyber risk issues, offering additional expertise in matters involving inter-insurer disputes and casualty claims.

Strengths “Blaney McMurtry is excellent; very good bench strength, very knowledgeable and proactive.” “They were very focused, detail-oriented and responses were always timely.”

“Their experience and knowledge are impeccable.”

Work highlights

Blaney McMurtry was retained by Travelers to defend an action seeking coverage for a Regional Health Authority involving complex coverage issues related to a number of weather events.

Notable practitioners

Based in the firm’s Toronto office, Dominic Clarke (see p.324) is frequently engaged to represent clients in a range of coverage and claims matters, as well as advising on internal dispute resolution strategy. "Dominic is very professional and responsive.”

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Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What have we known as a Borden Ladner Gervais? We are home to a highly regarded national insurance group with a strong focus on litigation. The firm advises domestic and international insurers and reinsurers on a wide range of liability claims, including automotive, aviation and personal injury matters as well as subrogation. It has notable expertise handling class action litigation and insurance arbitration. The team also provides advice on regulatory matters, including in regard to the development of new insurance products.

Strengths “BLG has a deep bench of experts and can put the right person on an issue to solve it, regardless of how complex it is.”
“The lawyers at BLG are able to handle complex and sophisticated matters.”
“Senior partners, associates and clerks all demonstrate superior abilities – their track record has garnered our confidence.”

Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais defended the City of Saint John in a class action arising from the City’s decision to change the drinking water source for West Saint John residents from surface to ground water.

Notable practitioners Ottawa-based Larry Elliot is a key contact.

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell stands out for its representation of foreign insurers and reinsurers in relation to their Canadian operations, including in respect of both federal and provincial licensing and incorporation issues. The firm and its lawyers regularly act as chief agent for the Canadian branches of international insurance companies. It has an extensive practice assisting with the regulatory aspects of major insurance M&A transactions, including cross-border mandates, as well as offering advice on product design and demutualisations.

Strengths “Their team is very seasoned and understands the industry and our business very well.”
“They have very qualified and experienced lawyers that can handle easy to complex files.”
“Without sacrificing efficiency, they have been very budget-friendly.”

Notable practitioners Gordon Goodman (see p.224), based in Toronto, is an experienced lawyer providing a range of transactional and regulatory advice to insurers. He also provides representation in insurance disputes. “Gordon’s client service is excellent. He is very responsive, helpful and concise in his delivery of advice.”

Clyde & Co
What the team is known for Clyde & Co is the pre-eminent law firm for insurance litigation in Canada, leveraging its considerable expertise in this field globally. The firm acts on a wide range of matters, including D&O and E&O cases, as well as property, casualty and large commercial insurance disputes, including those relating to construction projects or breaches of the Securities Act. It also handles class action defence, arbitration and mediation, product design and regulatory compliance, and provides clients with risk management and underwriting guidance. The firm is increasingly active advising on environmental insurance claims and pollution liability disputes.

Strengths “The firm is very responsive, client-focused, and has very good depth at all levels.”
“It’s a very detailed and thorough group that is up-to-date on the industry and good at sharing their knowledge.”
“They have an ideal mix of senior and junior lawyers, and an extremely high level of expertise in a variety of matters pertaining to insurance coverage and defence work.”

Notable practitioners Esteemed Toronto lawyer John Nicholl, Ad E is experienced across the full gamut of insurance-related disputes, with an emphasis on coverage and liability claims. “John is responsive, personable and able to explain complex matters in a palatable way.”
Montreal-based lawyer Robert Embie acts across a variety of insurance disputes, including damages claims in the transportation sector. “Robert is a very competent lawyer.” Based in Clyde & Co’s Montreal office, Caroleena Gordon is an experienced insurance lawyer noted for her specialist expertise in the construction industry. Her clients range from contractors and engineering companies to directors and officers as well as insurers. “Caroleena is incredibly knowledgeable and takes a practical approach towards file resolution.”

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for Dentons boasts a well-regarded insurance team, noted for its ability to advise on a range of transactional and regulatory matters. The team is regularly sought after by both insurance and reinsurance clients for advice on complex domestic and cross-border issues.

Strengths “Dentons has deep bench strength in insurance corporate and regulatory legal areas.”
“Dentons’ services are seen as efficient, effective and a high value for money.”
“They are very quick to respond, very thorough and detailed. They leave no stone unturned.”

Work highlights Dentons acted for NFP, an insurance broker and consultant, on its acquisition of all of the issued and outstanding shares in the capital of Foster Park Brokers.

Notable practitioners Laurie LaPalme is based out of Dentons Canada’s Toronto office, and frequently acts as chief agent to a variety of domestic and multinational insurer clients. “Laurie is knowledgeable, experienced and practical – our go-to resource for advice on a range of complex legal and regulatory matters across a range of jurisdictions.”

Dolden Wallace Folick LLP
What the team is known for Dolden Wallace Folick is a respected British Columbia-based specialty insurance law firm with additional offices in Toronto and Calgary. It provides a wide range of advice on various insurance disputes, including personal injury, professional liability and cyber defence. Its lawyers act most often for insurers.

Notable practitioners Vancouver-based Eric Dolden brings over four decades of experience to bear when advising clients on insurance disputes.

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken possesses a significant insurance regulatory practice, often advising international clients on Canadian entry requirements. The firm is often retained by industry associations for guidance on proposed legislative changes, providing impact assessments and response advice. Its lawyers regularly act on M&A transactions, both domestic and cross-border, with particular strength representing property and casualty insurers. The team also advises on insurance defence and coverage claims and wins praise from clients for its knowledge of the reinsurance industry.

Strengths “Fasken are an extremely knowledgeable, experienced and professional law firm.”
“Fasken understand all the complexities that arise in our business and provide exceptional attention to detail to ensure all legal issues and risks are understood.”
“Fasken keeps abreast of changing trends and their insurance lawyers are very much aware of current industry trends and challenges.”

Work highlights Fasken acted for Allianz in negotiating an agreement for the outsourcing by RBC Insurance of its travel insurance business.

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for Gowling WLG hosts a sizeable insurance team that demonstrates notable skill in litigation, transactional and regulatory matters. The firm acts for a range of insurers, policyholders and plaintiffs on a variety of contentious matters, including property and liability coverage claims, and professional negligence matters. It also regularly assists clients with insurance sector transactions, including cross-border M&A and the accompanying regulatory considerations.

Strengths “A good team that was able to quickly get up to speed and then adapt as needed to the changing landscape of a challenging commercial transaction.”
“I send the highest level of complexity to their firm as I know it will be handled properly and efficiently; they’re excellent.”
“We find they make themselves available even with the different time zones across Canada – I would rate them very high.”

Work highlights Gowling defended Siemens regarding a claim against it and others by Canfor Pulp in the Supreme Court of British Columbia for damages arising from a fire at the Canfor pulp and paper mill.

Notable practitioners Toronto partner Filomena Frisina is recognised for her considerable experience in the area of insurance and the wider financial services sector. She assists with a range of transactional and regulatory mandates, as well as significant internal restructuring matters and the establishment of Canadian operations.

Langlois Lawyers, LLP
What the team is known for Langlois lawyers is a distinguished Quebec law firm with a bench of skilled advocates and extensive insurance disputes experience. Its client roster features a plethora of regional and national insurers and its lawyers are well versed
in both single-plaintiff and class action suits, with experience in claims relating to construction defects, environmental contamination and E&O liability.

**Strengths** "They have the ability to think out of the box, are very creative and give smart advice."

"Langlois provide clear, concise and quick answers.

"The service is excellent; Langlois puts everything at the disposal of its customer."

**Work highlights** Langlois acted as counsel to Desjardins Assurances Générales and La Personnelle in connection with a class action related to car insurance.

**Notable practitioners**

**Jean-François Gagnon** possesses significant experience representing clients in the litigation and arbitration of insurance claims. He also offers complementary expertise in policy formation and regulatory compliance. "He is a brilliant lawyer and provides a great experience to his clients." Quebec-based Valérie Lemaire is sought after insurer-side counsel, noted for her litigation expertise. "Valérie is always available to answer questions and has strong negoti- ation skills in matters of mediation or court-ordered settlement conference."

**Lenczner Slaght**

What the team is known for Lenczner Slaght is a prominent Toronto-based litigation law firm that has a robust contentious insurance practice. The team acts for numerous high-profile corporations, with notable areas of expertise including fidelity, professional negligence and construction insurance disputes, with its reputation extending to class actions as well as single-plaintiff claims. It is additionally well versed in other areas including political risk, environmental liability and cyber coverage. **Strengths** "Lenczner is a top-notch litigation firm. They are highly capable lawyers who provide strategic advice on commercial litigation matters and have strong trial experience."

"They understand our business considerations and propose solutions with these issues in mind."

"Lenczner is an excellent litigation boutique."

**Work highlights** Lenczner Slaght served as counsel to ACE/Chubb in an action commenced by XL Insur. Work highlights Lenczner Slaght represented the Toronto-Dominion Bank in a coverage dispute against a host of around 20 insurers, resulting from a CAD1.6 billion Ponzi scheme in Florida.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Nancy Carroll (see p.224) is a highly experienced insurance lawyer who has been con- sulted by a number of industry-leading insurers for assistance with both regulatory and transac- tional issues. "I find Nancy to be responsive, thorough, thoughtful and business-minded in her advice."

"Nancy is a pleasure to work with. She is deeply intelligent and able to explain complex phenomena in a straightforward and illuminating way." Vancouver-based Ariël Delong (see p.224) is a respected lawyer in the insurance space. He represents a range of policyholder clients, particularly those in the con- struction sector. In addition to his acclaimed insur- ance and regulatory practice, Toronto-based lawyer Hartley Lefton (see p.225) is noted for his expertise in insurtech. "Hartley is very thorough and knowledgeable. "Hartley is a very practical, business-savvy and responsive counsel."

**Norton Rose Fullbright**

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fullbright is a high-profile international firm with insurance capabil- ities across the country. It maintains a particu- larly strong insurance presence in Quebec, acting for a number of regional, national and international insurers and reinsurers. The team’s expertise spans a variety of coverage claims, including in the maritime and construction fields. It offers notable class action capabilities, with experience defending municipali- ties and their insurers. **Strengths** "The insurance department has a lot of depth and they can service clients in all provinces."

"The firm has a strong national presence with strong experience in insurance-related issues."

"They provide great service and respond in timely fashion - our go-to for complex and sophisticated mat- ters."

**Work highlights** Norton Rose Fullbright provided coverage advice to AIG in relation to two major proposed class actions against its insureds, who are various major junior hockey teams and leagues. **Notable practitioners**

Montreal-based André Legrand (see p.225) has rep- resented an impressive number of Quebec-based municipal clients on behalf of their insurers in class action proceedings. "His expertise and experience makes handling difficult situations easy. "He is very knowledgeable."

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott enjoys an excellent reputation due to its capacity to handle large-scale transactional and regulatory insurance matters, as well as complex litigation. Its insurance and reinsurance group acts for national and interna- tional clients on domestic and cross-border trans- actions and disputes. The team has deep expertise in M&A and public offerings in the insurance sector and provides additional expertise in insurtech trans- actions, including the launch of digital portals and products. **Strengths** "The firm is always very responsive, it understands urgent issues and it gives clear advice."

"The firm has an impressive group of lawyers with in-depth knowledge."

"They are experts in the insurance regulatory field."

**Work highlights** Stikeman Elliott acted as Cana- dian counsel to RSA Insurance in its CAD12.3 billion acquisition by Intact and Tryg. **Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Stuart Carruthers (see p.224) is widely regarded as a pre-eminent practitioner in the Canadian insurance market. His experience handling a broad range of transactional files, including both domestic and cross-border mandates, continues to be highly prized and sought after. "Stuart is an expert in our industry with an excellent perspective on impor- tant issues." "Stuart is very knowledgeable about the industry and is an expert on regulatory matters. He is also very business-focused and practical in approach." Toronto-based Alan D’Silva (see p.67) is sought after by insurers for his ability to advise on large class actions. "Alan is a fantastic litigator." **Torys LLP**

What the team is known for Torys stands out for its deep experience of insurance regulatory law, both federal and provincial, frequently advising on regul- atory investigations, registration proceedings, com- pliance and governance matters. The Toronto-based insurance team is equally adept at advising on major M&A and securities transactions, as well as issues relating to digital insurance platforms. Its lawyers act on behalf of insurers in coverage disputes and professional liability matters. The firm has a particu- larly strong reputation in the life insurance sector and also acts for other large insurers and financial services companies. **Strengths** "Torys is a go-to law firm for some of our most complex and sophisticated matters – I rate their ability in this area very highly."

"The attorneys at Torys are excellent, best in class, tal- ented, responsive and careful to use the right level of resources."

"I have never been disappointed by a Torys lawyer. Their breadth and depth of knowledge and skill is top- rate."

**Work highlights** Torys represented Sun Life Financial in its CAD1 billion public offering of 3.60% limited recourse capital notes, Series 2021-1. **Notable practitioners**

Based out of Toronto, Blair Keefe (see p.38) is a highly acclaimed lawyer in the insurance market, as well as a strong feature of the wider Canadian financial services sector. His broad experience encompasses a wide range of mandates from regulatory investi- gations to securities offerings and M&A. "Blair is an outstanding lawyer," "A well-known and well-regarded lawyer." Well regarded for his regulatory expertise, Toronto lawyer JILL McCLUTCHEN (see p.225) provides a range of services to an array of industry-leading insurers, from compliance advice to digital product launch and disputes guidance. "Jill has a great breadth of expertise and experience in insurance mat- ters and provides sophisticated and practical advice."

"Jill is exceptional in providing concrete guidance and advice on complicated matters." Toronto-based KELLY Morrie (see p.225) advises clients on transactional and regulatory insurance matters. "Kelly is amazing to work with. She is very responsive and always delivers..."
Leading Individuals

AFARIAN, Hovsep
Lax O’Sullivan Lisus Gottlieb LLP, Toronto
416 956 5093
hafarian@lolg.ca

Featuring in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Hovsep Afarian is a recognized legal expert in the insurance industry. His expertise in insurance disputes is wide ranging, having acted in disputes involving D&O policies, cyber claims, fidelity bonds, E&O policies, CGL policies, property policies, life insurance policies, marine policies and environmental liability policies. Hovsep is a versatile, detail-orientated advocate with a proven record of success. He has appeared before all levels of Court across Canada as policyholder counsel and has been at the forefront of the developing cyber insurance industry. Hovsep has been involved in some of the largest and most significant insurance claims in Canadian history.

BELANGER, Paul
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 4284
paul.belanger@blakes.com

Featuring in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada), See under Banking & Finance for profile.

CARROLL, Nancy J
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
416 601 7733
nrcarroll@mccarthy.ca

Featuring in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Nancy J McCarthy is a partner in the Insurance and Reinsurance Group. Nancy has deep experience in insurance and reinsurance matters, with a focus on complex transactions. Nancy advises companies in all aspects of insurance and reinsurance, including coverage disputes, reinsurance, fidelity bonds, E&O policies, coverage disputes and regulatory issues. She represents clients in a wide range of insurance matters, including major transactions, regulatory disputes, insurance company disputes, insurance agency disputes, insurance fraud and insurance fraud investigations. Nancy is a member of the Advocates’ Society Defence Research Group and the Advocates’ Society Insurance Litigation Group.

CARRUTHERS, Stuart
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
416 869 5600
scarruthers@stikeman.com

Featuring in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Stuart Carruthers is a partner in the Insurance and Reinsurance, Financial Products & Servicels, and Mergers & Acquisitions Groups. He is widely recognized as the premier transactional, commercial, governance and regulatory advisor to insurance and reinsurance companies and brokers in Canada. Stuart is repeatedly cited for both his transactional and regulatory expertise in the industry by numerous leading directories, including Chambers – Band 1, IFLR1000 – Market Leader in Canada, Who’s Who Legal – Canada – Most Highly Recommended Practitioner, and Lexpect – Most Highly Recommended in Canada. Stuart has particular expertise in insurance, reinsurance and related financial services transactions and regulatory matters, including acquisitions and dispositions of insurers and books of business, formation and licensing of insurers and intermediaries, financing transactions, outsourcing transactions, white labelling initiatives and advice on a broad range of distribution, market conduct, compliance and other regulatory matters. Stuart has acted on more than 30 completed sales of Canadian insurance companies.

CHRISTENSEN, Koker
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+1 416 868 3495
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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

See under Banking & Finance for profile.

CLARKE, Dominic
Blaney McMurtry LLP, Toronto

Featuring in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Dominic practises principally in the area of insurance litigation encompassing both coverage and defence matters. A “go-to” counsel for insurers both nationally and internationally, Domi- nic’s expertise is sought out on large and complex coverage claims. He specialises in advising and representing insurers with respect to commercial general liability, directors’ and officers’ liability and commercial property policies. He has significant experience in the defence of products liability and sexual abuse litigation. A force in the courtroom, he has appeared in the superior court, and in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Appeal. A leading expert in insurance coverage and reinsurance matters, Dominic is a frequent lecturer and has lectured in association with the Advocates’ Society Defence Research Group and the Advocates’ Society Insurance Litigation Group.

GOODMAN, Gordon P
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 869 5712
jgoodman@cassels.com

Featuring in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on providing corporate and regulatory advice to insurance clients, including advice with respect to corporate governance, transactions, licensing and other regulatory matters. Clients include life and general insurance companies, insurance agents

Deborah Berlach of Stieber Berlach LLP comes recommended for her experience advising on complex insurance disputes. “Deborah is a great lawyer. She is hard-working, intelligent, and can see the forest for the trees.”

Toronto-based Thomas Donnelly continues to be recognised for his insurance coverage practice, acting for insurers and assureds. He is also experienced in arbitration and mediation.

Toronto partner Mark Frederick is noted for his significant experience in the insurance sector, particularly in the areas of professional liability and E&O claims. He is licensed to practise in Ontario, British Columbia, Nunavut and New Brunswick.

Toronto-based Chris McKibbin is a go-to insurance disputes lawyer, noted in particular for his expertise on fidelity matters.

Steven Stieber is a senior partner at Stieber Berlach in Toronto, where he is recognised for his wealth of experience covering all manner of insurance disputes including both litigation and alternative dispute resolution. His expertise incorporates a range of liability insurance claims, including product, environmental, professional and municipal liability. “Steven is a great lawyer.” Toronto-based founding partner John Walker continues to advise an array of insurers, brokers and financial institutions on issues ranging from business strategy to licensing.
and brokers, reinsurance companies and other financial services clients. Experience also includes M&A, portfolio transfers, establishment of captives, de-mutualization, corporate reorganizations, formation of insurers, federal and provincial licensing, corporate governance, compliance matters and working with regulators. Regularly advises on insurance policies, reinsurance contracts and other types of agreements, and assists clients with product development and distribution issues.

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Banking & Finance for profile.

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hlefton@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Hartley Lefton is a partner in McCarthy Tétrault’s Financial Services Group, including serving in Toronto as national co-chair of the Insurance and Reinsurance Group. He is recognized as a leading transactional, commercial, government and regulatory/compliance advisor to financial sector participants operating in Canada, most notably insurers, reinsurers, insurance brokers, insurance adjusters, banks, credit unions, and FinTech/InsurTech companies. He leverages his insurance regulatory and transactional expertise, and his experience interacting with regulators, to ensure clients are not only aware of regulatory changes, but truly understand how regulation will impact each aspect of their business and manage risk, including acquisitions/divestitures, formation/licensing, product launches, financings, outsourcing, investment strategy, related party transactions, issues relating to capitalization and accounting standards, and joint ventures. Hartley has particular expertise assisting clients with regulatory inquiries and investigations. Hartley’s deep understanding of the financial services landscape in Canada, coupled with his diligence and resourcefulness, allows him to deliver practical insights that help global companies operating in Canada achieve their business objectives.

LEGRAND, André
Norton Rose Fullbright, Montréal
andre.legrand@nortonrosefullbright.com
Featured in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: André Legrand’s practice focuses on insurance law and professional liability. His insurance law practice focuses on general liability insurance, directors’ and officers’ liability insurance, professional liability insurance, property insurance and cyber insurance. Mr. Legrand’s professional liability practice involves representing the interests of directors and officers of corporations. He has acted before all Quebec courts and the Supreme Court of Canada.

MCCUTCHEON, Jill
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416 865-8121
jmccutcheon@torys.com
Featured in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: With extensive experience and nuanced knowledge of the complex regulatory landscape of the insurance industry, Jill gives clients practical advice on regulatory, transactional and other advisory matters. Co-head of the firm’s Financial Services practice, Jill has more than 25 years of experience advising the property and casualty, life and reinsurance sectors of the insurance industry on corporate, regulatory and transactional matters. Jill regularly advises on all aspects of the law, whether federal or provincial, and acts as counsel to a broad range of clients, including insurers, reinsurers, banks, credit unions, intermediaries, cover holders and MGAs, third-party administrators, retailers, employers and associations. Jill is noted for her ability to respond to and resolve issues with the numerous regulators who impact on the insurance sector in Canada. She also has extensive experience in privacy law and data breach response matters.

MORRIS, Kelly
Torys LLP, Toronto
416.865.8120
kmorris@torys.com
Featured in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: With deep industry and market insight, Kelly helps clients in the insurance industry navigate the legal and regulatory landscape with a practical approach backed by decades of experience. Kelly Morris’ practice focuses on insurance corporate and regulatory law, as well as privacy and data security and anti-spam related matters. She advises domestic and foreign insurers, reinsurers, banks, brokers, agents, adjusters, third party administrators and other insurance intermediaries on all aspects of their operations. Kelly provides clients in the insurance industry with comprehensive legal support. She advises on the incorporation, organization, licensing and governance of insurers, brokers and agents, as well as the regulatory and licensing requirements applicable to foreign insurers entering Canada, and on issues with respect to distribution and outsourcing. She also advises on the acquisition of insurance companies, transfers of books of business and the withdrawal and winding up of insurers. Kelly regularly assists leading players in the sector with the preparation of insurance policies and fulfilment documents, review of insurance marketing and promotional material, and compliance with federal and provincial privacy laws, including privacy breach responses and Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL). Kelly Morris has deep experience in market conduct matters. She is also knowledgeable about near-insurance products, including warranties.

MURRAY, Bonny
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416-863-5272
bonny.murray@blakes.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide – Canada), Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Banking & Finance for profile.

PARRISH, Michael
Fasken, Vancouver
+1 604 631 4863
mparrish@fasken.com
Featured in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Michael Parrish is a litigator in Fasken’s Vancouver office. His core areas of practice include product liability, tort, insurance, class action, construction, aviation, maritime, agribusiness and cross-border litigation, regulation and related advice. Michael has significant experience representing companies and insurers in a broad range of industries and matters. Michael is recognized as one of the leading lawyers in his fields in British Columbia. Michael is a dynamic, strategic and practical litigator with a strong bias for action. He has a proven record of resolving large, difficult, and complex cases. Michael is an expert in litigation project management and can be relied upon to manage large and complex litigation to resolution on time and on budget. He understands his clients, their businesses and their objectives. Michael is an extraordinarily hard worker committed to achieving his clients’ goals. He is personally accountable, and fiercely loyal to his clients.

SCOTT, William
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
416-601-7550
wscott@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: William’s practice includes the resolution of insurance coverage disputes, reinsurance disputes and complex general liability claims. He is a certified Specialist in Civil Litigation by the Law Society of Ontario. He has acted for numerous clients in connection with insurance coverage disputes including directors’ and officers’ general liability, cyber, fidelity, property, life, construction, commercial, and environmental coverage matters. His specialisation also includes Alternate Dispute Resolution, as a result, he acts as counsel in numerous mediations, and regularly speaks and teaches about ADR.

TUPPER, David V
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 9722
david.tupper@blakes.com
Featured in Insurance (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Alberta)
See under Litigation for profile.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Intellectual Property
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Intellectual Property Nationwide

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The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Aitken Klee LLP

What the team is known for: Aitken Klee is a respected IP boutique with a strong bench of litigators dedicated to the sector and significant trial experience. Highlighted for its prominent reputation in the pharmaceutical sector, the firm is noted for its skilled handling of complex patent disputes. The team operates from offices in Toronto and Ottawa.

Notable practitioners

Ottawa-based Marcus Klee centres his practice on contentious IP matters, notably representing life sciences clients in patent infringement disputes. He also acts for clients in the technology and manufacturing industries. Toronto-based Jonathan Stainsby is a seasoned intellectual property litigator with a strong reputation in the area of patent infringement actions. He represents clients in the manufacturing and pharmaceutical industries. Bryan Norrie is recognised for his growing profile in the patent field, where he has represented several major pharmaceutical and biotechnology clients at various levels of court. He is based in Ottawa.

Baker McKenzie

What the team is known for: Well-known international law firm Baker McKenzie services an impressive list of global brands across pharmaceuticals, luxury consumer products, technology and financial services. The Toronto-based team offers significant experience in IP portfolio management and prosecution, covering both trade marks and patents. The group also regularly assists with IP issues relating to significant cross-border transactions.

Strengths "The global network of offices and specialists in all fields means we receive a very comprehensive service."

"Baker McKenzie has an excellent depth of talent in its team."

"The firm's legal expertise is complemented by remarkable depth in related fields, which enables it to deliver legal advice in a uniquely commercial context."

Work highlights: A combined corporate and IP team at Baker McKenzie advised Pfizer on the Canadian aspects of its acquisition of Trillium Therapeutics.

Notable practitioners

Christopher Aide heads Baker McKenzie’s intellectual property practice in Toronto, from where he has considerable experience advising a range of prominent clients on the management and protection of their IP portfolios. "He maintains a high level of interest and awareness across all of our IP portfolio." "Christopher Aide is exceptional."

Belmore Neidrauer LLP

What the team is known for: A compact Toronto-based intellectual property law firm, Belmore Neidrauer is a respected name in the IP market that is primarily known for its expertise in pharmaceutical litigation. The team offers significant experience and skill in a variety of complex patent disputes.

Strengths "Belmore's strength is in its trial preparation and the way it runs a trial."

Work highlights: Belmore Neidrauer acted for Janssen in patent infringement action against Pharmacience over the latter’s plans for a generic version of Janssen’s product Invega Sustenna.

Notable practitioners

Peter Wilcox is a prominent and highly regarded patent disputes lawyer who has represented numerous industry leaders in the pharmaceutical and broader life sciences sector in complex patent litigation. Based in Toronto, he is praised by sources for his skill as a strategic adviser and trial lawyer. Up-and-coming individual Mark Du Plessis has an impressive pedigree in patent litigation. With notable activity in the pharmaceutical sector, she has significant experience advocating for clients seeking...
Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for

Bennett Jones operates a well-regarded intellectual property practice that handles a diverse range of IP matters for clients across Canada, with particular expertise in both patent prosecution and litigation. The firm also advises on trademark and copyright matters and offers niche expertise in relation to biochemical and oil sands technology. Furthermore, the team regularly handles complex disputes and commercial IP mandates for a wide range of clients from the energy, pharmaceutical, manufacturing and retail sectors, among others.

Strengths

“The team is very familiar with our business model and regulatory environment. Years of experience and depth of knowledge has led to a strong working relationship and efficient service delivery.”

“Bennett Jones has a strong grasp of issues and is able to solve complex problems efficiently.”

“The department’s answers are adapted to the client’s strategy.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones advised Auro Pharma on the interpretation of PMNOC regulations to bring drugs to market.

Notable practitioners

Dominique Hussey is rated highly as a skilled and versatile patent litigator with notable clients in the pharmaceutical and fintech sectors. She is the managing partner of the firm’s Toronto office. Jeilah Chan is a partner and trademark agent in the Toronto office who represents a broad range of multinational brands, advising on IP enforcement, acquisition and management. She is particularly sought after by clients in the luxury consumer space. “Jeilah is an excellent professional; a client-oriented and pragmatic lawyer with a huge knowledge of IP law.” “She knows the business and culture of our company really well, and provides tailored advice based on that.”

Bereskin & Parr LLP

What the team is known for

Bereskin & Parr is a well-known IP boutique with offices in both Ontario and Quebec. Noted for its deep bench strength and added capabilities in litigation, the firm offers a wealth of expertise in licensing, dispute resolution, trade mark and patent portfolio management matters. The firm acts for a wide variety of clients in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors, with particular strength in representing startup companies and education institutions.

Strengths

“A great team covering all facets of IP, with excellent communication.”

“Always proactive and respond to any urgent needs that may arise.”

Work highlights Bereskin & Parr was retained by University Health Network to advise on new patent filings, and assist with managing the client’s global portfolio.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Donald Cameron is a prominent intellectual property lawyer and litigator with considerable experience in patent disputes. He has particular strong expertise in the life sciences sector, with notable clients in biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for

Blake, Cassels & Graydon maintains an experienced IP group, highlighted for its handling of patent infringement disputes for high-profile industry clients. The firm also has knowledge of IP licensing arrangements and regulatory mandates. It offers expertise on an array of IP-related matters to its client roster, which includes a range of household names in pharmaceuticals, technology and financial services.

Strengths

“The team is very knowledgeable and is able to handle complex legal and technical issues.”

Work highlights A team led by Melanie Baird and Andrew Skodyn represented Pharmacynex and Janssen in separate PMNOC actions brought against Natoz in relation to the drug Imbruvica.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Skodyn (see p.237) is an experienced IP lawyer with an impressive track record assisting clients in the pharmaceutical and technology industries with patent infringement actions. He is based in Toronto. “Andrew was very knowledgeable and great to work with.” Toronto-based Melanie Baird (see p.232) has significant experience in patent dispute proceedings, acting for prominent names in the technology, pharmaceutical and telecoms sectors. “Melanie is a fierce advocate who steadfastly defends her clients’ interests.” “She was very knowledgeable about complex legal issues outside of the norm.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for

Borden Ladner Gervais possesses a strong team of experienced IP lawyers spread across its network of offices across Canada. Well regarded for its patent prosecution and trade mark filing work, the team holds additional experience in transactional matters and infringement litigation. The firm leverages the solid technical background of its practitioners to proficiently advise clients in the pharmaceutical and life sciences sectors.

Strengths

“I appreciate the broad, holistic full-service team that I have access to.”

“BLG has a deep full-service IP team, with patent attorneys possessing the education and experience needed across the board as well as a sophisticated trade mark management team.”

“The group is highly attuned to developments impacting our complex business, which is greatly appreciated.”

Work highlights BLG assisted Ecolab with its patent filing, as well as the maintenance of its entire Canadian portfolio.

Notable practitioners

Justine Wiebe (see p.238) is sought after for her expertise across the full gamut of trade mark law, advising on filing strategy, licensing and protection. She is based in Toronto. “She is an outstanding trade marks lawyer who blends a deep understanding of both the law and our business, in order to provide well-considered, business-minded advice.”

“['The breadth of her trade mark expertise, domestically and globally, is impressive and she always provides prompt, practical and effective counsel.' Brandon Evenson (see p.234) is an up-and-coming IP lawyer who particularly impresses for his intellectual property work in the technology sector, with notable mandates for clients in robotics, cybersecurity and mobile devices. Based in Toronto, he routinely assists with global IP strategy and licensing.
A Goodmans team represented (see p.233) Mark Davis of domestic and international clients. The firm regularly handles pharmaceutical litigation and copyright disputes across the nation, with noted strength in Montreal. Its IP capabilities are supported by strong regulatory teams focused on the life sciences and media sectors. The team is well known for its work in the technology and telecommunications sectors, and has a diverse client base which ranges from individual entrepreneurs and startups to multinational corporations. 

Strengths “Fasken has a very strong team of lawyers across multiple disciplines, and is exceptionally timely with its work product.” “The team focuses on our needs and always find a way to satisfy those needs.”

Work highlights Fasken acted for Patterson Outdoor Advertising in patent action brought by T-Rel Prop. Ltd.

Notable practitioners 

Montreal-based Julie Desrosiers (see p.234) is noted for her prominent role in a number of high-profile patent disputes and challenges, with further knowledge of copyright law. She acts for an impressive number of global pharmaceutical companies. “A great litigator and an expert in her field.” 

“Julie Desrosiers is an excellent advocate. She is well respected in the IP Bar and a huge player in the Quebec market.”

Jason Markwell (see p.235) is an experienced Toronto-based litigator with a strong track record in life sciences patent infringement claims, notably in the pharmaceutical sector. “Jason is a very pragmatic adviser who is great at separating the wheat from the chaff.”

Jean-Philippe Mikus (see p.236) is an experienced intellectual property attorney in Montreal advising clients on a range of issues from trademark opposition to Copyright Act interpretations. He has developed significant expertise in the technology sector.

Marek Nitoslawski (see p.236) holds considerable experience representing clients in a range of contentious intellectual property proceedings, including complex trade mark and patent disputes. Based in Montreal, he has acted for several household names in the Canadian media and manufacturing sectors.

Fineberg Ramamoorthy

What the team is known for Fineberg Ramamoorthy is a well-regarded boutique firm that focuses its practice on intellectual property litigation. Fielding an experienced group of attorneys, the team is particularly well recognised for its representation of a number of major pharmaceutical companies in complex patent infringement litigation. The firm is based in Toronto.

Notable practitioners

Veteran litigator Judith Robinson (see p.237) is an eminent figure in the IP Bar, with significant experience representing pharmaceutical clients in complex patent litigation. Neil Fineberg is recognised for his skill in patent-related disputes. Based in Toronto, he is particularly well known for representing major generic drug producers. Kavita Ramamoorthy (see p.236) represents a range of prominent names in the pharmaceutical sector in highly complex patent infringement disputes. “Kavita is smart, strategic and excellent in court.”

Goodmans LLP

What the team is known for Goodmans houses a well-regarded Toronto-based intellectual property department, with notable strength in handling complex litigation. Renowned for its leading expertise in the pharmaceutical sector, the firm’s expertise covers both disputes and non-contentious issues. The team also offers experience in transactional, licensing and portfolio management files, often working for well-known domestic and international brands, including Asahi Europe and Cadillac Fairview. The group enjoys a strong reputation for its assured handling of patent litigation matters, particularly for longstanding client Apotex.

Strengths “A very strong, knowledgeable and hardworking IP litigation team, with decades of experience.”

“Goodmans is at the high water mark of the Canadian IP Bar.”

“The Goodmans team is strong at every level: they are expert strategists and outstanding trial lawyers.”

Work highlights A Goodmans team represented JAMP Pharma and Alvotech in multiple actions brought by AbbVie regarding the latter’s treatment drug for rheumatoid arthritis, Humira.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Brodkin (see p.233) is a leading intellectual property lawyer with considerable experience litigating complex pharmaceutical patent disputes. He has also represented major manufacturing and technology clients in both patent and trademark litigation. “Andrew Brodkin is a superstar.”

“Andrew is an exceptional litigator and has a hand in nearly everything the firm does in IP litigation.”

Legendary litigator Harry Radomski (see p.236) continues to be recognised as an eminent intellectual property expert, particularly with issues concerning pharmaceutical patent litigation. “Harry’s oratorial skill is unparalleled.” “He is the dean of the patent litigation Bar.”

Amalia Berg (see p.232) assists clients with a host of patent and trademark issues, including clearance, prosecution and portfolio management. She has been retained by major brands across a range of industries including consumer products, technology and media. Jordan Scopa (see p.237) continues to impress market observers for his prominent role in major pharmaceutical patent litigation files, particularly for clients on the generic side of the industry. “Jordan Scopa really understands the commercial side of things, and provides legal advice with that in mind.” “He is a tremendously talented litigator and legal strategist.”

Ben Hackett (see p.235) holds a solid reputation as an IP litigator and has played an important role in several high-profile patent litigation cases, particularly in the pharmaceutical sector.

“Ben Hackett is an outstanding young IP litigator, an excellent oral advocate and cross-examiner.”

Jaclyn Tilak (see p.237) regularly represents major pharmaceutical companies in complex patent litigation. She also acts in similar disputes for clients in the manufacturing and energy sectors. “She works tirelessly and her command of the documentation is great.” “She is very smart and has helped her clients achieve many significant victories.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is renowned for its ability to handle a wide array of eye-catching IP mandates for a thriving Canadian and international client base. The firm offers a deep bench of experienced practitioners knowledgeable in litigation and non-contentious proceedings. The team is highlighted for its impressive track record in IP disputes and notable strength in patent and trademark matters. It regularly acts for clients in the technology, healthcare and sports sectors. The firm also

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is recommended for its skilled handling of patent infringement and prosecution files, often servicing an enviable roster of domestic and international clients. The firm regularly handles pharmaceutical litigation and copyright disputes across the nation, with noted strength in Montreal. Its IP capabilities are supported by strong regulatory teams focused on the life sciences and media sectors. The team is well known for its work in the technology and telecommunications sectors, and has a diverse client base which ranges from individual entrepreneurs and startups to multinational corporations.

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Notable practitioners 

Montreal-based Julie Desrosiers (see p.234) is noted for her prominent role in a number of high-profile patent disputes and challenges, with further knowledge of copyright law. She acts for an impressive number of global pharmaceutical companies. “A great litigator and an expert in her field.”

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Marek Nitoslawski (see p.236) holds considerable experience representing clients in a range of contentious intellectual property proceedings, including complex trade mark and patent disputes. Based in Montreal, he has acted for several household names in the Canadian media and manufacturing sectors.

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offers notable expertise in trade secret matters and is able to provide representation in provincial courts across Canada. Its strength is particularly prominent in its Ottawa and Toronto offices. **Strengths** “Gowling really understand our business pressures and provide exceptional customer service.”

“The team provides strong strategic advice, is extremely responsive and understands the importance of working with clients to meet their needs.”

“The firm is strategic, efficient and has things perfectly under control, and has achieved some great results for us.” **Work highlights** Led by Chris Van Barr, Gowling represented Bayer in nine pharmaceutical patent litigation cases against nine generic manufacturers over the blockbuster drug Xarelto.

**Notable practitioners**

Anthony Creber is recognised as an eminent member of the intellectual property community. A senior partner in the firm’s Ottawa office, his experience includes the representation of some of the most prominent names in global pharmaceuticals. Ronald Dimock is a highly respected figure in the Canadian intellectual property market, with considerable experience leading complex patent infringement disputes. He is based in Toronto. Christopher Van Barr is an experienced intellectual property litigation lawyer with notable expertise in patent infringement disputes. He represents industry-leading names in the pharmaceutical and technology sectors. He is based in Ottawa. “He is an excellent lead and someone I would trust to manage a high-profile, high-risk patent litigation matter.”

“Chris has long-term vision and strategic skills, and is quite frank in his assessments.” Shelahg Carnegie acts for a number of impressive domestic and international clients. She also co-leads the firm’s global IP team from its Ottawa office. “She takes great care of her clients with lightning-fast responses, clear advice and a business mindset that takes the competition into account.”

Experienced litigator John Norman is particularly noted for his patent expertise, representing clients in disputes and advising on regulatory matters. He is particularly sought out by clients in the life sciences sector, ranging from domestic biotechnology companies to multinational pharmaceutical organisations. Ottawa-based Jay Zakaib is an experienced IP attorney, with a particular focus on infringement litigation. His impressive client roster features major brands in recreational products, technology and aviation, as well as pharmaceutical companies. Up-and-coming lawyer Natalie Rizkalla-Kamel is building an impressive reputation in the Canadian IP market, particularly for her trade mark expertise. “Natalie has been an exceptional partner to us. In addition to her trade mark expertise, she has incredible business sense and is able to manage our legal issues and deliver efficient and effective legal services.”

“We are really satisfied with her advice, and her fine and rigorous work.”

Lavery, de Billy

What the team is known for Québec law firm Lavery, de Billy assists clients across the full gamut of intellectual property law, with a significant dedication to clients in the technology and life sciences sectors. The firm possesses a robust bench of practitioners, featuring experience in portfolio management and expansion, as well as transactional mandates and litigation. **Strengths** “I have been very impressed with the team’s approach and strategy to overcome examiners’ objections.”

**Work highlights** Lavery advised Immune Biosolutions on the protection of a therapeutic agent for treating COVID-19.

**Notable practitioners**

Montreal-based partners Isabelle Jomphere and Serge Shahinian are key contacts.

Lenczner Slaght

What the team is known for Lenczner Slaght is a well-recognised brand when it comes to dispute resolution, and enjoys a solid reputation in the intellectual property market specifically. The team possesses significant experience handling complex patent cases, acting for a number of eye-catching clients in pharmaceuticals and technology. The department also regularly acts for clients engaged in copyright disputes, including recent representations concerning new provisions in the Canadian Copyright Act.

**Strengths** “Every lawyer I have interacted with at Lenczner has demonstrated excellent skill and creativity.”

“All members of the team are excellent to work with. Each contribute to discussions and drafting, resulting in better and more nuanced arguments.”

**Work highlights** Lenczner Slaght represented Authors Alliance in its capacity as an intervening party in a copyright appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, part of a long-running dispute between York University and Access Copyright.

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Sana Halwani (see p.239) is a well-regarded lawyer in the field of intellectual property and dispute resolution. She represents an impressive portfolio of clients in the technology, telecoms and biotechnology sectors. “Sana is a highly skilled lawyer and advocate, and we are very pleased with her strong focus on client service.”

“She provides expert counsel and powerful, persuasive skills.” Jordana Sanft (see p.237) is a well-known contentious intellectual property lawyer, patent agent and trade mark agent with a particularly strong reputation in the life sciences industry. She continues to represent industry leaders in the pharmaceutical sector. “She has many years of experience in the IP field and has a clear understanding of the complex nature of IP litigation.” “Jordana understands our level of risk awareness and strives to give advice on which we can act or further reflect.”

**McCarty Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault has an established team of intellectual property lawyers who regularly handle both contentious and non-contentious work. The firm acts for a stable of impressive domestic and international clients, such as media and broadcasting and technology companies, on patent, trade mark and copyright issues, including major litigation. The litigation team in particular is noted for representing telecommunication and pharmaceutical clients in significant patent disputes. The firm derives much of its strength from its experts in Toronto, with additional experts in Western Canada.

**Strengths** “The team is very organised, efficient and proactive, and they make my life so much easier.”

**Work highlights** Led by Steven Mason, McCarthy Tétrault represented Apple in a damages claim and injunction request brought by Wi-LAN for alleged patent infringement.

**Notable practitioners**

**Norton Rose Fulbright**

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is a distinguished international firm with experience housed in its Vancouver and Montréal offices, as well as an IP group in Toronto. The team acts on a broad array of significant regulatory and transactional IP matters, as well as complex disputes relating to patent, copyright and trade mark matters. Sought after for its expertise in the life sciences sector, it has been retained by several pharmaceutical industry leaders for patent regulatory advice, strategy and litigation. The group provides knowledgeable counsel to domestic and international clients in the sports and technology sectors, among others.

**Strengths** “Norton Rose has a big team with a wide range of technological backgrounds and experience in all areas of IP law.”

“I think it is critical that external counsel understand the client’s business, their values and strategies, and that the advice reflects all of that. Norton Rose does that.”

“The firm offers business-focused advice, not just covering legal requirements but taking into account business considerations.”

**Work highlights** Norton Rose Fulbright represented AstraZeneca and FibroGen in a patent impeachment action brought by Aketia Therapeutics over a treatment for anaemia and ischaemia.

**Notable practitioners**

Brian Daley (see p.233) is an experienced IP liti-
gator, noted for his role in significant pharmaceutical patent lawsuits. He is based on Montreal. Vancou-
viger and Christopher Wilson (see p.238) have exten-
tive experience representing clients in litigating trade mark and copyright infringement claims. Of-
late, he has played a prominent role in several novel
cases alleging piracy, conspiracy and IP theft. “He is
one of my favourite lawyers to work with: he knows the
law really well, understands its nuances and has a lot
of courtroom experience.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
What the team is known for for Osler, Hoskin & Har-
court possesses a strong team of intellectual prop-
erty practitioners, providing support to domestic and
international clients hailing from the biotechnology,
pharmaceutical and telecoms sectors. The firm is
well regarded for its patent prosecution and litiga-
tion work, with added experience handling the IP
aspects of corporate transactions. It regularly pro-
vides advice on a variety of trade mark, patent and
copyright matters.

Strengths “Osler has a great team and a strong bench
that provides a really terrific service.”
“A great team: deeply technical, understands the com-
plex issues and help us think through positioning.”
“The firm produces high-quality work and fights very
close for its clients.”

Work highlights A team led by Bradley White rep-
resented institutional client Teva Canada in patent
litigation brought by Novartis concerning the latter’s
product Entresto.

Notable practitioners
Bradley White (see p.238) stands out as a leading
light in the area of intellectual property infringe-
ment and disputes. Based in Ottawa, he is particu-
larly notable for representing major generic drug
producers in patent litigation. “Brad is one of the top
patent litigators in North America.” Donna White (see
p.238) is highly rated by sources as a prominent
trade mark expert who acts for prominent clients in
a range of industries, including media and hospitality.
She is based in, and managing partner of, the firm’s
Ottawa office. “Donna is a well-respected trade mark
attorney and with good reason: we can’t fault her level
of service.” John Cotter (see p.233) is a respected
intellectual property litigator operating out of Osler,
Hoskin & Harcourt’s Toronto office. He is high-
lighted for his copyright expertise and additionally
has significant experience in trade mark disputes.

May Cheng (see p.233) assists clients with a host of
intellectual property issues, particularly those
associated with Canadian trade mark law, including
brand strategy, enforcement and protection. She is
based in Toronto. “May is an expert in her field. We
feel very confident in her abilities.” Toronto-based Vincent
de Grandpré (see p.233) is noted for his prowess in
a range of contentious intellectual property sit-
tuations, notably in cases alleging infringement of
patent rights. He is particularly well regarded in the
life sciences sector. “Vincent has been an incredible
partner for us: always attentive and extremely knowl-
edgeable.” Toronto-based Nathaniel Lipkus (see
p.235) holds a robust reputation in the field of IP
litigation, where he represents clients from a range of
sectors, including prominent names in the generic
pharmaceutical industry. “Nathaniel provides tremen-
dous support, covering regulatory and patent issues,
as well as PMNOC.”

ROBIC LLP
What the team is known for for ROBIC is a Quebec-
based boutique law firm with offices in Montreal and
Quebec City. Offering expertise in a diverse range of
IP issues, the firm is noted for its significant ex-
pertise in patent and trade mark prosecution. The
team stands out for its work across a broad range of
industries, including life sciences, pharmaceuticals
and technology.

Notable practitioners
Montreal-based Nathaniel Sotiropoulos is a highly expe-
rienced practitioner. He has a broad set of skills,
notably in trade mark law, covering issues including
licensing, commercialisation and protection, though
the bulk of his practice is focused on IP litigation.

Smart & Biggar
What the team is known for for Smart & Biggar is a
well-established IP and innovation boutique with
offices in Ottawa, Quebec, Alberta and British
Columbia. The firm maintains an impressive IP
development service, assisting high-profile clients
with issues ranging from licensing and marketing
to enforcement and litigation. Reputed for its bench
strength and quality representation, it has proven
skill in patent and trade mark litigation as well as
a substantial range of commercial IP matters. The
group services clients in a diverse range of sectors,
including telecommunications, pharmaceuticals and
the media industry, and has an impressive portfolio of
clients in e-commerce and technology.

Strengths “The team presented the case to the court
in a very persuasive way and we walked away very
pleased with the result.”
“Smart & Biggar possesses really deep knowledge of
our industry and does good work.”
“I am really happy with the team: they have done a
tremendous job of supporting us in what we do. Our
brand is our most important asset and we trust them
completely with it.”

Work highlights A team led by François Guay assisted Bell Media, Groupe TVA and Rogers Media
the plaintiffs, with the renewal of an injunction
against certain streaming websites for breaches of the
Canadian Copyright Act.

Notable practitioners
Gunars Gaiks (see p.234) is a highly experienced
intellectual property litigator, recognised for his
impressive reputation as an expert patent authority,
particularly in the area of life sciences. He is based
in Toronto. Toronto-based Mark Evans (see p.234)
advocates and represents clients in significant IP pros-
ecution mandates. He has an excellent reputation
in the field of trade marks, where he services major
sporting and consumer product brands. “Mark Evans
has really high legal acumen. He gets both the legal
and practical side of things and measures risk and
reward well.” “He is so practical-minded, considers
your business objectives and takes into account the
reality of the situation.” Montreal-based François
Guay (see p.234) is a highly experienced litigation
who is particularly well regarded for his expertise
in trade mark disputes and infringement cases. He
has acted for major clients in recreational products,
pharmaceuticals and telecoms. “François was truly
master when it came to litigation strategy.” “A very
good advocate and a strong opponent.” Ottawa-based
Steven Garland (see p.234) remains a prominent
presence in intellectual property work in Canada.
A qualified patent and trade mark attorney, he rep-
resents significant clients in the energy, chemical
and technology sectors. Montréal-based Christian
Bolduc (see p.233) impresses for his work across a
broad array of trade mark mandates, spanning pro-
curement, prosecution and transactions. Sheldon
Hamilton (see p.235) represents major pharmaceu-
tical companies in complex patent litigation. Based
in Toronto, he leads the firm’s national IP litigation
practice group. Chair of Smart & Biggar Daphne
Lainson (see p.235) possesses significant ex-
pertise advising major pharmaceutical clients on
patent filing, strategy and portfolio management.
She is based in Ottawa. “She delivers a succinct and
understandable work product.” Nancy Pei (see p.236)
represents clients in significant patent-related dis-
putes. A qualified and registered pharmacist, she is
a particularly notable advocate for major pharma-
ceutical companies. “Nancy is very client-focused and
understands both the industries they work in and the
challenges they face.”

Torys LLP
What the team is known for for Torys is experienced in a broad range of
litigation and commercial matters for a variety of
prominent clients, including those in the chemical,
banking, pharmaceutical and life sciences sectors.
The Toronto-based firm also handles an array of
regulatory, prosecution and advisory work, including
complex patent and copyright issues. It is also noted
for its deep expertise in portfolio management and
for its work on trade mark mandates.

Strengths “The service at Torys is excellent. The team
is very knowledgeable and gives very clear advice,
taking consideration of the big picture.”
“The team has strong depth of experience and a good
understanding of the trends and market changes.”
“The firm is very willing to listen and take on board the
practical, operational and business perspectives that
we bring to the table.”

Work highlights Torys represented LiquidPower
Specialty Products (LSP) in a patent impeachment
action commenced by Flowchem, as well as infringe-
ment litigation relating to drag reduction additive
products.

Notable practitioners
Eileen McMahon (see p.259) has cultivated an out-
standing reputation in the life sciences sector, with
a knowledge base spanning issues from patent law
and licensing to regulatory compliance and pricing.
“She is a great patent lawyer with huge experience.”
“Eileen is very knowledgeable and comes informed to
every discussion with a strategy in mind.” Andrew
Shaughnessy (see p.237) is a highly experienced
intellectual property litigation partner with an impressive
track record representing clients in the pharmaceu-
tical and biotechnology sectors. “He adds value to
every meeting he participates in.” “He provides excel-
llent business-oriented and results-driven advice.”
Andrew Bernstein (see p.232) has an impressive
pedigree in contentious intellectual property pro-
cedings, playing an important role in high-profile
patent disputes. He also has an active commercial
litigation practice. “He is an excellent advocate. If you
go up against him in court, you know it’s going to be
a battle.” Edward Fan (see p.234) is an accomplished
patent and trade mark expert, with a proficiency in
strategy, protection and the acquisition of intellec-
tual property. “I have found Ed to be approachable
and with a deep understanding of Canadian patent
law.” “He gets things done, no matter how complicated
the issue is.” Michelle Nelles (see p.236) is an estab-

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lished intellectual property lawyer with a strong focus on Canadian trade mark law. She advises many impressive domestic names in the retail sector on matters ranging from registration to protection of trade marks. “Her guidance is always spot on.” “She is extremely responsive and provides business-practical advice.” Yael Bienenstock (see p.233) has a growing reputation in the field of intellectual property litigation, particularly for her role in major patent infringement lawsuits in the pharmaceutical sector. “Yael has never been anything but excellent.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jonathan Auerbach (see p.232) of Stikeman Elliott LLP acts for a diverse range of portfolio clients, covering manufacturing, entertainment and e-commerce. Based in Montréal, he advises on brand strategy, as well as filing, clearance and protection. “Jonathan is outstanding in the service, advice and strategy he provides.”

Dino Clarizio impresses for his breadth of experience and knowledge in the intellectual property sphere, assisting clients through the full patent life-cycle, from inception and clearance to litigation and enforcement. He joined Ridout & Maybee from Goodmans in July 2002. Dino is a master patent strategist: his greatest strength is behind the scenes, helping his team develop winning arguments.”

Douglas Deeth of Deeth Williams Wall is a well-respected intellectual property expert, particularly concerning the intersection of IP and technology law. He also represents clients in the pharmaceutical and chemical industries. “Doug is an incredible IP strategist and an excellent mentor for younger counsel.”

Elizabeth Dipchand of Dipchand LLP is a well-regarded expert in trade marks law who acts for clients hailing from a range of different industries, from technology startups to manufacturers. “Elizabeth provides clear and insightful guidance, understanding the practical and commercial realities we face as business owners.” “She showed a high degree of client service and knowledge.”

Peter Giddens (see p.234) of McMillan LLP is a well-respected trade mark lawyer with an impressive portfolio of clients including significant consumer products brands and media companies. He works out of McMillan’s Toronto office. “Peter is very collaboratively and creative.”

Shane Hardy of Cozen O’Connor is a recognised expert in the area of Canadian trade mark law, acting for a range of leading domestic and global brands on issues ranging from prosecution to litigation. “Shane stands out for his in-depth knowledge of IP law and his willingness to understand our business.”

Henry Lue is a recognised trade mark expert in the Canadian market. He acts for an array of domestic and multinational brands, including prominent names in the technology sector, and consumer products. His experience includes advising on issues including brand protection and global portfolio strategy. “Henry is a really smart and excellent trade marks lawyer.”

Anthony Prenol (see p.236) is a well-regarded intellectual property lawyer with substantial experience advising domestic and multinational clients on the licensing, commercialisation and protection of their brands. He is the founding partner of CPST Law in Toronto. “A fantastic lawyer: client-friendly, commercial, and possesses very good technical expertise.” “He provides pragmatic, clear advice and I would highly recommend him to anyone needing trade mark assistance in Canada.”

Andrea Rush (see p.237) of Blaney McMurtry LLP is an experienced intellectual property lawyer with notable expertise in both trade mark and copyright law. She assists clients with all manner of issues including transactions, strategy and enforcement. She is based in Toronto.

Patrick Smith represents clients in IP litigation, with particular expertise in patent disputes. Based in Calgary and a founding partner of his firm, Seastone IP, he has experience acting for clients in the pharmaceutical, technology and oil and gas sectors. “Patrick Smith is my first go-to, and a most trusted strategist.” He is a brilliant lawyer: highly experienced, strategic and insightful.”

Leaders’ Profiles in Intellectual Property

AUERBACH, Jonathan
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jonathan Auerbach is a partner, patent agent and trademark agent in the Intellectual Property Group. He has a broad range of experience in all aspects of intellectual property, with a particular emphasis on patent, trademark and copyright litigation, prosecution, licensing, counseling and transactions. He is regarded as an IP strategist amongst clients and peers. Jonathan also has extensive experience in the acquisition, clearance, prosecution, enforcement and licensing of trademarks, including representing clients in trademark opposition proceedings and Section 45 expungement proceedings and Patent Appeal Board proceedings. He also advises clients on Internet-related aspects of trademark and copyright law, including representing clients in domain name disputes. Jonathan’s IP transactional practice includes counselling with respect to the management and commercialization of intellectual property and the identification of intellectual property issues in corporate transactions. In this regard, he is routinely called upon to negotiate, draft, analyze and review complex IP and IT related agreements as well as to manage IP and IT due diligence investigations. He also prepares, negotiates and advises on purchase agreements, license agreements, sponsorship agreements, merchandising agreements, distributions agreements, JV agreements, influencer agreements, consulting agreements and employment agreements, as they pertain to intellectual property, information technology, software, e-commerce and related matters. Jonathan’s litigation practice focuses on intellectual property infringement matters, enforcing against acts involving counterfeits, the invalidation of intellectual property registrations and intellectual property contract dispute matters.

Baird, Melanie
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Melanie’s diverse litigation practice encompasses intellectual property, complex commercial, class actions, product liability, cannabis and technology disputes. She is the go-to Canadian litigation adviser for a wide array of world-leading clients, and was named the Canadian IP Litigator of the Year by Benchmark in 2022. Melanie excels at litigating cases in emerging fields. She was counsel in the first biologic and biosimilar drug patent cases in Canada in addition to numerous precedent-setting trials, applications and appeals. She works extensively with life sciences companies on complex litigation of all sorts and is intimately familiar with the business of pharma and biotech. Melanie also has broad experience in the software, tech and social media spaces, dealing with commercial, patent, trademark, copyright and licensing disputes. She leverages her unique experiences to handle a wide variety of complex commercial disputes, adeptly devising strategic options and navigating cross-border issues. Melanie is sought after for advice on litigation strategy, evaluation and management of IP portfolios, and regulatory issues.

Professional Memberships: Melanie regularly speaks on advocacy and IP topics in Canada and the US. She is an active member of The Advocates’ Society, the Ontario and Canadian Bar Associations, the American Bar Association, IPIC and IPO.

Berg, Amalia
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner and head of the IP Group. She is also a registered trademark agent. Practices exclusively in IP and technology law with an emphasis on trademarks, copyright and confidential information. Regularly involved in transactional work involving IP and her practice encompasses all aspects of client counselling and portfolio management, including trademark clearance and prosecution, both domestic and abroad.

Leadership: Amalia is recognized as a leading intellectual property lawyer by Best Lawyers in Canada, The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, IP Stars, Chambers Global and Chambers Canada, and in trademarks by Who’s Who Legal Canada, Euromoney’s Guides to the World’s Leading Trademark Lawyers and the World’s Leading Women in Business Law. In 2022, she was recognized as one of the world’s Top 250 Women in IP by IP Stars. Professional Memberships: Amalia is currently Subcommittee Chair of INTA’s Law Firm Committee’s Programming Subcommittee, and a member of the Roundtables Project Team. She is also a former Chair of the Canadian Bar Association’s National Intellectual Property Section and former Chair of the Ontario Bar Association’s Information Technology/E-Commerce Section.

Bernstein, Andrew E
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Andrew provides clients with leading experience, deep knowledge and skilled advocacy to advance their interests in patent and commercial disputes, as well as appellate matters, in all levels of court. Andrew helps clients involved

BROOKIN, Andrew
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner, member of firm’s Executive Committee and head of Goodmans’ Dispute Resolution Group.

Practice focuses on IP litigation, including patent, trademark and copyright disputes and the complex assessments of damages flowing from the infringement of such rights. Appears before all levels of Courts and has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada on multiple occasions. Provides strategic guidance to clients regarding the development, acquisition, sale and protection of IP and technology assets including patents, trademarks, trade dress, copyright, industrial designs, rights of personality, confidential information and trade secrets.


Personal: Has chaired and participated in conferences on IP issues and is a lecturer for the LLM: Health Law IP course at Didero Hall Law School.

CHENG, May
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: May is a Certified Specialist in Intellectual Property (IP) Law (Trademark/Copyright), and a senior partner at Osler. She has over 25 years of experience in advising clients on all aspects of IP protection and enforcement, including branding strategy, acquisition, licensing and anti-counterfeiting. She is regularly involved in a wide variety of IP infringement cases and complex licensing deals.


Professional Memberships: Co-Chair, IP Year in Review, Law Society Ontario (LSO), 2019-2022 INTA Anti-Counterfeiting Committee member, 2018-2019 Certified Specialist Board Member, LSO, 2016-2019


Personal: University of Ottawa, LL.B. Registered Trademark Agent

CHISICK, Casey
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Featured in Media & Entertainment (Nationwide – Canada), Intellectual Property (Nationwide- Co-counsel)

See under Telecoms, Media & Broadcast ing for profile.

COTTER, John
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: John is the Chair of the Intellectual Property Group. His practice is focused on the infringement and technology litigation. John has acted as counsel in numerous cases relating to copyright, trade-marks, domain names, trade secrets/confidential information, software development, software and technology licensing, misleading advertising and anti-counterfeiting. John appears before the Federal Court, Federal Court of Appeal, Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Copyright Board of Canada and the Trademarks Opposition Board. He frequently writes and speaks on IP issues and is actively involved in a number of IP organisations.

Career: John also speaks and writes frequently on intellectual property and litigation matters.

Professional Memberships: Section Executive, National Intellectual Property Law Section, Canadian Bar Association; Professional Development Committee (formerly CLE Committee), National Intellectual Property Law Section, Canadian Bar Association; Litigation Committee & Forums and Seminars Committee, Intellectual Property Institute of Canada

Federal Court and the Federal Court of Appeal.

Professional Memberships: Intellectual Property Institute of Canada (IPIC)
American Bar Association Affiliates: Society American Bar Association

DESROSIERS, Julie
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Julie Desrosiers is Chair of the firm’s Technology and Intellectual Property Practice Group. Ms. Desrosiers regularly acts on behalf of high technology businesses in connection with injunctions, seizures and procedures seeking to protect elements of their intellectual property or their trade secrets and strategic information. Currently, Ms. Desrosiers’ practice is almost exclusively in IP litigation, primarily in the field of patent litigation with an emphasis on pharmaceutical patents, including major patent infringement cases. Recent and current cases include: as co-counsel for Lundbeck, won major patent NOC litigation in the Federal Court of Appeal; lead counsel for Lundbeck in section 8 case over cladiparam; lead counsel to Cedrom SNI in the Federal Court of Appeal for infringement of copyright, obtained $500M for infringement of copyright by electronic reproduction of their work; co-counsel to Eurocoper in a successful patent infringement case concerning an helicopter landing gear; as lead counsel to Lundbeck just won Escliatram patent enforcement action; co-counsel to Duchesnay in ongoing Dielectrin NOC litigation against two generics.

EVANS, Mark
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Mark Evans is widely recognized as one of Canada’s leading trademark lawyers with over 30 years of experience and an impressive record of success in numerous high-profile, precedent-setting cases. A seasoned trademark lawyer and highly respected litigator, he represents many of the world’s most famous brand owners and personalities. Clients seek him out for his sophisticated expertise in trademark protection, management, and counseling services to help them strategically build and protect the value of their brands. Mark’s practice spans the entire branding lifestyle including trademark and trade-dress litigation, brand selection and clearance, trademark prosecution, oppositions and cancellations, licensing and merchandising. Mark is known for providing clients with exemplary service and highly effective advice and solutions and has twice been selected as “Canada’s Trademark Litigator of the Year” by Benchmark Canada and was selected as “Canada’s Trademark Litigator of the Year” by the Trademark Review – Global Leaders and one of the world’s “Best of the Best” for trademarks by Euromoney Expert Guides.

EVenson, Brandon
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Brandon is a Partner, Lawyer, Patent and Trademark Agent. He provides sophisticated business-focused legal advice on complex intellectual property matters to companies including international and nationally and publicly traded companies. Special industry expertise in high-tech, software, and engineering sectors. Extensive experience advising senior leadership on developing and enforcing combating transactions involving large global patent and trademark portfolios, copyright, and trade secrets. Work includes designing and implementing enterprise patent and trademark protection programs for clients that are tailored to their businesses with a risk-based approach to maximize investment; representing clients in negotiations on worldwide IP deals; developing international trademark and patent prosecution strategies for business-critical brands and innovations; crafting patent and trademark applications; and directing the prosecution and litigation efforts in over 80 countries. Regularly appears before the Canadian Patent Appeal Board, Trademarks Opposition Board, and the Federal Court. Career: Ontario Bar, 2011, JD, Osgoode Hall Law School, 2010. Professional Memberships: Member: Ontario Bar Association, Canadian Bar Association, Licensing Executive Society.

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A leading intellectual property lawyer with pragmatic perspective, Edward helps companies acquire, enforce and fully exploit their intellectual property assets across industries. Edward is the practice group coordinator for the firm’s Intellectual Property Group. In addition to advising on issues relating to patent procurement and portfolio management, Edward is also involved in negotiating and crafting intellectual property technology transfer, software and other technology-related licenses and agreements. Edward is a registered patent attorney in Canada and the United States, and a trademark agent in Canada.

GAIKIS, Gunars
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Gunars Gaijins has over 30 years of experience in IP law and in the procurement, litigation, and enforcement of pharmaceutical and biotechnology patent rights. He has appeared as lead counsel in precedent-setting IP cases before the Ontario, Federal and Supreme Courts, including the 2017 Supreme Court of Canada decision in AstraZeneca v Apotex, which struck down the “promise of the patent” utility doctrine. Gunars was named Best Lawyers’ 2017 and 2021 “Toronto Biotechnology Law Lawyer of the Year,” and is recognized among the top 30 patent attorneys globally by Expert Guides: Best of the Best. He is listed in the Lexpert® Guide to the Leading US/Canadian Cross-Border Litigation Lawyers, The Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory, Chambers Global, Benchmark Canada, The Legal 500, Who’s Who Legal: Thought Leaders Global Elite, WIPR Leaders, MPI’s IP Stars Handbook, IAM Patent 1000 and is an LMG Life Sciences 2020 inductee to the Hall of Fame.

GARLAND, Steven
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Steven Garland has 30 years of trial and appellate experience in IP litigation with numerous landmark decisions under his belt and obtaining record setting awards for his clients. Steven brings the level of attention, dedication, and strategy required to be successful for high-calibre clients such as Amazon, Dow Chemical, Labatt, Shell, Bayer, McDonald’s, Pamelart and Cenovus, and has represented clients on matters relating to patents, trademarks, copyright, industrial designs, trade secrets, breach of confidence, information, and competition law. He has appeared as counsel before all levels of court including the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal, the Patent Appeal Board and the Trademarks Opposition Board and has experience across a wide range of subject matter, including chemical, electrical, biochemical, pharmaceutical, biotechnological, telephony, mechanical and computer/internet subject matter. Steven has earned an outstanding reputation as a stand-out lawyer in Acritas Stars, IP Stars, IAM, LMG Life Sciences and was featured in Who’s Who Legal: Thought Leaders Global Elite, WIPR Leaders, MIP’s The Legal 500, Who’s Who Legal: Thought Leaders Global Elite, WIPR Leaders, MIP’s The Legal 500, Who’s Who: Thought Leaders, WIPR Leaders, MIP’s IP Stars Handbook, IAM Patent 1000 and is an LMG Life Sciences 2020 inductee to the Hall of Fame.

GUAR , François
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Featured in Media & Entertainment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: François Guay is among the most experienced and successful intellectual property litigators in Canada and a highly sought after advisor to the largest, most innovative companies in the world. His clients entrust their most complex and contentious IP issues to François, in view of his proven track record of building effective litigation strategies and preparing highly persuasive arguments to be presented in court. Having practiced exclusively in intellectual property litigation for over three decades, François has argued many cases that have resulted in leading jurisprudence in the fields of patents, trademarks, industrial designs, copyright, unfair competition, trade secrets and computer related technology. François also has a vast amount of experience with extraordinary
recourses such as interim or interlocutory injunctions, seizures before judgment, and anti-counterfeiting and anti-piracy measures. He has appeared before the Courts of Saskatchewan, the Court of Queen’s Bench of Alberta, the Court of Queen’s Bench of British Columbia, the Superior Court of Canada, and hundreds of the cases he has been involved in have been reported in Canada. Chambers Canada has ranked François as a Band 1 lawyer in Intellectual Property Litigation for 2020 and 2021. He has been named “IP Lawyer of the Year” for Montréal by Best Lawyers and twice recognized as “Trademark Litigator of the Year” by Benchmark Canada.

HACKETT, Ben
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Dispute Resolution Group at Goodmans. Practices commercial litigation, with an emphasis on intellectual property litigation. Counsel on a number of significant cases involving proprietary rights, including damages and profits quantification and recovery under section 8 of the Patented Medicines (No. 2) Regulations. He has also acted on a number of judicial reviews and damages claims against the Federal government. Also acted as counsel on actions before the Federal Court seeking recovery under the Competition Act. Appears regularly at the trial and appeal levels of the Federal Courts and has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada.


Personal: Is an Adjunct Professor teaching Patent Law at Queen’s Law School and lectures in the “Intellectual Property in Health Law” course in the Professional LLM program at Osgoode Hall Law School.

HALWANI, Sana
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sana is Head of Lenczner Slaght’s Growing Intellectual Property Group. As a leader in IP litigation in Canada, her practice is comprised of large, high profile and/or cross-border IP litigation. Sana has represented clients at all levels of the Ontario and Federal courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada, and regularly provides strategic patent and regulatory advice. She also has extensive experience as part of international teams litigating large cross-border disputes. Sana is frequently invited to speak on topics in intellectual property, advocacy and diversity in the profession. Prior to entering private practice, Sana clerked for Justice Rosalie Abella of the Supreme Court of Canada. She has also held numerous volunteer leadership positions including Director of the Student Bar Association of the University of Toronto Alumni Association, and Director of the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada.

HAMILTON, J Sheldon
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sheldon is a partner in Smart & Biggar’s Toronto office. As one of Canada’s leading patent litigation lawyers, Sheldon’s poise and perseverance in tough courtroom situations earns him the respect of clients and peers. For twenty years, Sheldon has represented many of the world’s most innovative companies, successfully protecting their commercially valuable IP assets. Sheldon has extensive trial experience focusing on issues of patent infringement and validity and damage quantification. He’s praised by clients as a “pharma whiz” for his expertise in pharmaceutical litigation, appearing both as trial and appellate counsel, including in proceedings under the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations. Sheldon is consistently recognized by prestigious Canadian and international publications, including Who’s Who Legal – Patents; IAM Patent Litigation 250 – The World’s Leading Patent Litigators; IAM Life Sciences 250.

HAYMAN, Alison
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Co-Chair of the firm’s Intellectual Property Group. Advises clients on the protection, enforcement, and licensing of intellectual property, with a focus on trademarks. Manages the Canadian and international trademark portfolio of a wide range of businesses, including retailers, fashion and home decor brands, and automotive manufacturers. Regularly provides opinions on the availability of new trademarks and helps clients register marks around the world. Also advises on infringement matters and conducts trademark opposition proceedings before the Canadian Intellectual Property Office’s Opposition Board. Assist with the protection of copyright, confidential information, and trade secrets. Registered Trademark Agent.

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dclaison@smartbiggar.ca
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Daphne Laisonson has specialized in helping clients to secure patent protection for chemical, pharmaceutical and biotechnology related inventions, and advising them on regulatory law. For almost two decades, some of the world’s top innovators of pharmaceuticals and biologics rely on Daphne’s strategic advice and counsel across the life cycle of a drug, including during pre-clinical and clinical development through to marketing and loss of exclusivity. What sets her apart is her deep expertise in patent procurement and his strong academic background in Canada, his practice is focused on patent law within Canada, his practice is focused on patent law within Canada.

LEGERE, Fiona
McCarty Tetraull LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601-8134
fleger@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Fiona Legere is a partner at McCarthy Tetraull LLP, a leading Canadian intellectual property litigation firm. Fiona’s intellectual property practice involves litigation and strategic advice in the areas of patent and Trademark Law. She is recognized by prestigious Canadian and international publications, including Who’s Who Legal – Patents; IAM Patent Litigation 250 – The World’s Leading Patent Litigators; IAM Life Sciences 250.

MARKWELL, Jason
Fasken, Toronto
416.865.5416
jmarkwell@fasken.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jason Markwell is a leading patent litigator in Canada. He represents domestic and multinational corporations in a wide-range of industries, including life sciences, technology, financial services, manufacturing, mining and energy. He is well-known for his work on behalf of innovative pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies in long patent and regulatory disputes. Jason has been recognized as a leading intellectual property lawyer by Chambers & Partners, IAM Patent 1000, The Best Lawyers Canada, Who’s Who Legal, IP Stars, Maritiand, Hubbell, Benchmark Litigation (IP Lawyer of the Year, 2017), Managing Intellectual Property (Outstanding IP Practitioner – Canada, 2019), and LMG Life Sciences (Lawyer of the Year, 2018, Patent Litiga
Intellectual Property
tion). Jason is active in various intellectual
property organizations, including the
Intellectual Property Institute of Canada
(IPIC) and the International Association
for the Protection of Intellectual Property
(AIPPI). Jason is a Fellow of the Litigation
Counsel of America and is a member
of the Advocates’ Society. Jason has
appeared as counsel before the Supreme
Court of Canada, the Federal Court of
Appeal, the Federal Court, and the Ontario
Superior Court of Justice in a number
of high-stakes and precedent-setting
decisions.

MASON, Steven

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 7703
smason@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

Practice Areas: Chair of the firm’s

National Intellectual Property Litigation
Group. Acted as lead trial and appellate
counsel in a broad range of IP cases in
Ontario, British Columbia, in the Federal
Courts and in the Supreme Court of
Canada. Also practised IP Litigation in the
United States (Cal.). Adjunct Professor
at Osgoode Hall Faculty of Law; teaches
Intellectual Property Law.
Career: Ontario Bar, 1994; State Bar of
Professional Memberships: Fellow,
Litigation Counsel of America.
Publications: Co-author of ‘Intellectual Property Law in Canada: Cases and
Commentary’, Carswell, 2013 (2nd Ed.) and
‘Copyright: Cases and Commentary on the
Canadian and International Law’, Carswell,
2013 (2nd Ed.).

MCMAHON, Eileen M
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 (416) 624-2410
emcmahon@torys.com

Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide
– Canada), Intellectual Property (Nationwide –
Canada), Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)

See under Life Sciences for profile.

MIKUS, Jean-Philippe
Fasken, Montréal
+1 514 397 5176
jpmikus@fasken.com

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

Practice Areas: Jean-Philippe practises

technology and intellectual property law.
He combines in-depth knowledge and
strategic thinking to help companies in
the software, entertainment, consumer products, natural resources, social
networks, online services, e-commerce
and manufacturing industries. He expertly
acts for numerous companies as a trademark agent and advises them on their
global trademark strategy. Jean-Philippe
appears before the courts and specialized
boards. He has extensive experience in
oppositions, cancellations and appeals in
trademark matters. He has authored many
reference works on intellectual property
and technologies, and knows how to
effectively develop winning tactics. He is
a skilled negotiator and advises clients in
many specialized matters –often with an
international component, including software development and other technology
agreements, research contracts, trademark and patent purchase and licensing
agreements, technology distribution and

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Leading Individualswww.chambers.com

partnership agreements, shared marketing agreements and cloud computing
service agreements (SaaS).

so-called unconventional marks such as
sounds, moving marks, smells, etc.

NELLES, Michelle

Smart & Biggar, Toronto
416 593 5514
nppei@smart-biggar.ca

Torys LLP, Toronto
416.865.7979
mnelles@torys.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

Practice Areas: A highly experienced

intellectual property lawyer with a focus
on strategic trademark counsel, Michelle
works with Canadian and multinational
companies to manage large domestic and
foreign trademark portfolios. Michelle
offers comprehensive management of
trademark portfolios of large international and domestic clients, guiding
in-house counsel to develop and execute
cost-effective prosecution, enforcement
and opposition strategies. She regularly
provides clearance opinions, oppositions
and enforcement advice, and her work
on trademark, patent, industrial design
and copyright matters extends across
industries, including consumer goods,
food, clothing, chemicals, pharmaceuticals
and financial services. Michelle also provides strategic advice to clients on a wide
variety of domain name issues, as well as
initiating and responding to domain name
dispute proceedings, including ICANN’s
Uniform Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution
Policy (UDRP), the CIRA Domain Name
Dispute Resolution Policy (CDRP) and the
Rapid Evaluation Service (RES). Michelle
is a registered Canadian patent and
trademark agent and is routinely involved
in reviewing marketing and advertising
materials to advise on compliance with
trademark laws and regulatory regimes.
She frequently gives guidance on best
practices and develops training materials
to support clients’ intellectual property
and business priorities.

NITOSLAWSKI, Marek

Fasken, Montréal
+1 514 397 4335
mnitoslawski@fasken.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

PEI, Nancy

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

Practice Areas: Nancy is a partner in

Smart & Biggar’s Toronto office. With
hands-on experience as a licensed
pharmacist and over 20 years of patent litigation expertise, Nancy has established a
successful IP practice focused exclusively
in the field of life sciences, with an emphasis on pharmaceuticals and biologics.
Nancy’s clients benefit not only from the
depth and breadth of her experience but
also from her unique insights on broader
patenting, regulatory and business issues,
helping them manage the life cycles of
their products and remain competitive in
an ever-changing industry. Nancy provides
thoughtful counsel and strategic advice
regarding patents and data protection, patent listing under the Patented
Medicines Regulations, Certificates of
Supplementary Protection, pricing and reimbursement including Patented Medicine
Prices Review Board matters (PMPRB),
federal (AIA) and provincial (FIPPA) access
to information requests, regulatory due
diligence, regulatory compliance issues,
and submissions regarding draft statutory
and regulatory amendments. Nancy has
been lauded for her skills in several expert
guides including Benchmark Litigation,
Who’s Who Legal: Patents, Best Lawyers,
Expert Guides: Best of the Best and Women in Business Law, IAM Patent 1000, LMG
Life Sciences, MIP IP Stars and Lexpert’s
Leading Lawyer in IP,’ ‘Biotechnology’ and
‘Litigation – Intellectual Property.’

PRENOL, Anthony M.

CPST Intellectual Property, Toronto
647.478.2430
anthony.prenol@cpstip.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

RADOMSKI, Harry

Goodmans LLP, Toronto
+1 416 597 4142
hradomski@goodmans.ca
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

Practice Areas: Counsel and Head of

Goodmans’ IP Litigation Group. Practice
focuses on IP litigation, including patent,
trademark and copyright disputes and the
complex assessments of damages flowing
from the infringement of such rights. A
seasoned trial lawyer, who regularly appears before all levels of court in Ontario
and in the Federal Court. He has appeared
before the Supreme Court of Canada on
a number of occasions to address the
country’s leading patent, trademark and
damages issues. He has also appeared in
the provincial Superior Courts in British
Columbia, New Brunswick and Quebec.
Career: Recognized by Chambers Global
as a “star individual” for IP litigation since
2010, by Benchmark Canada as an IP “litigation star,” and by Euromoney’s Expert
Guides – Patents as one of the top three
Canadian patent lawyers and top 25 in
the world. Recognized as a leading lawyer
in IP and corporate/commercial litigation
by Best Lawyers in Canada and was also
named Toronto IP Lawyer of the Year. Also
as a leading lawyer by Lexpert, Who’s Who
Legal: Canada, The Legal 500 Canada,
Managing Intellectual Property – IP Stars,
and by IAM Patent 1000.
Professional Memberships: Law
Society of Ontario Canadian Bar Association The Advocates’ Society Canadian
Association of Law Teachers

RAMAMOORTHY, Kavita

Fineberg Ramamoorthy, Toronto

Practice Areas: Anthony co-founded the +1 647 795 8635

Canadian intellectual property boutique
firm, CPST Intellectual Property, in 2020
a seasoned IP litigator whose winning
after many years at a prominent full-serstrategies in patent, trademark and copy- vice firm. He is a lawyer, patent agent and
right matters have earned him the respect trademark agent. Has acted as trial and
of clients, colleagues and the courts. In
appellate counsel in a wide variety of matrecent years he has represented clients in ters, with particular expertise in litigation
cross-national patent litigation involving
in the oil and gas and high technology
electronics, aeronautics and recreational
sectors. Prosecutes patent, trademark and
vehicles. Many of Marek’s cases have set
industrial design portfolios for clients in a
legal precedents, showcasing his “outside broad cross-section of industries. Anthony
the box” approach to complex legal issues. has extensive experience advising public
Marek’s profound knowledge of all fields
sector institutions on intellectual property
of intellectual property, whether it be
matters.
patents, designs, trademarks, copyright,
Career: Recognized as a leading intellectrade secrets or unfair competition, allow
tual property practitioner in all major legal
him to draw on and combine the underdirectories and ranking publications, inlying concepts for maximum advantage.
cluding Chambers, Lexpert, Best Lawyers,
Marek is particularly adept at coordinating Who’s Who Legal, IAM Patent 1000, World
transnational disputes and ensuring that
Trademark Review 1000, Managing Intelthe strategy adopted in Canada conforms lectual Property’s IP Stars, Benchmark
with, and often leads, what is being done
and LMG Life Sciences.
elsewhere. Marek also has an active trade- Professional Memberships: Vice-Chair
marks practice, in the context of which he of the Industrial Designs Committee of the
manages portfolios large and small in the Intellectual Property Owners Associacosmetics, life sciences, clothing, food
tion and a member of IPO’s International
and alcoholic beverages industries. He
Trademark Law & Practice Committee.
has a particular affinity for packaging and Member of the International Trademark
trade dress issues, and anything to do with

Practice Areas: Marek Nitoslawski is

Association’s Legislation and Regulation
Committee.
Publications: Frequent author on a
variety of IP topics. Authored the Canada
chapter for International Trademark
Authored Patent-Eligible Subject Matter,
published by Practical Law Canada.

kavita@fineberg.legal
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide
– Canada)

Practice Areas: Kavita Ramamoorthy

is a founding partner of the IP boutique
Fineberg Ramamoorthy LLP based in
Toronto, Canada. She practices pharmaceutical patent law, particularly in the area
of litigation and has extensive experience
in proceedings under the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations (on behalf of both innovators and
generics). Kavita’s practice also includes
advising on a variety of regulatory matters.
In addition to being a lawyer, Kavita is also
a registered Canadian Patent Agent and
holds a Ph.D. in Toxicology.
Career: Kavita has been practicing
pharmaceutical patent law, particularly in
the area of litigation, since 2003 and has
appeared frequently before the Federal
Court and the Federal Court of Appeal.
Her practice also includes invalidity and
infringement opinions and advising on a
variety of regulatory matters. Kavita is a
frequent speaker on patent and litigation
topics. She has been repeatedly named
one of the Top 250 Women in IP globally.
Kavita is also an active member of WING


Panel of Neutrals, WIPO Mediation Centre.

Chair of ALAI Toronto, member of the On

Trustee and member of the Editorial Board

has served on the Stanford Advisory

recipient of the Long Term Achievement

Trademarks Opposition Boards, Federal

copyright, trademarks and design patents,

Practice Areas:

1 416 593 2951

mark Agent.

2021 IP webinar organized by the National 

other leading directories. Judith is a 

Special Edition: Litigation, Best Lawyers,

ters Standout Lawyer. Ranked in Lexpert

Judith is a Fellow of the American College 

/ mentoring, including as chair of the 

Canada LLP also engaged in leadership 

Canada’s foremost authorities in infor

Practice Areas: 

–  Life Sciences, Lexpert Special Edition:

–  Canada)

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide 

–  Canada)

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide 

–  Canada)

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide 

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–  Canada)

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide 

–  Canada)

–  Canada)

Leading Individuals

Intellectual Property

(Women in IP Networking Group) which seeks to provide advancement, career 

and networking opportunities for Canadian women in IP.

ROBINSON, Judith M

Fineberg Ramamoorthy, Toronto 
+1 416 912 9843
judith@fineberg.legal

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Judith focuses on IP litigation and related strategic advice. She has appeared before the courts in a varie-

ty of matters, including cases pursuant to the Patented Medicines (Notice of Com-

Right) Regulations, patent infringement and related litigation, and cases involving 

litigation and infringement. Also acted on the

medicines industry and has deep knowledge and perspective on pharmaceutical patents.

He has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada, Federal Court of Canada, Federal Court of Appeal, Director of

Court of Justice and Court of Appeal for Ontario, as well as specialized tribunals 
such as the Trademarks Opposition Board and the Patented Medicine Prices Review 

Board. Andy is very active in the legal, 

community and is a well-known speaker, 
teacher and author in Canada.

SKODYN, Andrew

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto 
416-863-4029
andrewskodyn@blakes.com

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Andrew’s practice is focused on intellectual property and commercial litigation. As an IP litigator, 

Andrew is best known for his tenacious 

approach to patent and trademark litigation in the life sciences and information 

technology areas. His commercial litigation 

experience spans complex commer-

cial disputes, class actions and product 

liability defence. Across his diverse 

litigation practice, Andrew has conducted numerous significant and precedent-setting 

trials, applications and appeals. He 

has represented clients in a wide range of 

industries, from pharmaceuticals and 

life sciences to technology and financial services. He has also represented clients before the Ontario Court, Federal Court of 

Appeal and the Federal Court of Canada.

SOOKMAN, Barry

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto 
416 601 7949 
bsookman@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Barry is a leading IP lawyer in the life sciences industries, and advises pharmaceutical clients 

in patent actions involving the medicine 

protection of their intellectual property 

portfolios. Barry represents clients before the Federal Court, the Federal Court of Appeal and 

the Ontario Court. Recent cases include successful representation in Merck in 

patent actions in relation to a proposed generic version of JANUVIA(R), and representing Bristol-Myers Squibb in 

patent actions involving the medicine 

ELIQUIS(R).


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Law Society of Upper Canada.

TILAK, Jaclyn

Goodmans LLP, Toronto 
416-994-0953 
btilak@goodmans.ca

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Associate in the Dispute Resolution Group. Practice focuses on commercial litigation, with an emphasis on intellectual property disputes. Counsell on cases involving the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regula-

tions, and patent validity and infringement. 

Jaclyn has appeared before the Federal 

Court and the Federal Court of Appeal.

CAREER: Recognized as a “Rising Star” in the area of Intellectual Property by The Legal 500 Canada.

Professional Memberships: 

Law Society of Ontario The Advocates’ Society Ontario Bar Association Intellectual Property Owners Association and the 

American Bar Association.

SOOKMAN, Barry

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto 
416 601 7949 
bsookman@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Barry is a leading IP lawyer in the life sciences industries, and advises pharmaceutical clients 

in patent actions involving the medicine 

protection of their intellectual property 

portfolios. Barry represents clients before the Federal Court, the Federal Court of Appeal and 

the Ontario Court. Recent cases include successful representation in Merck in 

patent actions in relation to a proposed generic version of JANUVIA(R), and representing Bristol-Myers Squibb in 

patent actions involving the medicine 

ELIQUIS(R).


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Law Society of Upper Canada.

TILAK, Jaclyn

Goodmans LLP, Toronto 
416-994-0953 
btilak@goodmans.ca

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Associate in the Dispute Resolution Group. Practice focuses on commercial litigation, with an emphasis on intellectual property disputes. Counsell on cases involving the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regula-

tions, and patent validity and infringement. 

Jaclyn has appeared before the Federal 

Court and the Federal Court of Appeal.

CAREER: Recognized as a “Rising Star” in the area of Intellectual Property by The Legal 500 Canada.

Professional Memberships: 

Law Society of Ontario The Advocates’ Society Ontario Bar Association Intellectual Property Owners Association and the 

American Bar Association.

SOOKMAN, Barry

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto 
416 601 7949 
bsookman@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Barry is a leading IP lawyer in the life sciences industries, and advises pharmaceutical clients 

in patent actions involving the medicine 

protection of their intellectual property 

portfolios. Barry represents clients before the Federal Court, the Federal Court of Appeal and 

the Ontario Court. Recent cases include successful representation in Merck in 

patent actions in relation to a proposed generic version of JANUVIA(R), and representing Bristol-Myers Squibb in 

patent actions involving the medicine 

ELIQUIS(R).


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Law Society of Upper Canada.

TILAK, Jaclyn

Goodmans LLP, Toronto 
416-994-0953 
btilak@goodmans.ca

Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Associate in the Dispute Resolution Group. Practice focuses on commercial litigation, with an emphasis on intellectual property disputes. Counsell on cases involving the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regula-

tions, and patent validity and infringement. 

Jaclyn has appeared before the Federal 

Court and the Federal Court of Appeal.

CAREER: Recognized as a “Rising Star” in the area of Intellectual Property by The Legal 500 Canada.

Professional Memberships: 

Law Society of Ontario The Advocates’ Society Ontario Bar Association Intellectual Property Owners Association and the 

American Bar Association.
actions. Lillian has appeared as counsel before the Federal Court and Federal Court of Appeal.

Career: Prior to joining the firm, Lillian received her law degrees from the University of Windsor and the University of Detroit Mercy after completing the Canadian & American Dual J.D. program. She obtained her Honours Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Victoria. While attending law school, Lillian served on the Students’ Law Society as the elected Dual J.D. Representative to Faculty Council and she represented Windsor Law at the Canadian intellectual property law moot, the Harold G. Fox Moot Competition.

WHITE, Donna G
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Ottawa
+1 613 787 1061
dwhite@osler.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Donna is the Managing Partner of Osler’s Ottawa office. Donna has over twenty-five years of trademark law experience and represents clients in the technology, fashion, pharmaceutical, consumer products, financial services, entertainment and manufacturing sectors. Her practice encompasses trademark prosecution, portfolio counselling, licensing, Internet and domain name issues. Donna regularly represents clients in proceedings before the Trademark Opposition Board and provides advice in contentious matters.

Career: Donna is on the Editorial Board of the Internet Law & Business. She is also former Chair of the Trade-mark Agents Board of Examiners and was a member for many years of the Editorial Board of the Canadian Patent Reporter. She is author of Selecting and Protecting Trade-marks: A Practice Guide and has spoken extensively on international and domestic trade-mark protection at many conferences and seminars.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Committee Member; Intellectual Property Institute of Canada, Committee Chair; International Trademark Association, Committee Member; Registered Trade-mark Agent.

Publications: Major changes to Canadian trademark law and practice coming into force June 17, 2019 — Are you ready? Mar 14, 2019; Privilege for patent and trademark agents now in force in Canada

Personal: Ontario, 1984 University of Ottawa, LL.M. University of Ottawa, LL.B. Carleton University, B.A.

WHITE, J Bradley
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Ottawa
613.787.1101
bwhite@osler.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Brad practises complex patent litigation, including pharmaceutical proceedings under PM(NOC) Regulations. He provides strategic advice on the enforcement of patent rights and coordination and management of litigation strategies throughout multiple jurisdictions. He has appeared as lead counsel before the Federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court, Ontario Superior Court and as worldwide coordinating litigation and IP counsel before the European Patent Office and the US International Trade Commission. A Registered Patent Agent, Brad specialises in Canadian and foreign patent and industrial design prosecution, strategic IP portfolio reviews, patentability, patent infringement and validity opinions, worldwide patent portfolio management and enforcement advice. Key clients include Teva Canada, Mylan Pharmaceuticals, Samsung Bioepis and Pharmascience Inc.


WIEBE, Justine
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6007
jwiebe@blg.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Justine is a Partner, Lawyer & Trademark Agent, and Regional IP Group Leader. Guides clients in the clearance, protection, licensing, and enforcement of trademarks, and has extensive experience with non-traditional and pharmaceutical marks and the management of international portfolios. Has significant transactional experience, providing strategic analysis of the strength and expansion potential of key brands owned by target companies. Lauded for her exemplary client service, and consistently recognized as a leading Canadian trademark lawyer in international rankings.

Career: Ontario Bar, 1994; LLB, Queen’s University, 1992.

Professional Memberships: Fellow, IPIC; Member: INTA, MARQUES, ECTA, AIPPL, and IPO.

WILSON, Christopher S.
Norton Rose Fullbright, Vancouver
+1 604.641.4841
chris.wilson@nortonrosefulbright.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Chris Wilson acts as lead counsel in Canadian trademark, copyright, patent and trade secrets litigation, at trial and on appeal. His cases include precedent-setting decisions dealing with topics such as Internet keyword advertis- ing and domain names, the constitution- ality of Canada’s official marks regime, contempt for violation of an intellectual property injunction, and one of the largest monetary judgments for breach of confi- dence in Canadian history. In his practice, Chris manages the intellectual property needs of multinational and local clients across numerous industries, including alcoholic beverages, software and video games, consumer products, traditional and e-commerce retailers, public authorities and regulatory bodies, financial services, natural resources, and many others. His practice focuses on enforcement and disputes, including trademark actions and appeals from the Trademarks Opposition Board, patent infringement and ownership disputes, software disputes, copyright and industrial designs, parallel imports (grey marketing), and all manner of issues relating to the Internet, including dealing with defamatory statements and conduct on the Internet and social media.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

International Trade/WTO
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

International Trade/WTO Nationwide

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Leading Firms</th>
<th>Leading Individuals</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Band 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bennett Jones LLP</td>
<td>Bedard Benjamin P.</td>
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<td>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</td>
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<td>Cassidy Levy Kent LLP</td>
<td>Burns Paul</td>
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<td>Conlin Bedar LLP</td>
<td>Cochlín Christopher</td>
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<td>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</td>
<td>Conlin Paul D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tereposky &amp; DeRose LLP</td>
<td>Goldman Jesse L.</td>
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<td>Baker McKenzie</td>
<td>Kent Christopher</td>
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<td>Dentons Canada LLP</td>
<td>Pearson Darrel H.</td>
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<td>Fasken</td>
<td>Soosow Clifford</td>
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<td>McMillan LLP</td>
<td>Tereposky Greg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norton Rose Fullbrig</td>
<td>Band 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Indicates individual with profile.</td>
<td>Bazan Victoria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.</td>
<td>Harrison Martha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</td>
<td>Kanargelidis Greg</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kirby Peter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kronby Matthew</td>
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<td>Lalande Paul M.</td>
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<td>Wagner Wendy J.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>George Reid</td>
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</tbody>
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**Band 2**

- Bandali Sabrina A. Bennet Jones LLP
- DelRose Vincent Tereposky & DeRose LLP
- Hohnstein Daniel Tereposky & DeRose LLP
- Lanouette Andrew Cassidy Levy Kent LLP
- Massé Martin Norton Rose Fullbright
- O’Hara Jonathan McMillan LLP
- Somers Greg Law Office of Greg Somers (ORL)

**Band 3**

- Caicci Brian Baker McKenzie
- Horwitz Jessica Bennett Jones LLP
- Hughes Valerie Bennett Jones LLP
- LaFortune Gordon Woods LaFortune LLP (ORL)
- Mclaren-Caux Marc Cassidy Levy Kent LLP
- Oakley Anne-Marie Conlin Bedar LLP
- Reid George Bennett Jones LLP
- Shonier Jean-Guillaume Stikeman Elliott LLP (ORL)
- Swick Brenda Cassidy Brock & Blackwell LLP (ORL)
- Terry John A. Torsy LLP (ORL)

**Up-and-coming individuals**

- Francis Carmen McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Glasgow Robert McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Mike Michael Cassidy Levy Kent LLP

**Band 1**

- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
- Cassedy Levy Kent LLP
- Conlin Bedar LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Milne Miller LLP
- Norton Rose Fullbright
- Oatway Oatway Oatway Oatway
- Somers Greg Law Office of Greg Somers

**Band 2**

- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
- Cassedy Levy Kent LLP
- Conlin Bedar LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Milne Miller LLP
- Norton Rose Fullbright
- Oatway Oatway Oatway Oatway
- Somers Greg Law Office of Greg Somers

**Band 3**

- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
- Cassedy Levy Kent LLP
- Conlin Bedar LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Milne Miller LLP
- Norton Rose Fullbright
- Oatway Oatway Oatway Oatway
- Somers Greg Law Office of Greg Somers

**Band 4**

- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
- Cassedy Levy Kent LLP
- Conlin Bedar LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Milne Miller LLP
- Norton Rose Fullbright
- Oatway Oatway Oatway Oatway
- Somers Greg Law Office of Greg Somers

**Notable practitioners**

- Darrel Pearson
- Jessica Horwitz
- George Reid
- Sabrina Somers

**Contents:**

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- Toronto-based Jesse Goldman led the Borden Ladner Gervais team that represented CIE Manufacturing, the world’s largest producer of commercial transportation equipment for modal and intermodal container shipping, in a major Canadian trade remedy investigation and related proceedings.

- Toronto-based Jesse Goldman (see p.243) wins recognition as a prominent and well-regarded trade law expert with particularly notable expertise in trade remedies and dispute. His experience includes representing a large number of foreign steel producers before the CITT. “His work is very solid, he is knowledgeable and he knows everything about subsidies in Canada.” Matthew Kronby (see p.243) is a very well-respected WTO and treats experts based in technical aspects, is very pragmatic and knows how to keep things simple and efficient.” “Sabrina provides an excellent level of service in a very short time frame.”

- Jessica Horwitz maintains a diverse international trade practice out of Toronto, with work ranging from trade policy advice, representation and trade remedies to customs compliance and cross-border M&A. “Jessica provides outstanding guidance on complex issues.” “She is very thorough and detailed in navigating issues.” Valerie Hughes is a household name in the Canadian market as a WTO expert, having served on the organisation’s Appellate Body as well as representing the Canadian government before various WTO panels. She serves as senior counsel in the firm’s Ottawa office. “Valerie has deep knowledge, and she is responsive and clear with her advice.”

- George Reid is recognised for his growing reputation in the field of international trade law, with significant expertise in trade policy and international agreements. He is based in Toronto. “George is extremely strong and customer-centric.”
Toronto. His notable practice includes trade remedy investigations and compliance. “Matthew has a strong background in the commercial realities of our industry as well as very strong knowledge of the relevant trade law and processes.”

Cassidy Levy Kent LLP

What the team is known for

Cassidy Levy Kent (CLK) is an acclaimed boutique law firm that is renowned for its activity in the trade remedies space. The Ottawa-based team advises on anti-dumping, countervailing duty and export controls across a number of key industries, including steel and manufacturing, as well as the food and dairy production sectors. Its lawyers offer additional expertise in NAFTA and other trade agreements as well as economic sanctions. CLK’s particular strength lies in advising on US-Canada cross-border matters with the benefit of its Washington, DC office.

Strengths “Cassidy Levy Kent has a strong team that is well connected and committed.”

“The team understands the complexities of Canada’s trade law system and develops strategies accordingly.”

“They have strong awareness of commercial realities and are practical and realistic.”

Work highlights Cassidy Levy Kent acted as lead counsel to the complainant, Restwell Mattress Co., in the first ever anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of mattresses from China.

Notable practitioners

Christopher Cochlin is a prominent trade lawyer who is recognised for his representation of leading North American producers in petitions to the CITT as well as advising on trade policy reform. He has particularly distinguished himself in his representation of Canadian steel industry clients. He is also active in the chemical products sector. “Christopher has in-depth knowledge of the crossroad between international trade and politics which is very valuable in a trade dispute.”

Lead trade lawyer Christopher Kent is considered an eminent figure in the Canadian trade Bar, and is particularly respected for his deep expertise in trade policy, including regulation and disputes. His significant client base spans industries including agricultural products, consumer products and energy. Andrew Lanoette is an increasingly well-regarded Ottawa-based lawyer who wins recognition for his representation of clients in anti-dumping and countervailing duty proceedings. “Andrew is very diligent and a very good communicator.”

Marc McLaren-Caux represents clients in trade remedy and injury investigations before the CITT. He is also well regarded for his understanding of government contracting and public procurement. He is based in Ottawa. “Marc has very strong technical knowledge.”

Ottawa-based Michael Milne has a strong practice, especially with anti-dumping investigations and has numerous appearances before the CITT. “Michael is very thorough and has strong commercial knowledge.”

“He is very responsive and has a good head for the nuts and bolts of export control law.”

Band 2

Conlin Bedard LLP

What the team is known for

Conlin Bedard is a distinguished international trade boutique, sought after for its in-depth expertise in trade remedies. The Ottawa-headquartered firm is well known for its knowledge and experience in anti-dumping, countervailing duty and export controls. Conlin Bedard is particularly active for its representation of clients in anti-dumping and countervailing duty proceedings.

Strengths “Conlin Bedard is a very diligent and a very good communicator.”

“McCarthy Tétrault provide advice in a business-friendly manner.”

“The firm is able to advise on complex matters.”

Work highlights Conlin Bedard represented Algoma Steel, ArcelorMittal Dofasco and Stelco in the expiry review of a finding of anti-dumping/countervailing duty, in respect of hot-rolled steel sheet from Brazil, China, India and Ukraine.

Notable practitioners

Ottawa-based Benjamin Bedard is a leading lawyer in the trade remedies field, with an impressive track record representing clients before the CITT. His prestigious client list features various prominent global names in the steel production industry. “Benjamin provides excellent service and advice.”

Paul Conlin continues to be widely recognised as an authority in trade policy and disputes, acting for an excellent portfolio of essential domestic producers and exporters. He is based in Ottawa and has an excellent track record in dealing with cross-border mandates. Anne-Marie Owatay has represented major names from across the Canadian manufacturing sector in trade investigations before the CITT. She has played a significant role in recent government reviews of trade policy and the steel industry. “Anne-Marie really knows her stuff and is a very good and successful lawyer.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for

McCarthy Tétrault offers wide-ranging expertise in the international trade arena. Frequently identified for its impressive sanctions practice, the firm also recognizes that it is crucial for its clients to maintain their reputation in the market. McCarthy Tétrault also advises on anti-corruption compliance and enforcement. It has been engaged by a number of major clients in the engineering and natural resources industries for representation before both the CBSA and CITT in anti-dumping and countervailing duty cases, and has provided additional industry expertise in the financial services and food sectors.

Strengths “They are responsible and practical in their advice.”

“This firm consistently meets service expectations and provides timely, informative information that assists in resolving issues.”

McCarthy Tétrault provide advice in a business-friendly manner.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised Irving Shipbuilding on contracts with the Canadian government and on the importation of high-value equipment and vessels.

Notable practitioners

John Boscardin (see p.243) leads the firm’s international trade and investment department from Toronto. He is very highly rated for his expertise in sanctions, export controls and anti-corruption compliance. “John is an extremely knowledgeable individual, he always provides good advice and gets positive results.”

Stephanie offers strong service and support.”

law and how it is applied. He gives practical and efficient responses.”

“Carmen has an incredible level of knowledge and explains complex interpretations in a straightforward manner.”

“Tereposky & DeRose has strong collaboration, with in-depth knowledge in various topics in the team.”

“The team has a very competent understanding of commercial implications of international trade issues.”

“They have the ability to provide advice across the full range of legal, procedural and policy matters at issue.”

Work highlights Tereposky & DeRose acted for ILJIN Electric in an anti-dumping investigation conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency concerning small power transformers from Austria, Taiwan, and South Korea.

Notable practitioners

Greg Tereposky is regarded as a pre-eminent practitioner and is famed for his understanding of trade policy and the WTO. Throughout his distinguished career he has represented a myriad of impressive clients, from domestic producers and trade associations to foreign governments. “Very knowledgeable on anti-dumping cases and the steel industry.”

“Vincent DeRose has broad experience covering sanctions, export controls and trade remedies, as well as a particularly strong reputation advising clients in the defence and security sector. He is also a well-established procurement law expert. “Vincent is highly professional and a very engaging lawyer in your business challenges.”

Stephanie offers strong service and support.”

www.chambers.com

Nationwide International Trade/WTO

What the team is known for

Tereposky & DeRose is a dynamic boutique law firm that offers specialist expertise in a range of international trade law and procurement matters. Typically sought out by both domestic and international clients, the firm advises on economic sanctions, WTO proceedings, trade policy and agreements. The Ottawa-based team enjoys an excellent reputation among domestic producers and government bodies, and has an impressive track record advising foreign governments.

Strengths “Tereposky & DeRose has strong collaboration, with in-depth knowledge in various topics in the team.”

“The team has a very competent understanding of commercial implications of international trade issues.”

“They have the ability to provide advice across the full range of legal, procedural and policy matters at issue.”

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of Woods,

enjoys an excellent

jects." "He does excellent work and provides sophisti

controls and sanctions.

particularly in matters involving trade policy, export

goods.

dumping investigation into certain oil country tubular

Work highlights

of trade law.”

complementary government affairs and public policy

defence sector clients and government entities,

as well as major names in the automotive, aviation,

energy and manufacturing sectors. Clients benefit

from access to the firm’s global network and from its

by a range of trade matters including

and trade remedies, and is increasingly

advising on sanctions and export controls. The

lawyers also assist with anti-corruption compliance

issues and possess notable experience advising

defence sector clients and government entities,

as well as major names in the automotive, aviation,

energy and manufacturing sectors. Clients benefit

from access to the firm’s global network and from its

complementary government affairs and public policy
group.

Strengths “The quality of work is very strong and the

firm keeps up with the constant change and evolution

of trade law.”

Work highlights Dentons represented Trinmark in

the Canadian International Trade Tribunal’s anti-

dumping investigation into certain oil country tubular

goods.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Paul Lalonde enjoys an excellent

reputation in the field of international trade, and is

renowned for his breadth of expertise in the space,

particularly in matters involving trade policy, export

controls and sanctions. “Paul provides very practical

and timely advice. He is efficient at tackling large pro-

jects.” “He does excellent work and provides sophisti-

cated advice.”

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken possesses a

diverse international trade practice, with experience

handling customs, sanctions and export control

issues. The Canadian trade and customs law team

is notably active on contentious matters before the

CITT and CBSA, as well as anti-bribery and corrup-

tion compliance. The firm maintains deep govern-

ment relations expertise, with experience at a broad

range of levels including foreign relations and global

trade policy.

Strengths “The firm is thorough in its knowledge and

efficient in its responses.”

Notable practitioners

Clifford Sosnow (see p.244) leverages an immense

depth of experience, both in government and as a

private practitioner, to assist clients with a range of

trade queries and issues. He is based between the

firm’s Toronto and Ottawa offices. “Cliff ensures we

get the best service and advice on all legal matters.”

Montréal-based Peter Kirby (see p.243) acts on an

array of issues including customs reviews, as well as

providing a significant amount of federal and provin-

cial trade compliance advice. “Peter is an excellent

practitioner.”

McMillan LLP

What the team is known for McMillan is highly

regarded for its longstanding trade remedies prac-

tice. The firm’s international trade group also assists

domestic and international companies with anti-cor-

ruption, customs and WTO matters and advises on

trade issues arising in the context of M&A, such as

compliance. Its expertise straddles a wide range of

sectors including technology, manufacturing and

natural resources, and its lawyers continue to play

a active role in governmental trade policy review.

Strengths “The firm’s service was excellent and

timely, and the quality of the work was very good.”

“The firm showed good judgement and gave sound

practical advice.”

McMillan lawyers have a strong understanding in

their field of expertise and are fast and reliable.”

“The team have a very good awareness of what is

occurring in the market.”

Work highlights Jonathan O’Hara led the McMillan

team that represented Max Alicher North America on

two separate anti-dumping cases.

Notable practitioners

Jonathan O’Hara (see p.244) is rated highly by peers as

both an expert in trade policy and an advocate in

trade disputes, playing a key role in several major

cases conducted by the CITT and CBSA. He is based

in Ottawa. “Jonathan is very responsive and knowl-

dgeable.” “Jonathan has an outstanding legal mind

and is an excellent lawyer.”

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright

is an international firm with a busy Ottawa-based

international trade group. The team offers notable

experience of trade remedy law, economic sanctions

and anti-corruption investigations, as well as expert-

ise in other areas. The firm is well placed to advise

both international and Canadian clients across var-

ious sectors, including construction and engineering.

Work highlights Richard Wagner led the Norton Rose

Fulbright team that advised and represented Costco

in connection with an anti-dumping duty investiga-

tion into upholstered domestic seating imported

from China and Vietnam.

Notable practitioners

Ottawa-based Martin Masse (see p.244) wins

respect for his significant prowess in regulatory com-

pliance across a number of areas, particularly trade,

procurement and foreign investment. “Martin is very

knowledgeable and gets the right results quickly.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Toronto-based Victoria Bazan of Victoria Bazan,

Barrister & Solicitor impresses for her solid track

record in international trade inquiries and disputes,

with considerable experience representing foreign

producers before the CITT and CBSA. “Victoria has

always done an extremely good job for her clients.”

Greg Kanargelidis (see p.243) of Kanargelidis Global

Trade & Customs Law is distinguished for his broad

practice in international trade, with standout expert-

ise in customs audits and investigations. “Greg has

good experience and a good breadth of knowledge.”

“Greg is very good with clients, very practical and bright.”

Ottawa-based Gordon LaFortune of Woods, LaFortune LLP holds significant advocacy experi-

ence, representing clients under an array of interna-

tional agreements including USMCA and GATT.

Montréal-based Jean-Guillaume Shooner (see p.244) of Stikeman Elliott LLP is recognised for his
dual expertise in trade and tax law, assisting with

issues ranging from CITT submissions to Customs

Act compliance and indirect tax. “Jean-Guillaume

understands our needs and is aware of the importance

of the questions for our business.” “His experience

helps formulate strong strategy and his patience and

persistence are well balanced.”

Greg Somers of Law Office of Greg Somers is a

well-established authority on international trade,

with a particularly strong reputation in the areas of

customs, tariff classification and indirect tax. He is

based in Toronto.

Brenda Swick (see p.339) of Cassels Brock & Black-

well LLP provides sanctions and export controls

compliance advice, as well as strong competency in

trade disputes. She is based in the firm’s Toronto

corporate office.

Toronto-based John Terry (see p.28) of Torys LLP is

highly regarded for his practice emphasis on alterna-

tive dispute resolution, playing a prominent role in a

range of investor-state arbitration proceedings. “John

has a highly competent legal mind.” “John Terry is a

masterful practitioner who is very skilled.”

Wendy Wagner of Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP has

broad international trade expertise that includes a

strong knowledge of Canadian customs and duties

law and trade compliance mandates, as well as expe-

rience representing clients before the CITT. She is

based in Ottawa. “Wendy is fantastic and very strong.

She is of particular value for the trade community.”
BOSCARILLO, John
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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Acts for a wide range of clients on investigations, enforcement, disputes and compliance in respect of anti-corruption law and policy, business integrity laws, economic sanctions, export and technology transfer controls, defence trade controls, import controls, national security measures, customs and tariffs, and compliance matters. With his experience in the provision of goods and services across international borders, Carmen’s practice provides advice to clients in the public and private sectors regarding the application of Canadian trade and customs law. His expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment. Carmen’s practice provides advice to clients in the public and private sectors regarding the application of Canadian trade and customs law. His expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.

Career: Carmen’s practice provides advice to clients in the public and private sectors regarding the application of Canadian trade and customs law. His expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.

Professional Memberships: Carmen is a member of the CITT Advisory Committee of the ABA’s International Law and Trade Section, Co-Chair, Customs Law Committee of the CBA’s Commodity Tax, Customs, and Trade Section, Chair, OBA’s International Law Section; and board member, IE Canada. Carmen is a member of the CITT Advisory Committee of the CBA’s BICC Trade Compliance and Recourse Subcommittee.

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Practice Areas: Acts for a wide range of clients on investigations, enforcement, disputes and compliance in respect of anti-corruption law and policy, business integrity laws, economic sanctions, export and technology transfer controls, defence trade controls, import controls, national security measures, customs and tariffs, and compliance matters. With his experience in the provision of goods and services across international borders, Carmen’s practice provides advice to clients in the public and private sectors regarding the application of Canadian trade and customs law. His expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.

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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Robert is recognized for his strategic, proactive approach. Robert regularly provides advice to clients in the public and private sectors regarding the application of Canadian trade and customs law and compliance matters. His expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.

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GOLDMAN, Jesse I
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6173
jjgoldman@blg.com
Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: International trade and investment. Represents clients in trade remedies, WTO and anti-dumping and countervailing duty proceedings. Provides advice on the international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.

Career: Jesse Goldman is a partner in BLO’s International Trade Group. He has over 20 years’ experience in all areas of customs law including tariff classification, valuation, rules of origin, marking rules, seizures, administrative monetary penalties, and voluntary disclosures. He also assists clients with respect to planning, compliance, and appeals involving GST/HST, excise levies, and other commodity taxes. Jesse has served as Chair, OBA’s Commodity Tax, Customs, and Trade Section, and Co-Chair, Customs Law Committee of the CBA. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the OBA International Law Section, Chair, OBA’s International Law Section; and board member, IE Canada. Jesse is a member of the CITT Advisory Committee of the CBA’s BICC Trade Compliance and Recourse Subcommittee.

KIRBY, Peter
Fasken, Montréal
+1 514-397-4385
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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Peter E. Kirby provides counsel on all aspects of cross-border trade. He advises on regulatory compliance, government procurement, and trade remedies such as anti-dumping and countervailing duty actions. His practice extends to international commercial arbitration and investor-state arbitration, customs law, and export and import controls. Appearing before governmental and administrative agencies and the Federal Court, Peter also represents clients in all stages of trade remedy disputes, and in respect to cross-border trade issues, import and export controls, trade facilitation and advising, foreign investment. Has participated in all stages of trade remedy disputes before the Canada Border Services Agency and the Canadian International Trade Tribunal, including inquiries, expert reviews, as well as China-specific and global safeguards. Acted for investors in numerous investor-state arbitrations. Regarded for his work regarding foreign investment, particularly in international and domestic requirements regarding product and supply chain regulation, and key strategies for accessing and compliance and coping opportunities in regulated markets. Expertise in special trade law. Participated in The Legal 500, The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, Expert Guides, Who’s Who in Canada and Lexpert. He has also assisted public and private sector clients on investor-state arbitration disputes. He has over 25 years’ experience in all areas of customs law including tariff classification, valuation, rules of origin, marking rules, seizures, administrative monetary penalties, and voluntary disclosures. He also assists clients with respect to planning, compliance, and appeals involving GST/HST, excise levies, and other commodity taxes. Jesse has served as Chair, OBA’s Commodity Tax, Customs, and Trade Section, and Co-Chair, Customs Law Committee of the CBA. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the OBA International Law Section, Chair, OBA’s International Law Section; and board member, IE Canada. Jesse is a member of the CITT Advisory Committee of the CBA’s BICC Trade Compliance and Recourse Subcommittee.

KRONBY, Matthew
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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Matthew is a partner in BLO’s International Trade Group. His practice focuses on cross-border compliance and dispute resolution under the WTO and other trade agreements, and trade remedies such as anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations.

Career: Matthew is a partner in BLO’s International Trade Group. His practice focuses on cross-border compliance and dispute resolution under the WTO and other trade agreements, and trade remedies such as anti-dumping and countervailing duty investigations.

Kurbanova, Olga
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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Olga’s practice is focused on providing advice to clients on all aspects of international trade law. Her expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.

Career: Olga’s practice is focused on providing advice to clients on all aspects of international trade law. Her expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.

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Career: Olga’s practice is focused on providing advice to clients on all aspects of international trade law. Her expertise includes advising on the complex international trade laws and regulations that govern international trade and investment.
OYAR, Jonathan
McMillan LLP, Ottawa
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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jonathan is an experienced and effective international trade practitioner. His expertise is often called upon in trade disputes, CBSA audits, large M&As and daily operations. Clients value Jonathan’s help navigating the complex aspects of Canada’s trade regime, including trade remedies, import/export controls, sanctions, tariffs and all manner of trade compliance issues. Jonathan has appeared in dozens of cases before the Canadian International Trade Tribunal, including on anti-dumping/countervail, customs and government procurement matters. Jonathan has challenged and defended numerous trade-related government and administrative tribunal actions through judicial review in the Federal Courts.

SHOONER, Jean-Guillaume
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada), Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jean-Guillaume Shooner is a partner in the Tax Group. He specializes in commodity taxation (including Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax, Quebec Sales Tax and provincial sales taxes), customs, import/export controls, excise taxes, fuel taxes and various international trade issues. Jean-Guillaume acts for major Canadian and multinational corporations and provides strategic advice in the areas of international trade, customs, Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax, sales tax, dispute settlement and regulatory matters. Jean-Guillaume also advises on CUSMA (USMCA) compliance, valuation issues and tariff classification. He has expertise with respect to import and export license requirements for controlled nuclear substances under the Nuclear Non-proliferation Import and Export Control Regulations. Jean-Guillaume’s commodity taxation and customs matters expertise are also recognized by the legal industry’s most prominent directories, including Chambers, Lexpert and The Legal 500.

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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Cliff Sosnow is co-Chair of Fasken’s International Trade and Investment Group. He is an internationally recognized trade, investment and anti-bribery law advisor, strategist and advocate. He is ranked among the best of the best, a leading trade law practitioner and at the highest level of expertise by Canadian and international directories on anti-bribery law, export/import licensing compliance, national security reviews, controlled goods requirements and audits, economic sanctions, Cuba blocking law, dumping/countervail investigations and customs issues.

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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada), Public Procurement (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Projects & Construction for profile.

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Featured in International Trade (Nationwide – Canada), Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Arbitration & Mediation for profile.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Investment Funds
Investment Funds Nationwide

How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Investment Funds

Investment Funds: Fund Formation

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- Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Band 3
- Goodmans LLP
- Fasken
- Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Investment Funds: Fund Formation

Leading Individuals

Band 1
- Barry Patrick
- Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
- Kozisie Cameron
- Torys LLP
- Mathew David J, Goodmans LLP

Band 2
- Aziz Andrew W, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Black John A, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Elliott Jeffrey, Stikeman Elliott LLP
- Gottfried Shannon, Torys LLP
- Jamison Brooke, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Band 3
- Baron Timothy A, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
- Foster Garth, Fasken
- Hartle Kim, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- JamesAlan, Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
- Kurek, Joshua, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Up-and-coming individuals
- McCullough Jonathan, Bennett Jones LLP
- Matthieu Lamontagne, McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- McCullough Jonathan, Bennett Jones LLP
- Becker Jamie, McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Knutel, Robert, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Associates to watch
- Elharrar, Sarah, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

REITs

Leading Firms

Band 1
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Torys LLP
- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Band 2
- Stikeman Elliott LLP
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Band 3
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Emerging Practitioners

Eminent Practitioners

Notable practitioners
Will Fung (see p.251)’s practice sees him represent underwriters, agents and REITs in numerous high-value financing and offerings. **Strengths:** “He’s one of the go-to people in real estate and capital markets in Canada, he is an expert in his field.” “Will is excellent to work with. He is considered one of the best Canadian REIT securities lawyers based on his level of sophistication, client-first attitude and pragmatism.”

Toronto-based Jeff Glass (see p.251) has a strong reputation in the investment funds field. His recent work includes advising CI Investments on the IPO of its first cryptocurrency fund. **Strengths:** “Jeff is very responsive and very much has the pulse of the industry.” “He is a tremendous securities lawyer.”

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
What the team is known for for Blake, Cassels & Graydon operates a wide-ranging investment funds practice with notable expertise in ETFs, closed-end and mutual funds. The investment products and asset management team is also noted for advising sponsors on launching Canadian SPACs. Its lawyers represent asset managers, established financial institutions and overseas banks. The group demonstrates significant experience in structuring domestic and cross-border funds, offering additional guidance on the capital markets and tax aspects of fund matters.

**Strengths:**
- “They are a go-to firm for complex legal advice. They are extremely responsive and capable of a quick turn-round of work when required.”
- “They are thorough and exceptionally good at getting resolutions for their clients.”
- “All of their attorneys are outstanding in all aspects, they are knowledgeable and responsive.”

**Work highlights** A Blakes team led by Jeff Glass provided counsel to Bespoke Acquisition on its qualifying acquisition which involved the acquisition of Vintage Wine Estates, among other matters. A team led by Will Fung and Mike Gans advised WPT Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust on its USD3.1 billion acquisition by Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust.

Notable practitioners
Will Fung (see p.251)’s practice sees him represent underwriters, agents and REITs in numerous high-value financing and offerings. **Strengths:** “He’s one of the go-to people in real estate and capital markets in Canada, he is an expert in his field.” “Will is excellent to work with. He is considered one of the best Canadian REIT securities lawyers based on his level of sophistication, client-first attitude and pragmatism.”

Toronto-based Jeff Glass (see p.251) has a strong reputation in the investment funds field. His recent work includes advising CI Investments on the IPO of its first cryptocurrency fund. **Strengths:** “Jeff is very responsive and very much has the pulse of the industry.” “He is a tremendous securities lawyer.”

Toronto-based Kim Harle (see p.251) has a notable...
funds practice and frequently advises clients on investments, formation of funds and other transactional mandates. Toronto-based Stacy McLean (see p.253) is noted for her representation of clients in a broad range of M&A and securities regulatory matters. She also assists clients with fund-related class action proceedings. Strengths: “Stacy is smart, knowledgeable, confident and incredibly hard-working. She works on many complex issues and provides incredible support, guidance and results.” She continues to provide outstanding service and is very responsive.” Matthew Merkley (see p.253) has a strong track record acting for REITs on capital market transactions, including bought deals and private placements. Strengths: “He is extremely knowledgeable, very technical and hard-working.” “Matthew is extremely intelligent.” Eric Moncik (see p.253) is often engaged by underwriter syndicates to advise on high-value capital markets transactions, including IPOs. Strengths: “Eric is very knowledgeable, he is an asset to any transaction.” “He has great initiative and responsiveness.” Toronto-based Kevin Rusli (see p.252) is especially well regarded for his ETF work. He has notable experience of providing counsel on acquisitions and fund launches. Norbert Knutel (see p.252) has a growing reputation for his fund formation work in the Toronto market. Strengths: “He is a solid lawyer and great to work with.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais operates a market-leading investment funds practice widely praised for its mutual funds expertise and provision of regulatory support. The group also advises on ETFs and open-ended fund matters, acting for a diverse range of clients including banks, dealers and fund managers. It has a strong track record of assisting international investors with debut matters in the Canadian funds market, and maintains an impressive bench of highly experienced practitioners across the key markets of Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver. The team recently acquired AUM Law, a Canadian law firm that focuses on legal and regulatory compliance advice to the asset management industry. Strengths “It’s a very strong team.” “The team has extensive skills in the area of portfolio management, legal and regulatory compliance. They are extremely responsive and good at considering commercial risks.” “They are a powerhouse and strong throughout the country.”

Work highlights A team led by Lynn McGarde advised Ninepoint on the creation and public offering of the Carbon Credit ETF.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Lynn McGarde (see p.253) is frequently sought after for her advice on a variety of fund structures, and receives particular praise for her expertise in mutual funds. Strengths: “Lynn has always provided exceptional service and legal advice.” “She is one of the best of the best, she provides quality advice and she consistently communicates.” “Lynn is exceptional in every regard.” Toronto-based Kathryn Fuller (see p.251) assists fund managers with a broad range of fund-related issues, including funds M&A. Strengths: “Kathryn is brilliant, she is meticulous, organised, calm, knowledgeable, responsive, pleasant and efficient.” “She’s excellent. She is a pleasure to work with, extremely capable and knowledgeable.” Vancouver-based Jason Brooks (see p.250) has a broad investment management practice, with his recent work including noteworthy fund M&A and reorganisation mandates. Strengths: “Jason is excellent.” Toronto-based Rebecca Cowdery (see p.250) is highlighted for her experienced handling of compliance and corporate governance issues. Strengths: “She offers exceptional support with grounded advice and good industry and regulatory knowledge.” “She is very responsive and backed by a very strong group.” Carol Dork (see p.251) is sought after for her experience in the digital assets sphere. She has notable experience of providing counsel on launches and novel fund structures. Toronto-based Prema Thiele (see p.254) advises on an array of fund M&A and regulation issues.

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg operates a highly regarded team acting on fund formation and restructuring mandates, with notable experience representing large buyout and infrastructure funds. The group advises on a wide range of deals, including both mid-market and high-end transactions. The practitioners are also active on real estate and pension fund mandates, in addition to private equity and hedge fund work. The lawyers in Toronto and Montréal regularly work alongside the firm’s New York office to provide advice on cross-border mandates. The team has particular strength acting on the sponsor side of private equity fund formations.

Strengths

“The team has strong analytical abilities and adapts to complex problems. They have excellent client service, they are responsive and their depth of expertise is impressive.” “A full-service firm with deep specialist expertise. They have all specialist areas of expertise and are very service-oriented.” “They are an outstanding and highly diligent team.”

Work highlights A Davies team led by Sarbjit Basra acted for Beringer Capital in the formation of Beringer Capital Fund IV, a private equity fund focused on investments in the media, marketing services, commerce, data and technology sectors.

Notable practitioners

Patrick Barry (see p.250) has a great depth of experience assisting clients with the formation of funds. Based in Toronto, he co-chairs the firm’s private equity, hedge funds and venture capital department. Strengths: “Pat is an awesome partner, he is always available to assist in difficult situations.” Sarbjit Basra (see p.250) serves as the managing partner of the firm in Toronto as well as the co-head of its investment funds practice. Strengths: “Sarb is extremely knowledgeable and responsive.” “He is fantastic.”

Toronto-based Brooke Jamison (see p.252) is well regarded for her understanding of the fund formation space. Strengths: “Brooke is excellent to work with, she has strong analytical abilities, is very helpful in providing market guidance and is very pleasant to work with.” “She is an excellent attorney and she’s extremely knowledgeable about the fund market.”

Timothy Baron (see p.249) is held in high regard in the market. He advises a wide spectrum of clients on a range of matters, including structuring issues and fund launches. Strengths: “Tim is a wonderful lawyer.” "Joshua Kuretzky (see p.252) is a Toronto-based lawyer who regularly assists clients with the formation of private equity funds. Strengths: "Josh has an excellent knowledge and understanding of the market.” “He is very responsive, helpful and knowledgeable.” Sarah Elharrar (see p.251) is a highly regarded associate who regularly assists clients with fund formation mandates. She is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Sarah has an incredible work ethic and delivers a very high-quality product.” “She is very responsive.”

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is an international law firm with a strong presence in both Toronto and Montréal, from where its lawyers advise on investment fund structures and support clients in regulatory and compliance matters. The investment management department is noted for its significant representation of mutual fund managers, as well as ETFs, private equity and closed-end funds. It provides advice on M&A transactions involving investment funds, in addition to matters of corporate governance and fund regulatory work. Strengths “They have a breadth of knowledge that allows them to handle complex and sophisticated matters in a timely manner.” “They never disappoint in the quality of advice and services.” The team has very strong technical knowledge.”

Work highlights A Fasken team led by Jonathan Halwagi assisted Diagram Corporation in establishing the Diagram Opportunity Fund I, a private equity fund with over CAD120 million in commitments.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Anil Aggarwal (see p.249) is highly regarded for the representation of both public and private funds. Toronto-based John Kruk (see p.252) is an experienced lawyer who is well versed in assisting with the management of investment products. He frequently advises clients on mutual fund structures and compliance matters. Strengths: “He provides timely advice and has strong expertise.” “John has extensive knowledge of the space.” Montréal-based François Briais (see p.250) is especially noted for his grasp of fund regulatory issues. He has further experience of providing counsel on complex acquisitions. Toronto-based Garth Foster (see p.251) is highly thought of in the fund formation space, having assisted with numerous private equity and hedge fund launches.

Goodmans LLP

What the team is known for Goodmans is a top-tier Toronto law firm with a compact investment funds practice that is acknowledged for its representation of domestic and cross-border private equity and pension funds. The team wins recognition for its experience in the private equity secondary market and has considerable experience in the structuring and formation of funds. Strengths “The team are highly proficient in REITs, including cross-border REITs. They are also responsive and miss nothing.” “It’s a sophisticated team and they offer a high level of client service.”

Work highlights A Goodmans team led by Jon Feldman represented Blackstone Real Estate Investment Trust in its USD3.1 billion acquisition of WPT Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust. A team led by Brenda Gosselin and David Matlow advised Whitehorse Liquidity Partners on the launch
of Whitehorse Liquidity Partners IV.

Notable practitioners

David Matlow (see p.253) is a Toronto-based lawyer who maintains a longstanding reputation in the fund formation space. Strengths: “David is a great resource on the corporate side.” “He is excellent.”

Trenton-based Stephen Pincus (see p.253) is a well-regarded practitioner with experience advising REITs on a variety of novel matters. Strengths: “He has a wealth of experience and maintains a service-oriented mindset.” “He provides outstanding service and invaluable advice.”

Brenda Gosselin (see p.251) is a Toronto-based lawyer who represents REITs clients in initial public offerings, investment fund launches and fund-raising activities, among other mandates. Strengths: “Brenda is excellent.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is held in high regard for the team’s ability to handle a diverse range of issues, including acquisitions, financings and formations. The practitioners demonstrate notable strength in the infrastructure and real estate space. The group has further experience of providing counsel on matters related to venture capital funds and pension funds, among others.

Strengths

“The firm is very effective in responding to complexity and providing sound advice across a broad range of issues. The team is very strong across a broad range of issues.”

“Their client service is great, they are incredibly responsive.”

“The team’s advice was thoughtful and the level of service was excellent.”

Work highlights

Gowling WLG advised Archange Network of Funds on its formation and first closing of CAD10 million.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Alan James is especially experienced in the formation of infrastructure and venture capital funds. Strengths: “Alan is an invaluable business partner who provides tremendous service.” “He is a wonderful legal professional.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault operates a high-quality investment funds practice with a strong track record of representing clients in connection with closed-end funds. The firm also advises on open-end funds, derivatives and ETF mandates, and supports clients with regulatory and compliance expertise. The lawyers are noted for their strong grasp of the regulations governing Canadian investment funds and demonstrate further expertise in secondary investments and fund formation.

Strengths

“We have great confidence in them. The team have demonstrated depth and breadth and they provide great service.”

“They handle complex negotiations and their responsiveness and diligence has always been excellent.”

“They have a breadth of lawyers with very deep understanding in each of their respective fields. They work well together internally to look at the entire picture for each matter.”

Work highlights

A McCarthy’s team led by Andrew Armstrong acted for CBC Capital Markets in PIMCO Canada’s closing of the initial public offering of PIMCO Tactical Income Opportunities Fund. A team led by Heidi Gordon represented Slate Office REIT in its proposed acquisition of Yew Grove REIT for CAD254.8 million. A team led by Mathieu Laframme, Mathieu LeBlanc and Christian Meighen acted as fund counsel for Power Sustainable Capital in the formation of Power Sustainable Energy Infrastructure Fund.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Armstrong (see p.249) is a Toronto-based lawyer who advises on matters concerning mutual funds and mortgage funds, and is especially highly regarded for his work in closed-end funds. Strengths: “Andrew is excellent, he’s client-friendly and very knowledgeable.” “He provides solid advice on a timely basis.”

Toronto-based Shevawn McGrath (see p.253) frequently assists with fund formation and is particularly notable for her depth of experience in acting for investors. She is also well placed to advise on a range of transactions. Strengths: “Shevawn is fantastic to work with, she goes above and beyond to help clients.” “She is excellent.”

Sean Sadler (see p.253) is particularly notable for his securities regulatory expertise, including in relation to investment funds. He co-heads the firm’s securities regulations and investment products department in Toronto. Strengths: “Sean is a fantastic lawyer, he’s always available and extremely professional.”

Quebec City-based Mathieu Laframme (see p.252) is noted for his experienced handling of private equity and venture capital fund formation. Strengths: “Mathieu is client-oriented and is passionate about his area of expertise, which has led him to develop an excellent vision of the field and extra depth to his practice.” “He’s very knowledgeable and responsive.”

Montréal-based Sonia Struthers (see p.254) is well regarded for her handling of investment management mandates and possesses complementary expertise in derivatives.

Strengths: “She always responds quickly and she’s skilled at getting to the nub of the issue.”

Toronto-based Jamie Becker (see p.250) is increasingly recognised for his abilities in the formation and structuring of private equity funds. Strengths: “He is fantastic, he’s very responsive and knowledgeable on transactions and sponsor fund-raising.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt enjoys a strong presence in the ETF space as well as representing fund managers in formations, launches and downstream transactional work. The investment funds and asset management team advises on significant mutual funds mandates, including assisting with public disclosure, compliance and regulatory filings. It demonstrates considerable expertise in pooled and closed-end funds, and frequently assists clients located in the USA and further afield with their investment activities in Canada, benefiting from its well-established New York office. The firm also regularly acts for pension funds and Canadian banks on domestic and international mandates.

Strengths

“The team provides excellent service and are always very responsive.”

“T hey experience brings valuable perspectives to solutions.”

“Osler is a top firm.”

Work highlights

An Osler team led by John Black provided counsel to Blue Owl Capital on the launch of Owl Rock Core Income Trust, a Canadian access fund managed by Capital ICF.

A team led by Andrew Aziz advised Brompton Funds Limited on eight follow-on public offerings for five of its closed-end funds.

A team led by Alex Gorka assisted H&R REIT in completing its sale of Calgary’s Bow Office Tower to Oak Street Real Estate Capital for CAD1.67 billion.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Aziz (see p.249) is hailed for his long-standing experience in the formation and restructuring of private equity funds. He co-chairs the firm’s investment funds and asset management practice in Toronto. Strengths: “He is knowledgeable, efficient and highly responsive and a pleasure to work with.” “He has exceptional technical knowledge.”

John Black (see p.250) is a Toronto-based lawyer with deep experience in fund launches and regulatory matters, in addition to M&A mandates and securities issuances. Strengths: “He is very good technical lawyer who has a huge wealth of knowledge.” “He has a solid practice.”

Toronto-based Christopher Murray (see p.253) is a highly experienced lawyer who frequently works on behalf of REITs and underwriters on various domestic and cross-border capital markets transactions. Strengths: “Christopher is a highly experienced lawyer who frequently works on behalf of REITs.”

Shawn Cymbalisty (see p.250) is a Toronto-based associate who is noted for his capabilities in matters relating to custodial agreements, ETFs and compliance matters, among others.

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott operates a broad investment funds practice acting for managers, dealers and investors on closed-end funds, mutual funds, hedge funds and real estate funds. The financial products and services group advises on regulatory compliance and transactional matters, including cross-border offerings. It regularly assists Europe-based investors with their Canadian business activities. The firm is also widely praised for its capabilities in fund formation, with notable strengths in both Montréal and Toronto.

Strengths

“They are very professional, responsive and highly skilled. All members of the team have a high level of expertise.”

“They have a strong bench.”

“It’s a highly sophisticated and capable firm.”

Work highlights

A Stikeman team led by Alix d’Anglejan-Chatillon advised Esplanade Ventures on the launch of Esplanade HealthTech Ventures I and Esplanade HealthTech Ventures II.

A team led by Stewart Sutcliffe and Darin Renot acted for Axia Real Assets in connection with its formation, launch as a joint venture with CI Financial and subsequent offering of the Axia U.S. Grocery Net Lease Fund I.

A team led by David Weinberger and Jeff Hershfield provided counsel to Morguard REIT on its offering of CAD150 million aggregate principal amount of 5.25% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Singer (see p.254) has an active practice representing both REITs and underwriters in capital markets transactions. He serves as the managing partner of the firm’s Toronto office. Strengths: “He is an excellent lawyer.”

Alix d’Anglejan-Chatillon (see p.225) is consistently highlighted as one of the leading investment fund lawyers in Montréal. Her wide-ranging experience includes advising on the merger of asset management companies, as well as the ongoing administration of funds and
Leaders’ Profiles in Investment Funds

AGGARWAL, Anil
Fasken, Toronto
+1 416 865 5169
aaggarwal@fasken.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Anil Aggarwal regularly acts as counsel to investment funds, dealers, and managers, where he advises such clients on the manufacturing, structuring, distribution and management of both Canadian private and public and offshore investment vehicles. Anil is frequently enlisted to advise on new fund launch strategy, and has drafted a wide range of material agreements for clients including trust, management, advisory, sub-advisory and distribution agreements. In addition to work with mutual fund acquisitions, mergers and other reorganizations, Anil has filed numerous applications for exemptive relief, and prepared offering documents for both public and private investment funds.

ARMSTRONG, Andrew
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 602 6840
aarmstrong@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Andrew is a partner in the Toronto office. His practice is princi- pally focused on acting for investment managers and underwriters with respect to the establishment of investment products including retail structured products, investment funds, pooled funds, mutual funds and linked notes. Andrew is recognized in the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, PLC Cross Border Capital Markets Best Lawyers in Canada and the Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada. Career: Ontario Bar, 1998.

AZIZ, Andrew W
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 466 8640
azizi@osler.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Andrew’s practice covers many areas of corporate and secu-
rates law, with an emphasis on corporate finance, financial institutions work and investment funds. He has acted for both issuers and underwriters on a variety of corporate finance matters including both public offerings and private placements. He has extensive retail structured products, ETFs and investment fund experience. Andrew also specializes in mergers and acquisitions by financial services firms, and in investment fund mergers and restructurings.

Career: Partner in the firm’s Business Law Department; former member of the firm’s Executive Committee. Recognized as a leading Canadian corporate finance and investment funds specialist.


BARON, Timothy A
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+1 416 863 5539
tbaron@dpv.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Tim specializes in fund formation, asset management and the regulation of investment advisers. He has acted for many of Canada's largest and most sophisticated asset managers and has assisted with the establishment of numerous alternative investment funds, including hedge, credit, real estate, infrastructure, fund of funds and other investment vehicles. Tim is a leading practitioner in setting up complex master-feeder structures and access funds with investors and/or investment assets situated across the globe. In addition, he regularly advises foreign asset managers and others with respect to regulatory and compliance issues. Numerous private funds, corporations and other institutional end-users consult him for strategic advice on derivative transactions, custody and administration arrangements and collateral arrangements. Tim has taught sections of the Advanced Business Law Workshop at Osgoode Hall Law School and regularly speaks and writes on topics related to investment funds, securities regulation and derivatives. Tim is a former executive and legal counsel to the Alternative
BARRY, Patrick
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1 416.367.6917
pberry@dwpv.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises sponsors on their investments in private equity funds, hedge funds and other alternative investments, both through pooled funds and the financial, account structures. Jamie regularly acts for clients on co-investment transactions which involve institutional investors investing in a sponsor’s primary fund. His practice includes a number of secondary transactions to buy or sell LP interests in private equity funds. Jamie also advises Canada’s largest pension funds, including CPP Investments and Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan, on multi-jurisdictional compliance and other aspects of structuring their investments and other activities around the world.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association
Publications: - Open-ended funds: a new way forward for private market funds, 2021 - Co-investments: continuation funds as well as other considerations, 2020
Practice Areas: Private equity investment transactions and secondaries market for liquidity solutions and value enhancement.
BLACK, John A
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 0586
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A senior investment funds regulator with a practice focused on investment management, and securities law, compliance and other aspects of structuring their investments and other activities around the world.
Professional Memberships: - Canadian Bar Association
Publications: - Open-ended funds: a new way forward for private market funds, 2021 - Co-investments: continuation funds as well as other considerations, 2020
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
BROOKS, Jason
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
COWDERY, Rebecca
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
CYNALISTY, Shawn
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
D'ANGELEI-CHATILLON, Alix
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
FOURNIER, François
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
FURNIVAL, John
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
GADDIE, John
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
HOOVER, Linda
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Montréal
(514) 397-3240
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
JAMIE, Ashley
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6340
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Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in connection with the establishment, offering and administration of several investment funds, whether retail mutual funds, commodity pools, pooled funds or hedge funds, investing in all types of asset classes, traditional and alternative, such as infrastructure, private equity, private lending, real estate and, more recently, cryptocurrency.
of industries, including private equity, venture capital, real estate funds, hedge funds and other types of investment vehicles across a broad range of asset classes. She has also been engaged in the formation of a number of Canadian fund structures for Latin American-based sponsors and managers. She also advises on Canadian anti-money laundering and terrorist financing regulation. She regularly advises on regulatory issues relating to the trading of OTC and listed derivatives and on emerging regulatory issues relating to financial markets infrastructure and trading platforms, crypto asset and blockchain technology and transactions, FinTech solutions and other digital financial products and technologies.

DERK, Carol
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A partner and member of BLG’s Capital Markets Group, Carol provides securities law, specializing in digital assets, derivatives, and the development of innovative investment fund products. She advises on a number of leading-edge transactions and matters in the digital asset landscape, including the registration of crypto asset trading platforms, the creation of investment vehicles focused on investments in digital assets and the offering of new digital assets, such as non-fungible tokens. In addition to her digital asset practice, Carol works extensively for managers of investment funds, particularly in the area of product development and derivatives practice, including negotiating documentation, advising on regulatory compliance matters, and developing new derivatives-based investment products. Regularly advises on money market funds and conferences on digital assets, derivatives, and investment funds. Recipient of the Women’s Executive Network (WXN) 2017 Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 25 Award. Recognized as a leader in her field by Derivatives Week. 

Career:

ELHARRAR, Sarah
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Sarah is an associate in Davies’ Corporate practice with a focus on fund formation and mergers & acquisitions. She regularly acts for sponsors of and investors in private equity, venture capital, debt and other closed-end funds and assists clients on a variety of transactions, including private equity and venture capital fund formation, startup financings, mergers & acquisitions and compensation and governance arrangements. She works with clients in a number of industries, including the private equity, venture, and technology sectors. Sarah is an adjunct professor at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, where she teaches Financial Technology Innovation as part of the Global Professional Master of Law program in Innovation, Law and Technology. She is a member of the Young Professionals Committee, a sub-committee of the Canadian Venture Capital & Private Equity Association.

ELLIOTT, Jeffrey
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ejelliott@stikeman.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jeffrey Elliott is a partner in the Financial Products & Services, Capital Markets and Securities Groups. His practice focuses representing domestic and international sponsors and investors on a variety of matters, including structuring, preparing and negotiating the documentation of a broad range of private funds with investment mandates covering private equity, debt, energy, real estate, agribusiness, infrastructure, emerging markets, leveraged buyouts, venture, growth equity, fund of funds and hedge funds. He has also assisted the sponsors in the formation of each of Canada’s institutional funds of search funds and is a leader in this area. Jeffrey also has significant expertise in the area of securities law, with an emphasis on investment funds, including structured products, mutual funds and other pooled investments. His clients include investment fund managers, dealers and advisers (both domestic and international), and hedge funds and private investment funds and public institutions.

FOSTER, Garth
Fasken, Toronto
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gfoster@fasken.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Garth Foster’s practice is focused on investment funds, registration and regulatory compliance. He also works with both public and private investment dealers and exchanges, including the regulation of crypto asset trading platforms. He frequently advises on the creation of new funds and associated matters. Garth has also been involved in drafting fund documents, advisory agreements and distribution material. He has drafted numerous applications for exemptive relief, and has been involved in various mutual fund and regulatory acquisitions. Garth also provides ongoing compliance and registration advice to advisers, dealers and investment fund managers, including mock audits.

FULLER, Kathryn
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6731
kfuller@blg.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Kathryn’s practice focuses on the asset management industry. She is recognized for her expertise in advising Canadian investment fund managers, dealers and advisers on legal issues relating to the establishment and administration of public and private investment funds in Canada and offshore, as well as advising international managers and advisers on offering and advising investment funds in Canada. She acts for industry participants on registrant regulation and compliance matters, including conflict of interest issues. She also advises on M&A matters in the asset management industry.

Career:
Ontario Bar, 2001. LLB, Queen’s University, 1999.

FUNG, Will
Blake, Cassels & Greydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 2356
williamf@Blake.com
Featured in REITs (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Will’s practice focuses on corporate finance deals for issuers, dealers and investors, and public M&A deals for offerors, targets and activists, with expertise in domestic and cross-border REITs and REOCs. His recent significant REIT/REOC experience includes the 2021 spin-out of Primaris REIT by H&R REIT, 2021 privatization of WPT Industrial REIT by Blackstone, Starlight Western Canada Multi-Family (No.2) Fund’s 2021 spin-out in Trinity Residential Inc. (US) REITs, Starlight US Residential Fund’s 2021 IPO, Flagship Communities REIT’s 2020 IPO, as well as follow-on equity. ATM and debt offerings in 2022/21 by BSR REIT, Slate Grocery REIT, True North Commercial REIT, Nexus Industrial REIT, Slate Office REIT, Sienna Senior Living Inc., Minto Apartment REIT and Choice Properties REIT.

Professional Memberships: Will is a member of the Hong Kong Canada Business Association and the American Bar Association.

GLASS, Jeff
Blake, Cassels & Greydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 4162
jeff.glass@blakes.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jeff advises leading investment dealers and senior issuers on public financings and securities regulatory matters. He also founded the Firm’s Investment Products & Asset Management practice. Jeff has been involved in the reformation of the regulations and policies of the Ontario Securities Commission and has assisted the Toronto Stock Exchange in a review of its policies and procedures for the regulation of listed entities.

HARLE, Kim
Blake, Cassels & Greydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 4294
kim.harle@blakes.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Kim’s practice includes a broad range of private equity, pension fund investment, and other transactional work. She has advised Canadian and multinational sponsors in many sectors, including financial services, health services, food and beverage, consumer products and real estate. Kim has significant experience providing advice on private equity investments by institutional investors and on investment funds generally. She regularly advises Canadian’s leading pension funds and other investor clients on their private equity, infrastructure, hedge fund, real estate and other investments, both in Canada and abroad.

HERSHENFIELD, Jeff
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5205
jhershenfield@stikeman.com
Featured in REITs (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jeff Hershensfield is a partner and Co-Head of the Capital Markets and Public Mergers & Acquisitions Group. He has a broad capital markets practice with a focus on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, private equity, corporate governance and securities, as well as general corporate and commercial law matters. Jeff represents sponsors and securities dealers in a wide range of corporate finance transactions, including initial public offerings and other
equity and debt financings (public and private). He has also acted for public and private companies, private equity funds, REITs, financial institutions, investment funds and other capital market companies, boards of directors and special committees in numerous public and private M&A and transactions. He regularly provides advice on cross-border securities offerings and M&A transactions, as well as corporate governance and securities regulatory compliance matters. In addition to his practice, Jeff is a member of the firm’s Students Committee and former Co-Chair of the United Way Committee.

JAMISON, Brooke
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1.416.367.7477
bjamison@dwpv.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Broker is a partner in the Corporate, Capital Markets, Mergers & Acquisitions and Private Equity practices. She is highly regarded for her expertise, judgment and deep knowledge of the market in the fund formation area. Brooke works with a number of prominent fund sponsors and institutional investors within Canada and globally, including in the private equity, venture capital, infrastructure and debt fund contexts. She routinely advises established and startup funds on fundraising activities and secondary transactions including structured and GP-led secondary transactions; carried interest plans and other compensation arrangements; restructuring; and environmental, social and governance matters. Brooke also regularly counsels private equity and venture capital funds on their M&A transactions and investments. Select recognition: Chambers Canada; ILF/R1000; The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; PLC Which Lawyer?.

KNOWLING, Simon
Torys LLP, Toronto
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sknowling@torys.com
Featured in REITs (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A leading corporate and capital markets lawyer with deep industry experience in real estate and REITs, Simon Knowling is trusted for his pragmatic advice and vast domestic and cross-border experience, counselling clients in their offerings, financings and other transactional work. Simon is head of Torys’ REITs practice, with a long track record of advising real estate companies and REITs in all aspects of securities law, commercial transactions and joint ventures/partnerships. He frequently acts for issuers and underwriting syndicates in public and private equity and debt financings involving real estate companies and REITs, including public offerings and REIT-related financings.

Kniest, Transactions, public and private, since Simon has an impressive track record of helping clients grow their operations and expand their footprint, including assisting First Capital REIT in all of its capital markets transactions, public and private, since 2005, Amica Senior Lifestyles Trust on acquisition, financing, development and partnership arrangements relating to multiple portfolios of seniors housing facilities located across Canada; and Auto One Financial Properties REIT on its IPO, multiple public offerings and in many acquisitions.

KNUTEL, Norbert
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 4013
norbert.knutel@blakes.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Norbert provides advice on all facets of securities law, with a focus on public and private funds and other forms of structured products. He has extensive experience in structuring, formation and distribution of both domestic and foreign-domiciled investment funds, including private equity, infrastructure, private debt, real estate, mortgage and crypto funds and other pooled investments. He has played a principal role in the development and growth of one of Canada’s leading acquisition corporation (SPAC) where he has advised various SPACs throughout various stages including with respect to their initial public offerings, the SPAC’s qualifying acquisition transaction as well as fund formation matters for their sponsors. Norbert also provides advice to fund managers and dealers on securities registration, regulatory and compliance matters. Norbert has significant experience in M&A acting both for purchasers and vendors in a wide range of industries including asset management and financial services and regularly acts as counsel to issuers and underwriters in public and private financings.

Professional Memberships: Norbert is a member of the Blakes Investment Products & Asset Management group, is actively engaged in the funds industry including as a member of The Alternative Investment Management Association of Canada.

KOZISKIE, Cameron
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416 865 7684
ckoziiskie@torys.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: One of Canada’s leading funds lawyers with an extensive track record of transactional experience, Cameron brings significant knowledge and skill to support clients across thriving deal activity. Cameron’s practice focuses on corporate and commercial law, with an emphasis on private asset management, private equity, mergers and acquisitions and corporate transactions across various industries, including financial services. In his private asset management practice, Cameron regularly assists clients to establish their asset management programs and platforms. He has deep experience in private equity and private M&A transactions, including investments and exits by private equity funds, pension funds and strategic parties in a wide range of industries. Cameron has also been involved with numerous private equity fund formation transactions, acting regularly for pension plans and other institutional investors in their investments into private equity funds. He is also experienced with shareholder agreements in complex transactions.

KRUK, John
Fasken, Toronto
+1 416 868 3512
jkruk@fasken.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: John Kruck’s practice is focused on investment funds and other private wealth and services offered by investment managers. He advises clients on how to set up, market and restructure these products and services. John assists clients with a wide range of investment products and services, whether intended for retail Canadian investors, institutions or anywhere in between. The products range from conventional mutual funds to sophisticated, unique solutions. John also has expertise with less common arrangement such as hedge funds, mortgage investment corporations and segregated funds. Advising clients on compliance requirements also is a large part of John’s practice. Beyond products, John also assists clients with buying, selling and reorganizing investment management businesses.

KURETZKY, Joshua
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1 416.367.7469
jkuretzky@dwpv.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Josh is a partner in Davies’ Corporate practice with a focus on fund formation and mergers & acquisitions. Josh has extensive experience in fund formation and regularly represents and advises fund sponsors and principals in connection with the establishment and structuring of private equity and private credit vehicles, and other pooled investment vehicles, and with respect to the structuring and implementation of their compensation arrangements and governance. He also advises companies and private equity firms on the acquisition and disposition of private businesses and individual assets in Canada and internationally and on the structuring of joint ventures and shareholder arrangements. He works with clients in a number of industries, including the private fund, mining, industrial and technology sectors. Select Recognition: Chambers Canada; ILFR1000; Lexpert Rising Stars; Leading Lawyers Under 40; Lexpert Special Edition; Mining; The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada.

KWASIEWSKI, Bernard
Torys LLP, Toronto
+00416 865 7390
bkwasiewski@torys.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: With a practice focused on private fund formation and investments, Bernard combines broad experience and market insight to advise clients on all aspects of planning, forming and investing in private equity funds, both domestically and internationally. Bernard advises both sponsors and institutional investors in structuring, negotiating and investing in private equity, venture capital and infrastructure funds, as well as the formation of and investment by funds of funds. Clients he has represented in fund investments include BDC Capital, HarbourVest Partners, Investment Management Corporation of Ontario, Ontario Teachers’ Pension Plan Board, Saskatchewan’s Public Employees Benefit Agency and SunLife. He also advises fund sponsors in all aspects of planning, forming and negotiating their U.S. and Canadian private equity funds. Bernard also regularly advised several Canadian Banks in their investments in private equity funds worldwide. Bernard’s recent work includes acting as lead counsel in the formation of its venture fund of funds under the Government of Canada’s Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative (VCCI) and advising Amplitude Ventures Inc. in the launch of its venture capital franchise and the formation of its life sciences fund. He has also advised several Quebec-based institutional investors under the Government of Canada’s Venture Capital Action Plan and under the new VCCI plan.

LAFLAMME, Mathieu
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Quebec
+1 418-521-3018
mlaflamme@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Mathieu Laflamme is Co-Head of McCarthy Tétrault’s National Private Equity Practice and a partner in the Business Law Group. An accomplished practitioner and trusted advisor for many clients of the firm, Mathieu’s practice focuses on private equity and mergers and acquisitions. Mathieu is highly regarded for his creative, practical advice and deep understanding of market terms for private equity, energy and infrastructure, agriculture, private debt, venture capital, real estate and impact investment funds. He is a key advisor to fund sponsors on all aspects of the fund formation and capital raising process and to governments and other institutional investors in connection with their investments in private funds. He also frequently acts for both corporations and investors in private equity and venture capital transactions. Mathieu is highly involved in the Canadian private equity industry. Notably, he is a member of the Board of directors of Réseau Capital, a member of Réseau Capital’s advisory committee in Quebec City and a member of the Canadian Venture Capital & Private Equity Association’s (CVCA) fund formation model documents committee.

Career: Quebec Bar, 2002.
Professional Memberships: Board member of Réseau Capital Member of the Canadian Venture Capital & Private Equity Association’s (CVCA) fund formation model documents committee

LEIBEL, Robbie
Torys LLP, Toronto
rleibel@torys.com
Featured in (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: With extensive securi-
public offerings for both domestic and cross-border clients. Robbins' robust knowledge in securities regulation and corporate finance works to guide Canadian and cross-border securities industry participants across the spectrum of their securities regulatory compliance matters, including stock exchange listings and governance, disclosure and reporting matters.

MATLOW, David J
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
+1 416 597 4147
dmatlow@goodmans.ca
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in a business law group at Goodmans. Practice is transaction based, involving all aspects of corporate and securities law, with a focus on representation of private equity funds (investment funds; fund formation and secondary transactions, as well as on sports matters. Also assists companies and sports organizations with their governance matters and, in respect of the firm's own businesses, inter-generational shareholder arrangements.


Personal: Immediate past Chair of the Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto and a member of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Jewish Archives and the Center for Israel Education and the National Marketing Committee of State of Israel Bonds (Canada). The co-chair of Toronto’s 2015 United Jewish Appeal Campaign. Proud creator of a 52-minute documentary film, entitled “My Herzl” and owns the world’s largest collection of Theodor Herzl memorabilia.

MCGRADE, Lynn
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6115
lmcgradie@blg.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Lynn is the National Leader of BLG's Investment Management Group and National Leader of BLG's UK and EU Desk. Lynn is a recognized authority on investment products, securities regulation, compliance and fund governance, and merger transactions in the investment industry.


Professional Memberships: Past Chair and Board Member, National Society of Compliance Professionals; Past President and Board Member, Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association; Past Chair of Committee for the Future (Endowment Fund) of the International Bar Association (IBA).

Publications: Co-authored Distributing UCITS in Canada Guide.

Personal: Vice-Chair, UHN Foundation and incoming chair of its Finance Committee and member of its Investment Committee and Nominating & Governance Committee; Past President, Duke of Edinburgh’s Award (Ontario).

MCGRATH, Shevaun
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 7570
shevra@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)


MCLEAN, Stacy
Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP, Toronto
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stacy.mclean@blakes.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Stacy is a member of the firm’s Executive Committee who leads the Blakes Investment Products & Asset Management Group. Her legal practice focuses on investment funds, corporate finance, securities regulation, matters and public company transactions. Stacy advises Canadian and international asset management companies on the structuring, registration and regulation of closed-end investment funds, mutual funds, structured notes and flow-through limited partnerships. She also works closely with investment dealers, financial institutions and companies on debt and equity financings, registration and in reg- ularity compliance, private placements and fund formation. She has expertise in contested proxy battles and regularly advises public issuers and their boards on various matters, including governance and shareholder engagement. Stacy is currently a director of the Stop Community Food Centre; director and Chair of the Governance Committee of Ronald McDonald House of Toronto and a director of the Ontario Hockey Federation. She is also a member of Women in Capital Markets and the Alternative Investment Management Association.

MERKLEY, Matthew
Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 3328
matthew.merkley@blakes.com
Featured in REITs (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Matthew is the co-head of Blake's Toronto Corporate Governance practice. He represents clients in a wide variety of capital markets transactions and securities regulatory matters. He has acted for issuers and underwriters in initial public offerings and other Canadian and cross-border public offerings of equity and debt. He also has expertise in advising public issuers and their boards on various matters, including with respect to: governance, compensation and disclosure; normal course, program share repurchase and voluntary issuer bids; and dual-class share structures.

Professional Memberships: Matthew is a member of Ontario Securities Commission Continuous Disclosure Advisory Committee.

MONCİK, Eric
Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 2356
eric.moncik@blakes.com
Featured in REITs (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Eric serves as the Practice Group Leader of the Blakes Toronto Capital Markets practice. Eric’s practice focuses primarily on public and private financings, and mergers and acquisitions. Eric advises public issuers, investment funds, external and internal capital markets professionals, and shareholders in a wide range of Canadian, U.S. and cross-border public offerings, mergers and acquisitions and other securities matters. He also acts as counsel to issuers, underwriters and selling shareholders in a significant number of public financings and secondary placements of equity and debt securities. He has also acted for purchasers and vendors in a wide range of asset and share purchase transactions, and for many issuers in connection with statutory arrange- ments, take-over bids and reorganisations. These transactions have primarily involved REITs as well as issuers in the financial services, infrastructure, communications and media and technology sectors.


MURRAY, Christopher
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 6701
cmurray@oslerr.com
Featured in REITs (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Chris leads Osler’s Asia-Pacific initiative, having advised a number of Chinese, Korean, Australian and South Eastern Asian based enterprises principally on their investments in Cana- dian energy and mining businesses. Chris also Co-Heads Oslers’ Private Equity and Private Equity Investor group. Chris’ practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, foreign investments for REITs, public corporations, private equity sponsors and pension funds. Chris has a wealth of experience in corporate finance having advised on over 100 public offerings and dozens of IPOs in his career, particularly in the REIT sector where he advises several issuers and has acted on innumerable REIT offerings. He advises a number of public reporting issuers and their boards as well as Canadian pension plans as their principal legal adviser on their matters.

Career: Chris practiced in Australia early in his career while on a two-year secondment from Oslers.

Professional Memberships: CBA; ABA; IPBA; IBA


Personal: Ontario, 1985 University of Toronto; LL.B. Queen's University; B.A.

PINCUS, Stephen
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
+1 416 597 4104
spincus@goodmans.ca
Featured in Capital Markets (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Ontario), REITs (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner, Executive Com- mittee Member, Head of Goodman’s Cap- ital Markets Practice. Widely recognized as one of Canada’s leading lawyers and recently honoured as the first ever recipi- ent of Canada's Capital Markets Lawyer of the Year award by IFLR1000 Canada. Has played a key role in developing Canada’s capital markets, including IPOs, M&A transactions, REITs, SPACs and complex cross-border transactions.


Professional Memberships: Founding Chair of The Canada Africa Chamber of Business; a member of the Canadian Gen- eral Counsel Awards Advisory Board; and a member of the Corporate and Securities Advisory Board of Practical Law – Canada. Has an MBA/LLB (Gold Medallist) and an ICD.D.

RUSLI, Kevin
Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 4020
kevin.rusli@blakes.com
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Recommended for Canadian investment funds, Kevin has extensive experience in advising domestic and foreign issuers on developing novel ways to build out their asset manage- ment platforms, including mutual funds, closed-end funds and ETFs. As a frequent conference speaker in the U.S. and Cana- da, clients recognize Kevin for finding ways to develop practical solutions to un- conventional investment ideas and guiding clients through Canada’s rapidly evolving regulatory landscape.

Professional Memberships: Kevin is a member of the Canadian Association of New York, the Investment Funds Institute of Canada, the Canadian ETF Associa- tion; Canada’s Venture Capital & Private Equity Association and the Association for Corporate Growth.

SADLER, Sean D.
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 7551
sadler@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focused on securities and adviser regula- tion, particularly advising Canadian and non-resident dealers, advisers and fund managers on offering services/products in Canada. Regularly advises registrants on private placements, commodity futures and OTC derivatives trading, acquisi- tions, divestitures and reorganizations of registrants and merger of investment fund complexes and establishment of invest- ment fund businesses. Has, together with
local counsel, assisted clients in establishing or restructuring investment funds in non-Canadian jurisdictions including, Bermuda, BVI, Cayman Islands and Mauritius. Regularly advises on securities law/IIROC/MDFA compliance and enforcement matters, and white collar defense and internal investigations on matters involving securities. Has taught various securities law subjects at Canadian law schools. 

**Career:** Ontario Bar, 1989.

**professional Memberships:** LSO, CBA.


**Personal:** Professional Social Media: LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/s Seanadier/ twitter: @SeanDSador.

**SINGER, Jeffrey**

Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
1 416 869 5656
jsinger@stikeman.com

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario), REITs (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Jeffrey Singer is Chair of Stikeman Elliott, its Partnership Board and Executive Committee, where he oversees the strategic direction, managing and client service for the firm, Jeffrey previously served as the Managing Partner of the Toronto office. Jeffrey’s market leading practice is backed over 25 years of experience in advising on Canada’s most complex and high-profile domestic and cross border transactions. With a particular focus on cross-border mergers and acquisitions, equity and debt capital markets and private equity-related matters, Jeffrey regularly represents industry-leading clients, including banks, private capital firms, pension funds, and major corporations. Jeffrey has been repeatedly ranked as a top Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions lawyer by Chambers Global and Chambers Canada, both guides recognizing the best lawyers in Canada, and is listed in The Canadian Lexpert Directory as a leading lawyer in the areas of Mergers & Acquisitions, Corporate Finance & Securities, Private Equity, Corporate Mid-Market, and Corporate Commercial law.

**struthers, Sonia J**

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
1 514 397 4232
sstruthers@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Partner and co-head of the McCarthy’s environmental, social and governance (ESG) and sustainability group. Based in Montreal, Sonia’s practice focuses on securities, derivatives and financial services regulation, investment products, capital markets and M&A. Regularly advises insurers and other financial institutions, dealers and advisors in financial services, fund managers as well as clearing houses and other regulated entities with respect to the structuring, offering and regulation of financial products such as investment funds, structured debt products including linked-note offerings, standardized and OTC derivatives and trading and clearing services. Regularly advises on capital markets financing and M&A matters including transactions involving financial institutions, registrants and investment fund businesses.

**Career:** Ontario, 1994; Quebec, 1998; currently completing courses for Climate Change Policy & Practice Certificate from University of Toronto; adjunct lecturer on M&A, securities and derivatives law, McGill University, Laval University and University of Ottawa faculties of law.

**professional Memberships:** Derivatives Consultative Committee of the Québec Autorité des marchés financiers. Publications: Active blogger Canadian Securities Regulatory Monitor. Personal: Director of The Prosperity Project.

**thiele, prema**

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
1 416 367 6082
pthiele@blg.com

Featured in Investment Funds (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Practices corporate and commercial law, including securities law, insurance business law, and M&A. Leading practitioner in the investment management industry, and represents several Canadian and non-Canadian capital markets participants on ongoing legal and compliance issues in respect of the provision of services, the distribution of securities and the establishment, operation and administration of investment products in Canada.

**Career:** Partner, Ontario Bar, 1992; LLB and B.Comm, University of Saskatchewan. Personal: General Manager, Titans, Royal York Baseball Boys Varsity Team.

**weinberger, david**

Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
1 416 869 5515
dweinberger@stikeman.com

Featured in REITs (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** David Weinberger is a partner in the Mergers & Acquisitions, Capital Markets and Securities Groups, and a member of the Associates Consultative Committee in the Toronto office. His practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, capital markets transactions, as well as private equity transactions. David has significant experience advising both bidders and targets in hostile and negotiated merger and acquisition transactions. He has advised underwriters and issuers on numerous financing transactions, including IPOs, bought deals and private placements in a variety of sectors including, real estate, diversified products, retail, technology, media, telecommunications, gaming and financial services. David’s private equity practice focuses on advising on investment, acquisitions, going private and exit transactions. David’s securities practice includes advising public companies on governance, disclosure, and transactional matters.

**zackheim, michael**

Torys LLP, Toronto
416 865 8216
mzackheim@torys.com

Featured in REITs (Nationwide - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** With a rigorous approach, robust capital markets experience, and industry-leading knowledge in the REIT and real estate sector, Michael has a long track record of helping issuers and securities dealers advance their objectives through all aspects of their capital markets activities. Michael’s practice focuses on capital markets and securities law matters, with deep knowledge of securities regulation and corporate finance matters. He routinely acts for issuers and securities dealers in public and private equity and debt financings across multiple industry sectors, including numerous IPOs. Michael also advises Canadian reporting issuers in various industry sectors on regulatory compliance matters, including listings (both domestic and cross-border), governance and disclosure issues. Michael also has industry-leading experience working with clients in the REIT and real estate sectors: with broad market awareness, he supports leading Canadian REITs and other prominent real estate entities in respect of their securities law and capital markets activities.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Life Sciences
How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Vancouver-based Joseph Garcia (see p.259) is recognised as a leading corporate and finance lawyer in the life sciences sector. He is particularly acclaimed for his representation of clients in the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors, with notable strength in transactional mandates involving M&A and securities. Strengths: “He has great commercial sense, is very current on market activity and is extremely responsive.” “He is totally committed to his clients and his work,” Toronto-based Cheryl Satin (see p.256) has a well-regarded corporate and commercial practice in the life sciences sector. Her expertise encompasses a broad array of corporate and commercial mandates in the life sciences industry, including M&A, financing and commercial agreements. Strengths: “We have consistently been very happy with the level of client service that Cheryl provides to our team, including her responsiveness, management of files and substantive knowledge and expertise. She has a very practical approach to negotiations and she is able to provide support and context about what the government might be trying to say, which is awesome.” Laura Weinrib (see p.17) maintains a respected regulatory practice, covering product licensing, marketing, advertising and issues of privacy. She is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Laura consistently provides us with a high level of service and we rely on her extensive expertise in specialised areas of law.” Megan Shaw (see p.260) enjoys a growing profile for her expertise in the healthcare space, where her experience in commercial matters comes to the fore for a broad array of industry clients. Strengths: “She’s excellent, she’s proactive and dedicated.”

Torys LLP
What the team is known for
Torys maintains its eminent position in the life sciences market and is credited for its cross-border practice, which is bolstered by the support of partners in Toronto, Montréal and New York. The team continues to advise blue-chip clients in the life sciences industry on a diverse range of regulatory, IP and commercial matters. It operates a highly reputed corporate practice with deep expertise in M&A, licensing, joint ventures and strategic partnerships. The firm also regularly advises on venture capital financing and offers dispute resolution services to clients through its acclaimed litigation group.

Strengths “They’re very experienced in the biopharmaceuticals and healthcare area and we get a very tailored service. They always deliver results, no matter how tight the timeline is.” “They exhibited deep understanding of complex regulatory issues and skilfully handled communications with various levels of authority at the government agency.”

Torys provides exemplary advice that is contextual and practical, demonstrating a firm grasp of nuance and pressure points. The counsel habitually articulate the issues with precision and propose practical solutions that drive to the heart of options for resolution.”

Work highlights A Torys team acted for WELL Health in connection with its US$372.9 million acquisition via a plan of arrangement with CRH Medical.

Notable practitioners
Eileen McMahon (see p.259) enjoys a reputation as one of Canada’s foremost life sciences lawyers and is considered a go-to expert by many major pharmaceutical companies. She assists with product regulations and licensing, as well as intellectual property. She is based in Toronto, from where she leads Torys’ IP and food and drug regulatory prac-
tices. "She has been committed to our business on a professional level and is a lot of fun and interesting to work with on a personal level!" In addition to having a superb command of the subject matter, Eileen immediately understands competing points of view, relates to others with ease and has great listening skills." Cheryl Reinc (see p.259) enjoys an excellent reputation as a corporate lawyer specialising in the biotech, healthtech and medical device industries. She is particularly well equipped to assist with cross-border mandates, being admitted to practice in both Canada and the USA. "She’s a top-flight talent and a strong strategist with a keen eye for solutions to complex, novel problems. " Cheryl brings a wealth of experience and practicality to our matters.”

Toronto-based Teresa Reguly (see p.259) is a popular choice among pharmaceutical and biotech companies, advising on industry-specific regulations as well as IP filing and prosecution. She also assists clients with the advertising and marketing of products. “You have to be so creative in your solutions because there is so much convincing required with the regulators, and she is very creative in her solutions when it comes to arguments. She is very brave and not confined to a specific process - she plays very easy in the grey and I have always appreciated that.”

**Band 2**

Fasken

**What the team is known for** With well-regarded expertise in the pharmaceutical sector, Fasken impresses with its diverse life sciences practice that encompasses regulatory, corporate and IP matters. Well known for its strong product liability offering, the firm often assists clients with patent litigation arising in the space, with experience before both provincial and federal courts. The broad team features lawyers from a variety of areas such as employment and privacy to offer clients a multidisciplinary approach. It is highlighted for the strength of its life sciences industry expertise in Montréal as well as for its work for sector clients in the USA, Europe and Asia.

**Strengths**

- “Fasken's ability to distil and disseminate even the most complex terminology is incredible.”
- “Fasken attorneys understand when there is an urgent matter that needs to be addressed quickly. They make themselves available quickly and are able to provide the counselling that we’ve requested with thoroughness.”
- “They are very professional and answer questions in a timely manner, and they’re experts in their field.”

**Work highlights** Fasken represented an array of national and multinational pharmaceutical companies, including Merck, Janssen and Boehringer Ingelheim, in a constitutional challenge against amendments to the Patented Medicines Regulations which would reduce price ceilings applicable to patented medicines.

Notable practitioners

Mathieu Gagné (see p.259) is an experienced drug and medical devices lawyer who is frequently consulted by clients in the life sciences sector, including biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. Her regulatory practice particularly impresses for its breadth, covering licensing, advertising and pricing, among other areas. **Strengths:** “She is very pragmatic, detail and business oriented and knowledgeable.”

Timothy Squire (see p.260) is highlighted for his experience assisting domestic and international pharmaceutical companies with the licensing and launching of their products across Canada. He is based in Toronto.

Jean-Raphaël Champagne (see p.259) is an up-and-coming lawyer who assists clients with a range of regulatory issues, including licensing and PLA review, as well as representation in investigations and compliance issues. He is based in the firm’s Quebec City office. **Strengths:** “He’s a very intelligent, thorough lawyer and an expert in law, with a strong business acumen and solution-oriented mindset.”

Norton Rose Fullbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fullbright leverages its international platform to assist its impressive client roster, featuring the likes of Pfizer and Gilead Sciences. With notable depth in its Toronto and Vancouver offices, it has particular strength in contentious mandates, from patent/IP litigation to commercial files and product liability. The firm also maintains an active regulatory and compliance practice and provides support to clients on commercial transactions and fund-raising matters. It regularly acts for startups, emerging growth companies and multinationals, among others.

**Strengths**

- “They understand the industry inside out and are very responsive and timely, as well as easy to deal with.”
- “The team has a high-level expertise in life sciences.”
- “They have the breadth to put the right level of lawyer on a file in order to get an efficient response. They’re extremely knowledgeable and able to distil complex matters and present clear advice and options with respect to any matter put to them.”

**Work highlights** Norton Rose acted for Pfizer in its USD2.26 billion acquisition of Trillium Therapeutics.

Notable practitioners

Vancouver-based Vanessa Grant (see p.259) maintains her market-leading position in the life sciences sector, with skills sought out by both startup organisations and major global pharmaceutical companies alike. Of late, she has played a leading role in significant financing and corporate restructuring files. **Strengths:** “She’s an incredibly high-quality lawyer. “I have always found her to be extremely professional with high levels of experience and commercial acumen.”

Kristin Wall (see p.260) has deep expertise in the field of product regulation and IP. She has significant experience advising on licensing and drug pricing, as well as a solid track record litigating patent challenges and judicial reviews. She is based in Toronto. **Strengths:** “It is a pleasure to work with Kristin - she takes time to understand the client’s concern and provides outstanding guidance.”

**Band 3**

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for With internationally renowned IP expertise, Gowling WLG is highlighted for its skillful handling of patent prosecution and litigation for a broad range of clients in the life sciences space. The firm is a particularly popular choice for major multinational pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, such as Eli Lilly and Genentech. Other clients include manufacturers and research organisations. The team also advises on a wide range of regulatory issues, including pricing, advertising, distribution and reimbursement of products.

**Strengths** “I have found them to be extremely knowledgeable, experienced and effective in every instance.”

Gowling has a very strong, expansive and knowledgeable legal team and I have faith that the firm can handle any matter brought to them.”

“...The people we have dealt with have been very patient, accommodating and listened to our needs. Things are complicated but the personnel have helped us understand things and deal with them at a level we are comfortable with.”

**Work highlights** Gowling advised Bayer to bring patent claims against nine generic manufacturers related to its Xarelto drug.

Notable practitioners

John Norman is a key contact.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is highlighted for its full-service offering to key life sciences industry players, with a strong track record in both patent litigation and commercial agreements. The team ably represents startup companies and major multinationals in corporate mandates, including securities, financing and cross-border M&A transactions. It offers deep expertise in cross-border matters for US-listed companies, supported by its patent agents registered in both Canada and the USA.

**Strengths** “They are a full-service firm with specialists in many areas and they have always shown a good depth of knowledge on everything we have asked of them.”

“...Their commercial awareness is certainly their most distinctive asset. They have an excellent knowledge of the life sciences industry in Canada, its drivers and challenges, and its stakeholders.”

**Work highlights** McCarthy Tétrault advised a syndicate of agents led by Bloom Burton Securities in connection with Apolis Therapeutics’ CAD7 million public offering.

Notable practitioners

Philippe Leclerc (see p.259) acts for an impressive number of industry stakeholders, including health care, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. He provides a suite of business law services, covering corporate finance, commercial agreements and M&A in the life sciences sector. Leclerc divides his practice between the firm’s offices in Québec City and Montréal. “Philippe has been an excellent service provider and is consistently at the level of excellence because he cares about outcomes and wants to understand our goals.”

Oslar, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Oslar, Hoskin & Harcourt houses a distinguished life sciences team with particular strength in corporate mandates for both

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established and startup entities, covering M&A, joint ventures and strategic partnerships. The firm also runs a well-respected IP practice out of its Ottawa and Toronto offices, with a strong track record of success for clients in the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors. The firm has notably strong relationships with companies in the generic pharmaceutical sector, including Teva Canada and Viatris.

**Strengths**

"It’s a great team who are deeply technical, understand complex issues, and help us think through positioning. “The work product is always excellent and they have very strong commercial awareness.”

“They are efficient, business-minded and on top of their game. Their advice marries commercial good sense with the appropriate legal basis.”

**Work highlights** Osler defended Mylan Pharmaceuticals in a patent infringement claim brought by Eli Lilly in relation to the drug tadalafil.

**Notable practitioners**

Montréal-based Nathalie Beauregard (see p.259) is a corporate and commercial lawyer with significant experience in the life sciences sector. A regular adviser to pharmaceutical and biotech startup companies, she assists with corporate transactions, commercial agreements and financing initiatives.

**Smart & Biggar**

What the team is known for Smart & Biggar is a well-respected IP boutique with an impressive following of clients involved in life sciences, including those active in the cannabis and agribusiness sectors. With patent expertise sought after by pharmaceutical and biotech companies big and small, the firm has significant experience representing clients in complex patent infringement cases, as well as portfolio management and prosecution. It also maintains a well-regarded regulatory practice, advising on product licensing, advertising, commercialisation and compliance with regulatory regimes. The firm has offices in Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver and Montréal.

**Strengths**

"I find Smart & Biggar to be extremely service-oriented and responsive.”

“They’re very well versed in the current state of the law, they foresee future changes and ask the client to react appropriately.”

“The team handles complex matters well, including issue spotting, and navigation through local and global challenges, and has the ability to pivot when additional complexities are added. They’re able to consider things from both a technical point of view but also from a client and business perspective, understanding implications of both.”

**Notable practitioners**

Toronto-based Alice Tseng (see p.260) maintains a market-leading regulatory practice in the life sciences sector, advising on matters ranging from licensing and commercialisation of products to advertising and issues of privacy. “I give her a lot of very unusual questions and she really responds in a proactive way. She very much gives me the tools to solve a problem.”

### Band 4

**Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais provides a full-service offering to clients in the life sciences sector, with particular strength in IP and patent litigation. The firm also advises on product commercialisation and corporate transactions, and is also recognised for its complementary health law practice. Clients range from multinational pharmaceutical companies, such as Eli Lilly, to Canadian R&D companies and startup entities.

**Work highlights** BLG represented Titan Medical in an CAD11.5 million bought deal offering and in a second CAD23 million bought deal offering.

**Notable practitioners**

Mark Vickers is a key contact.

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is noted for its formidable corporate and commercial expertise in the life sciences sector, with notable practitioners dedicated to the industry in its Montréal office. The firm is frequently engaged to handle the Canadian aspects of significant transactions for international pharmaceutical companies, and has considerable experience managing cross-border mandates. Active across M&A, securities and venture capital mandates in the industry, the team is ably supported by the firm’s corporate, tax and competition groups.

**Strengths**

“Davies is consistently able to dissect complex transactions and provide succinct guidance and opinions to management. We get excellent work provided at a high level of expertise, relative to the cost.”

“I trust the firm to manage complicated and challenging issues and to provide key strategic input. The team is always responsive and I don’t have to worry about not being a priority.”

“They are so good, they might as well be internal to our company. They understand our business and they know our people, our process and our needs.”

**Work highlights** Davies acted for Knight Therapeutics in its USD168 million acquisition from Novartis of the exclusive rights to manufacture, market and sell Exelon in Canada and Latin America.

**Notable practitioners**

Elliot Greensote is held in high esteem for his corporate practice, which sees him advise a broad array of life sciences companies, private equity firms and other investors in transactions in the life sciences sector. “It is always a pleasure working with Elliot. He is very knowledgeable, efficient, timely, and strategic.”

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott has a solid pedigree in life sciences matters, advising on the full range of corporate transactional, commercial, intellectual property and disputes work. Its enviable client base includes major healthcare systems, biotechnology companies and pharmaceutical developers.

**Strengths**

“The advice given is great, in that it is extremely practical and realistic, and not theoretical.”

“I have been extremely pleased with responsiveness, the timeliness and the quality. They offer a well-informed perspective on industry practices and emerging trends.”

“Stikeman is exceptionally strong on the M&A front. They understand complex and sophisticated M&A transactions.”

**Work highlights** Stikeman Elliott advised Akumin in its acquisition of Alliance HealthCare Services from Tahoe Investment Group for USD820 million.

**Notable practitioners**

Sara Zborovski (see p.260) acts for a range of players in the life sciences sector, including pharmaceutical, healthcare and medical device companies. Her practice focuses on product regulations and licensing, as well as commercialisation.

**Strengths**

“Sara has been a pleasure to work with. She is thoughtful, knowledgeable and practical.”

**Ian Trimble** (see p.260) is an associate with a rising profile for his expertise in the life sciences sector, enjoying a particularly strong reputation in regulatory matters.

**Strengths**

“Ian has been a tremendous help to us.”

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

James Hatton operates out of Vancouver and regularly assists with commercial mandates, as well as having additional licensing IP understanding. “He’s an excellent lawyer.”

Hector MacKay-Dunn advises on commercial deals and finance agreements. An experienced Vancouver-based lawyer, he serves clients that include healthcare and medical device companies. “Hector is an outstanding, seasoned lawyer.”
BEAUREGARD, Nathalie
Co-Head, Life Sciences & Healthcare LLP, Montréal
+1 514.904.8121
nbeauregard@osler.com
Featured in Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Nathalie is a partner in our Montreal office and a member of Osler’s Emerging and High Growth Companies Group. With over 30 years of experience, she has developed recognized expertise in technology, life sciences and green tech. Nathalie’s clients benefit not only from her in-depth knowledge of these various sectors but also of the major players and stakeholders. Nathalie’s practice focuses on domestic and cross-border venture capital financing, merger and acquisition, fund formation, government contracts, product liability, reimbursement, and collaboration agreements. She also serves as de facto counsel to privately held companies in the technology sector, providing legal advice on various matters such as raising capital and financing, negotiating the commercial agreements, employment law and IP. Nathalie also advises prominent international companies, on many aspects of their operations.
Career: Nathalie was a partner at another big law firm prior to joining Osler as a partner in 2005.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Association of Québec Women in Finance Canadian Venture Capital Association Canadian Information Technologies Law Association New York State Bar Barreau du Québec
Personal: HEC (Paris) and New York University (Stemi), M.B.A. McGill University, B.C.L., LL.B.

CHAMPAIGN, Jean-Raphaël
Fasken, Montréal
+1 418.640.2084
jchampange@fasken.com
Featured in Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jean-Raphaël Champagnes practice focuses on corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions. He advises public and private companies and financial institutions. Jean-Raphaël has extensive experience in advising on domestic and cross-border transactions, including public offerings, take-over and issuer bids, private equity and venture capital financing, private and public mergers and acquisitions, and as independent counsel to boards of directors. He has recently advised AbCellera, Zymeworks, Xenon, Trillium, NexGel, Novac, Eupraxis, Alpha-9, Notch, adMare Bi Innovations and Essa Pharma.
Professional Memberships: Joseph is a former director of the Canadian Glycomics Network (National Centre of Excellence) and Genome BC, and a member of the BiotecCanada Legal Affairs Advisory Board. He is also a member of the Canadian Bar Association and American Bar Association.
Practice Areas: Joseph is a director emeritus of LifeSciences BC. Joseph is a former director of the Canadian Glycomics Network (National Centre of Excellence) and Genome BC, and a member of the BiotecCanada Legal Affairs Advisory Board. He is also a member of the Canadian Bar Association and American Bar Association.

GAGNE, Mathieu
Fasken, Montréal
+1 514.397.7657
mgagne@fasken.com
Featured in Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Mathieu Gagné is specialized in drug and other health products (medical devices, cosmetics, natural health products, etc.) related laws. He advises and represents various stakeholders in the health and life sciences sector. Mathieu has a unique knowledge of the legal framework governing drugs and other health products, from their inception in the lab to their consumption. Within his area of expertise are the various stakeholders involved in the pharmaceutical life cycle and requiring compliance by industry stakeholders, such as pharmaceutical and biotech companies, researchers, ethics committees, wholesalers, distributors, pharmacies, health professionals, healthcare establishments, consumers and governments. His expertise also covers public law, business law as well as litigation (product liability, judicial review, class actions, etc.).

GARCIA, Joseph
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver
(604) 631-3307
joseph.garcia@blakes.com
Featured in Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Joseph focuses on corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions. He advises public and private companies and financial institutions. Joseph has extensive expertise in advising on domestic and cross border transactions, including public offerings, take-over and issuer bids, private equity and venture capital financing, private and public mergers and acquisitions, and as independent counsel to boards of directors. He has recently advised AbCellera, Zymeworks, Xenon, Trillium, NexGel, Novac, Eupraxis, Alpha-9, Notch, adMare Bi Innovations and Essa Pharma.
Professional Memberships: Joseph is a director emeritus of LifeSciences BC. Joseph is a former director of the Canadian Glycomics Network (National Centre of Excellence) and Genome BC, and a member of the BiotecCanada Legal Affairs Advisory Board. He is also a member of the Canadian Bar Association and American Bar Association.

GRANT, Vanessa
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
+1 416.216.4056
vanessa.grant@nortonrosefullbright.com
Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada), Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Vanessa Grant practices business law in our Toronto office. Her practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and corporate governance for public and private corporations, including private equity and venture capital. She also provides ongoing general corporate and commercial legal advice to a number of clients. She has worked with several national and international clients in various industries, with a particular focus on technology companies, life sciences companies, and REITs.

LECLERC, Philippe
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Québec
(418) 692-3001
pleclerc@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Québec), Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Partner in our Business Law Group in Quebec City and Montreal. Philippe has extensive experience in commercial, corporate and securities law. He has led numerous business transactions, including initial public offerings, acquisitions, take-overs, complex commercial agreements as well as public and private equity and debt financings, both in Canada and abroad. He is active in the technology and life sciences industry and regularly advises companies and their board on governance matters. He is a lecturer at the Université Laval where he teaches business, corporate and securities law courses.

MCMAHON, Eileen M
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 (416) 624-2410
emcmahon@torys.com
Featured in Cannabis Law (Nationwide – Canada), Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada), Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Eileen’s market-leading experience, practical advice and insight in intellectual property and regulatory law make her a go-to advisor for clients in Canada and the United States. Chair of Torys’ Intellectual Property and Food and Drug Regulatory practices, Eileen is one of a handful of Canadian lawyers who advise on regulatory clearance and intellectual property protection of products. Across sectors – including life sciences, agribusiness, regenerative medicine and stem cells, cannabis and more – Eileen helps clients identify IP and regulatory assets, obtain and maintain market exclusivity, exploit IP assets and enforce their IP rights. Eileen is a registered patent and trademark agent in the United States and Canada and is adroit at navigating the issues at play in cross-border matters. She is also a Certified Licensing Professional, of the Licensing Executive Society (LES) (2011-2014), United States and Canada. This certification is issued only to persons who have met the requirements for professionals as established by CLP Inc., under the guidance of the LES. Fewer than 1% of all attorneys have this certification, making Eileen a specialized resource for clients.

REGULY, Teresa
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416.865.7316
treguly@torys.com
Featured in Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Teresa’s scientific fluency supports her broad intellectual property skills and business-minded approach, helping clients realize and manage their intellectual property and product regulatory strategy. Teresa provides ongoing advice to clients who sell regulated products in the food, pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. She advises on intellectual property and regulatory issues in the chemical, biochemical and pharmaceutical fields, including the validity patentability and infringement of intellectual property rights. Teresa has extensive experience with drafting, filing and prosecuting patent applications and is frequently involved in drafting and negotiating IP licensing, research and development, co-promotion, marketing and confidentiality agreements for her clients. She also provides guidance on the Four Ds Act concerning establishment licensing, product licensing, drug pricing and formulability listings. She has deep knowledge in the advertising and promotion of pharmaceutical, natural health products, and medical devices, as well as mandatory reporting and corrective actions. Her work regularly includes advising clients across industries on privacy issues, cross-border transfer of personal information and compliance with privacy law obligations, particularly involving personal health information. Teresa is a registered patent agent in Canada. In September 2009, she was awarded for having achieved the highest overall mark in Canada on the 2008 patent agent exams.

REICIN, Cheryl
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 (416) 865-7373
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Featured in Life Sciences (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Cheryl advises the industry’s largest and most innovative startups on highly complex transactions worldwide. With an international reputation for quality and helping clients advance their strategies, Cheryl combines deep knowledge of the market with a business-minded practical approach. Cheryl is the leader of Torys’ Life Sciences practice, a cross-border group in both Canada and the United States. She represents the entire spectrum of biotech, medical device and health technology companies, from start-ups to large public companies, as well as venture capitalists, investment banks and academic medical centers. Cheryl is the Chair of Torys’ Life Sciences practice and is recognized for her long track record of helping life sciences companies at all stages formulate and evolve their domestic and international growth strategies, secure capital, and develop and optimize their corporate and tax structures. Cheryl has extensive experience advising on venture and later-stage financings, IPOs, M&A, licensing transactions and joint ventures or alliances with strategic partners. Cheryl has been named WXN’s Canada’s Top 100 Most Powerful Women four times and inducted into its Hall of Fame. She has been repeatedly recognized by LMG Life Sciences as the Canadian Finance & Corporate Attorney of the Year.
Megan Shaw is a Partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto. She has significant experience assisting clients with their business structuring, transactional procurement processes. She also has a particular focus on the life sciences and commercial arrangements, with a particular focus on the health product lifecycle.

Practice Areas: Megan's practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, private equity investments and commercial arrangements, with a particular focus on the life sciences industry. She has substantial experience in negotiating and advising in connection with acquisitions and divestitures of businesses and product lines in the pharmaceutical, medical device, and consumer health sectors. She also routinely acts for private equity focused on life sciences investments, and manufacturers and distributors of pharmaceuticals and medical devices in connection with their product licensing, marketing, distribution, and supply arrangements.

Alice Tseng is a Partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto. She is a registered pharmacist and patent specialist in regulatory and marketing/ compliance, patent listing under the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations, and recalls, drug pricing (including PMPRB compliance), product licensing and GMP/GPP programs. She has extensive litigation experience under both the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations and the Cannabis Act and other legislation implemented by the Food and Drugs Act, as well as related federal and provincial regulations.

Practice Areas: Alice's practice focuses on regulatory and commercial counsel to companies regulated by Health Canada. She helps clients to navigate the regulatory landscape implemented by the Food and Drugs Act, the Cannabis Act and other legislation and associated regulations overseen by Health Canada and provincial regulators. She provides strategic counsel to pharmaceutical, cannabis, food and beverage, natural health product, medical device, cosmetic and food manufacturers, as well as pharmacy and laboratory services providers and agri-business operators. On the regulatory side, Alice has assisted clients with product licensing, establishment licensing, manufacturing requirements (including GMP compliance), packaging and labeling reviews, as well as advice on advertising, marketing and distribution, product recalls, drug pricing (including PMPRB compliance) and reimbursement issues, including formulary listing. As regards intellectual property matters, she advises on licensing and transfer of patents and trademarks, patent and trademark prosecution, patent listing under the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations and data protection, and provides support on the acquisition or disposition of technology assets and intellectual property portfolios.

Kristin Zborovski is a Partner at Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto. She specializes in federal and provincial regulatory matters (including challenging the decisions of regulatory authorities), as well as advertising and marketing, privacy and CASL compliance, health care compliance, reimbursement, access to information, and consumer product safety (including product recalls). She also advises on the amendment of the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations and the Cannabis Act and other legislation implemented by the Food and Drugs Act, as well as related federal and provincial regulations.

Practice Areas: Kristin provides strategic legal counsel to the innovative pharmaceutical and medical device industry across a breadth of complex litigation and regulatory matters. This includes extensive litigation experience under both the Patent Act and Food and Drugs Act, including litigation and administrative law proceedings under the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations, Patented Medicines Regulations, Certificate of Supplementary Protection Regulations and Food and Drug Regulations.

Kristin Wall provides strategic legal counsel to the innovative pharmaceutical and medical device industry across a breadth of complex litigation and regulatory matters. She was counsel in the first patent action started under section 8.2 of the Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations—a new cause of action to assert patents that are not listed on the Patent Register. She was also counsel in the first series of cases started under section 6 of the amended Patented Medicines (Notice of Compliance) Regulations. Ms. Wall has particular experience in drug pricing and reimbursement in respect of the Patented Medicine Prices Control Board (PMPRB), and the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) and health technology assessment bodies.

Sara Zborovski is a Partner at Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto. She provides strategic counsel to pharmaceutical, cannabis, food and beverage, natural health product, medical device, cosmetic and food manufacturers, as well as pharmacy and laboratory services providers and agri-business operators. On the regulatory side, Sara has assisted clients with product licence and market access strategies, establishment/facility licensing and GMP/GPP programs. On the compliance side, she assists clients in developing SQGs and compliance policies, reviews product packaging and labelling and provides strategic advice on advertising and marketing programs, including assistance with pre-clearance agencies and representation before the Pharmaceutical Advertising Board and Advertising Standards Canada. Sara also advises clients on federal and provincial privacy laws, particularly as these relate to healthcare, and federal and provincial access to information and freedom of information matters.


Professional Memberships: Food and Drug Law Institute’s Global Committee, member-at-large.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Litigation
How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Litigation General Commercial Nationwide

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Band 3

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Fasken
Lenczner Slaght
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
Torys LLP

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for: This distinguished law firm offers expansive litigation capabilities and a strong national footprint, boasting skilled disputes teams in Toronto, Calgary, Vancouver, Montréal and Ottawa. Its trial lawyers are accomplished across a comprehensive range of practice specialisms, with an excellent reputation for commercial disputes as well as highly acclaimed tax, product liability and competition litigation expertise. Blakes serves prominent corporations in the finance, tech, energy and life sciences sectors, providing national and multinational clients with an impressive platform for high-end cross-border and national litigation files.

Strengths
"Blake’s work is always first-rate – they always amaze me with how quickly they can respond to urgent questions."
"All members of the team had strong legal knowledge, but more importantly were able to learn and understand complicated concepts rapidly."
"I trust Blake's litigation group for all of our complex and sophisticated litigation matters. They resource teams appropriately and achieve favourable outcomes along the way, all while being approachable, friendly and client-focused lawyers."

Work highlights
A Blakes team led by David Tupper represented Superior Plus in a dispute concerning a failed transaction in 2016 between itself and Canexus. The case concerns allegations that regulatory approvals were not properly obtained and that Canexus improperly granted long-term incentive compensation.

Notable practitioners

Key contacts in the firm's national disputes group include Bradley Berg in Toronto, Sean Boyle in Vancouver, Francis Rouleau in Montréal and David Tupper in Calgary.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for: McCarthy Tétrault is a perennial name at the forefront of the Canadian litigation Bar, with strong litigation lawyers located across Ontario, Québec, Alberta and BC. The team offers significant expertise in breach of contract disputes as well as securities and banking litigation. It excels in class action proceedings and expertly handles franchising, trade and competition litigation matters. Other areas of notable capability include white-collar defence, medical malpractice defence and defective product claims. The firm is sought after by industry heavyweights in a broad range of sectors, including multinational technology and electronics companies, major Canadian banks and a range of other clients across energy, manufacturing and pharmaceuticals.

Strengths
"McCarthy Tétrault are our first choice for complex litigation. They are consistently extremely responsive and provide high levels of service in circumstances that are often challenging and demanding." "The firm has a very strong group of astute commercial litigators." "McCarthy Tétrault has consistently been able to meet and exceed our needs for the supply of legal expertise."

Work highlights
McCarthy Tétrault successfully defended Toronto-Dominion Bank in proceedings initiated by the liquidator of Stanford International Bank. The dispute involved allegations of knowing assistance and negligence in relation to the fact that following its collapse, SIB was revealed to have been a Ponzi scheme.

Notable practitioners

The key contact is national practice group leader Caroline Zayid, who is based in Toronto.

Band 2

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for: Bennett Jones enjoys a pre-eminent reputation for litigation in Alberta and fields a strong team in Ontario. Its broad practice encompasses corporate and securities matters, post-M&A litigation, breach of contract claims and shareholder disputes. The firm is also a strong choice for fraud, professional negligence and competition litigation. Its client base spans from privately held businesses to national and international public corporations in industries such as mining, energy, investment and technology. The team is well equipped to handle large-scale cross-border matters, also possessing an accomplished national class action practice.

Strengths
"The firm had the depth and resources to research and find solutions to our issues." "Bennett Jones are always available, anticipate our issues and provide a top-tier service."

Work highlights
A Bennett Jones team led by Blair Yorke-Slater KC represented Dow Chemical Canada in an action against NOVA Chemicals for damages arising from NOVA’s operation of a co-owned ethylene plant in Joffre, Alberta.

Notable practitioners

The litigation department heads are Richard Swan in Toronto and Ken Lenz in Calgary.

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for: Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is regarded as a litigation powerhouse, driven by leading trial teams based in Toronto and Montréal. The firm handles high-stakes interprovincial mandates on behalf of major national clients. Its expertise encompasses commercial, securities and competition litigation, including tax disputes and contested M&A matters. The group is further highlighted for its adept handling of privacy and administrative law disputes. It occupies an important position within the class actions space, and has recently appeared in a number of high-profile international tort disputes for key clients. The team represents clients across a variety of sectors including telecommunications, automotive, tech, retail and mining.

Strengths
"Davies is an exceptional firm that provides first-class work and results."
"The Davies team was proactive, engaging the right specialised legal expertise at the right time to help ensure the issues didn’t become more complex or move across borders. Their response times are immediate, which reflected the level of skill they brought to the table and the content always provided a very insightful and thorough analysis."
"Their assessment of the key matters is always accurate. They focus on getting the big issues resolved first, then concentrate on the ancillary problems."

Work highlights
A Davies team led by Kent Thomson and Matthew Milne-Smith defended West Face Capital and its CEO, Greg Boland, against claims of conspiracy and defamation brought by Catalyst and Calidus.

Notable practitioners

The department heads and key contacts are Kent Thomson in Toronto and Louis-Martin O’Neill in Montréal.
Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is an international law firm that operates worldwide, with a focus on corporate and commercial litigation matters. The firm is well-regarded for its deep experience in complex commercial disputes.

Strengths
- "The litigators at Norton Rose are incredibly responsive, proactive and adept at understanding commercial implications."
- "They are extremely cognizant of which direction arguments are going to go and do a fantastic job of helping us see around corners."
- "The firm has the patience, persistence and team depth to handle complex and sophisticated matters."

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright defended Bombardier in a commercial dispute in Canada. The firm also represented clients in a variety of sectors, such as transportation, mining, technology and financial services.

Notable practitioners
- The firm’s national litigation group leader is Jennifer Teskey in Toronto. Key contacts include Vancover-based Daniel Bennett KC, Clarke Hunter KC in Calgary, Tate McLeod in Ottawa and Eric Lefebvre in Montréal.

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for BLG operates a well-respected national litigation practice that offers clients a range of services across offices in Ontario, Quebec, BC and Alberta. The firm is known for its broad range of expertise, encompassing commercial and shareholder disputes, banking litigation, fraud and product liability, among other areas.

Strengths
- "Borden Ladner Gervais is very thorough and analyses all the information we provide in an efficient manner, regardless of the complexity of a situation."
- "The advice provided reflects a keen understanding of the law, and blends in the practical components that are important to our business."
- "BLG has expertly managed reputational risk while achieving superior results in challenging matters."

Work highlights BLG represented Vivendi in a claim of conspiracy and the inducement of breach of contract, in relation to its agreement to be the exclusive ticketing agent for all events produced and promoted by Beyond Oz at Bingemans, an event venue in Kitchener, Ontario.

Notable practitioners
- The national leader of the firm’s litigation group is Toronto-based David Di Paolo. The regional litigation leaders are Mathieu Piché-Messier in Montréal, Nadia Effendi in Toronto, Kathleen McDermond in Ottawa, Michael Marion in Calgary and Sarah McCaichem in Vancouver.

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken fields extensive dispute resolution capabilities, with an extremely highly regarded Vancouver team and strong groups based in Toronto and Montréal. The firm has expertise in a variety of sectors, such as transportation, mining, technology and financial services, the firm is often engaged in commercial, securities and corporate fraud matters.

Strengths
- "The Fasken team will always respond in a quick and efficient manner to any questions or concerns we may have."
- "The Fasken team is proactive, efficient, and works well with clients."
Torys offers wide-ranging expertise covering corporate, commercial and securities litigation, oppression claims, competition matters and product liability disputes. The team is also frequently cited as a popular go-to law firm for some of the most complex and sophisticated matters – we rate their ability very highly. “They understood our case and clearly communicated the potential risks and rewards were.”

Work highlights Torys acted for CannaPiece Group in a contractual dispute brought by Ovandi concerning an alleged breach of a share purchase agreement.

Notable practitioners
The firm’s litigation and dispute resolution practice is chaired by Linda Plumperton and led by Gillian Dingle. Both are based in Toronto.

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Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based Geoffrey Cowper KC (see p.285) frequently represents major multinational organisations in commercial disputes at both provincial and federal levels. He is well versed in advising clients in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors.

Strengths: “Geoffrey Cowper is a lawyer’s lawyer, who is very pleasant to have on the field and very talented.” Tracey Cohen KC (see p.284) is respected for her handling of a broad array of corporate and commercial disputes across Canada, including class actions. She has experience in both arbitration and litigious settings.

McEwan Partners
What the team is known for McEwan Partners is based in Vancouver and is particularly noted for its significant capabilities across a wide variety of commercial and corporate disputes. The Vancouver-based team features a number of top regularly represents clients in leading commercial and regulatory disputes, including advising on shareholder litigation and environment-related disputes.

Strengths: “Andrew Nathanson is an excellent lawyer, I’m really impressed with him.” Brook Greenberg KC (see p.288) is based in Vancouver and is particularly noted for his skilled handling of regulatory and construction disputes for energy and mining companies.

Strengths: “Gavin Cameron is very experienced, energetic and ambitious.”

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken houses a premier dispute resolution practice in BC that is recognised for its ability to handle a wide range of contentious matters. Its client roster consists of a number of prestigious names, including companies in the pharmaceutical and healthcare, technology, natural resources and financial services industries.

The Vancouver-based team offers expertise across the pharmaceutical and healthcare, technology, natural resources and financial services industries. The Vancouver-based team offers expertise across the pharmaceutical and healthcare, technology, natural resources and financial services industries.

Strengths: “Fasken has been highly responsive in our work together, from offering targeted expertise to helping to shape strategy and project manage complex matters to ensure the work gets done well.” “The lawyers at Fasken have clearly demonstrated their ability to rise to the occasion.”

Work highlights Fasken represented Teck Coal, Canada’s largest mining company, in a complex environmental regulatory prosecution concerning allegations of contamination.

Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based Geoffrey Cowper KC (see p.285) frequently represents major multinational organisations in commercial disputes at both provincial and federal levels. He is well versed in advising clients in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sectors.

Strengths: “Geoffrey Cowper is a lawyer’s lawyer, who is very pleasant to have on the field and very talented.” Tracey Cohen KC (see p.284) is respected for her handling of a broad array of corporate and commercial disputes across Canada, including class actions. She has experience in both arbitration and litigious settings.

Strengths: “Tracey Cohen is a lawyer’s lawyer, who is very pleasant to have on the field and very talented.” Tracey Cohen KC (see p.284) is respected for her handling of a broad array of corporate and commercial disputes across Canada, including class actions. She has experience in both arbitration and litigious settings.

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advocates, with diverse experience covering issues such as product liability, securities litigation and class actions. The firm offers excellent representa-
tion to clients in the energy, real estate and financial services sectors.

Strengths “Lawyers at McEwan Partners are knowl-
edgeable and experienced.”

“McEwan Partners is an excellent litigation firm.”

Notable practitioners

Kenneth McEwan KC (see p.290) is a premier lit-
igator who acts on a broad array of corporate and
commercial dispute resolution. He is well known for
his handling of contentious securities cases and has
a wealth of experience in trials at both the provincial
and federal levels. “He’s definitely the go-to for com-
mercial litigation in British Columbia.” Craig Dennis
KC (see p.285) in Vancouver is highlighted for his
experience in commercial dispute resolution. He regularly acts on professional liability disputes and
class action defence. Vancouver-based Bob Cooper
KC (see p.285) is well known in the BC market for his
expertise in securities law. He also operates a busy
commercial litigation practice, frequently active in
shareholder disputes and arbitration for interna-
tional and domestic clients. “I have great respect
for Bob Cooper, he’s very good on his feet and really
fast.” Emily Kirkpatrick (see p.290) is developing a
respected general commercial litigation practice in
Vancouver. She has been engaged for representation
across a range of areas, including shareholder litigation,
property disputes and class action proceedings.
“I think she’s very sharp.” “She’s a strong lawyer
and really rising.”

Nathanson, Schachter & Thompson LLP

What the team is known for Nathanson, Schachter &
Thompson is a top-tier dispute resolution boutique,
recognised for its ability to handle a wide range of
contentious matters in BC at both the provincial and
federal level. The firm’s client roster consists of a
number of prestigious names, including companies in
the logistics and construction industries. The firm
also regularly represents individual executives and
officials on both the plaintiff and defendant sides.
The team out of Vancouver offers significant exper-
ience in unfair competition disputes, with additional
proficiency in appellate proceedings, arbitration
proceedings, white-collar crime allegations, profes-
sional negligence disputes and class actions.

Strengths “I use this firm when getting the law right
on complex matters is very important.”

“The firm is full of experienced lawyers who help
each other so the customer gets the best service and
advice.”

Nathanson, Schachter & Thompson LLP

Leadership Individuals

Band 1

Anderson Rod Harper Grey LLP

Boyle Sean Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Band 2

Cooper Bob McEwan Partners

McEwan J Kenneth McEwan Partners

Sabur Abbas Komish, Shapiro & Partners

Tompson Robin Farris LLP

Up-and-coming individuals

Ahmed Oasis Harper Grey LLP.

Indicates individual with profile.

Band 1 is highest.

Arvay Finlay LLP

Band 2

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels &
Graydon is a prestigious national law firm with a
strong dispute resolution team in Vancouver. Rec-
ognised for its strength in commercial litigation and
class action defence, the team offers extensive ser-
cices to clients in the energy, natural resources and
life sciences industries. The department features
outstanding capabilities in securities litigation, share-
holder disputes and insolvency proceedings. The
firm also boasts experience in professional negli-
gence and white-collar crime claims, as well as re-
presenting clients in arbitration.

Strengths “We had some very complicated issues and every one
was dealt with with an incredible sense of knowledge
and strategy.”

“One of the key reasons we prefer to work with Blakes is because of the commercial awareness and practical
advice.”

Work highlights Blake, Cassels & Graydon repre-
sented the Royal Bank of Canada in a high-profile
closest indexing class action.

Notable practitioners

Sean Boyle (see p.283) is highly respected in the BC
market for his expert handling of securities matters.
With experience covering litigation, class proceed-
ings and regulatory investigations, he regularly acts for
a range of financial institutions and public com-
panies. Strengths: “Sean Boyle is prominent abso-
lutely, he is a talented lawyer.” Alexandra Luchenko
(see p.291) is recognised for her impressive work in
corporate litigation, covering breaches of contract,
professional negligence and intellectual property
disputes. Strengths: “Alexandra Luchenko is a sophis-
ticated lawyer and a trusted partner.” She is one of
the best litigators I have worked with.” Joseph McArthur
(see p.28) is frequently relied upon by clients from
the energy and natural resources and pharmaceu-
tical sectors to handle commercial dispute resolu-
tion. He is particularly regarded for his wide-ranging
trial experience and offers additional expertise as
arbitration counsel. Strengths: “He is always great
to work with.” Peter Rubin (see p.384) is regularly
mandated to act on a wide array of commercial dis-
putes, including contractual litigation, bankruptcy
proceedings, breach of fiduciary duty claims and
allegations of fraud. Strengths: “He’s a great counsel
and a great person to work with.” James Sullivan KC
(see p.70) offers significant expertise in class action
proceedings, frequently acting for a roster of mining
companies. Strengths: “He’s a proactive and smart
litigator.” Vancouver-based Laura Cundari (see p.27)
has a growing reputation in BC for her representation
of clients from the energy, pharmaceutical and infra-
structure sectors. She has significant experience in
litigating and arbitrating disputes before both fed-
eral and provincial courts. Strengths: “Laura Cundari
has been absolutely amazing to work with. She has
been invaluable and has more than exceeded any of
our expectations.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais
acts for major national and international companies
in a variety of sectors, including transportation,
energy and financial services. The disputes team in
Vancouver is highly regarded for its skill in com-
mercial, competition and banking litigation. The firm
operates notable practices in class action defence,
arbitration, mediation and commercial arbitration, with
noteworthy activity handling disputes around privacy
breaches and professional liability.

Strengths “It is a great team, a full-service law firm that always
has someone within the regional or national framework
who has the experience and can get us the advice.”

“The lawyers have never missed a beat and have always taken
time for client input.”

Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais represented
The Bank of Nova Scotia in one of the largest com-
petition class actions in Canadian history, concerning
fees in credit card transactions.

Notable practitioners

Peter A Rubinstein (see p.27) represents clients before
provincial and federal courts across the nation,
including the Supreme Court of Canada. He is lauded
for his expertise in international arbitration as well
as cross-border and domestic commercial litigation.
Brad Dixon (see p.68) is recognised for his extensive
expertise in class actions. He regularly assists clients
with breach of privacy, competition and consumer
claims disputes. Strengths: “Brad Dixon has a very
good reputation in class action proceedings and is a
very good lawyer.”
Farris LLP
What the team is known for Farris is a well-established local BC firm with a notable litigation practice. The department comprises broad sectoral expertise, advocating in a range of commercial disputes relating to real estate and transportation. With offices in Vancouver, Victoria and Kelowna, the team possesses considerable expertise pertaining to securities, corporate disputes and class action litigation, and also offers representation to private individuals. In addition to being experienced at all trial levels, its lawyers often appear before administrative tribunals and commissions.
Strengths “The team at Farris is fully available and quick to respond to our inquiry.”
“The responsiveness is superb in our experience, with service levels that often exceed our expectations.”
Work highlights Farris represented Palisades Goldcorp in a dispute concerning alleged insider trading around the sale of shares in New Found Gold Corp.
Notable practitioners
Vancouver-based Teresa Tomchak has a wealth of experience in securities litigation and investigations, regularly advocating before the BC Securities Commission. She offers further expertise in allegations of insider trading. Ludmila Herbst KC acts on both administrative and commercial dispute resolution, often advising clients on judicial reviews. She represents clients in arbitration proceedings, as well as before the Court of Appeal and the BC Supreme Court. “She has great writing abilities and is very clear and direct.”
Lawson Lundell LLP
What the team is known for Lawson Lundell is a highly regarded Vancouver-based law firm offering wide-ranging litigation capabilities, with notable strength in corporate and commercial disputes, as well as litigation concerning insurance and environmental regulations. The firm is a popular choice for clients in the construction, telecommunications and natural resources sectors, and is also frequently mandated by Crown corporations and government entities. The group is experienced in all forms of dispute resolution, spanning trials, appeals and arbitrations. The firm’s experience also encompasses public law disputes, class actions, indigenous law cases and contentious tax matters.
Strengths “It is always a pleasure to work with them, we always get good service and good results.”
“The team is easy to work with and has a deep understanding of the local market.”
Work highlights Lawson Lundell represented Imperial Distributors in the opioid class action case.
Notable practitioners
Craig Ferris KC (see p.287) is an esteemed Vancouver-based litigator. He has deep experience handling class actions and commercial disputes, representing notable clients in the telecommunications, pharmaceutical and natural resources sectors. He offers further experience in international arbitration. “He is a very strong, very strategic and very calm litigator.”
Peter Roberts KC (see p.295) is noted for his experience litigating a broad variety of cases, including insurance litigation and contractual disputes. Based in Vancouver, he regularly acts for clients from the natural resources and mining sectors. Marko Vesely (see p.297) holds a diverse commercial litigation practice, representing clients in defamation disputes, jurisdictional challenges and class actions.
McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is a trusted brand in Canada with a respectable BC litigation practice. The firm demonstrates the capacity to handle complex commercial and corporate disputes, with notable clients in a diverse range of industries, including mining, financial services and energy. The team in Vancouver features experts in appellate, post-M&A and administrative litigation, as well as arbitration proceedings, and maintains a strong class action practice, often providing clients with inter-provincial support via its office network.
Strengths “The whole team is super responsive, always available, always offers service with a smile on their face and is very collaborative and responsive to our needs.”
“The lawyers understand the culture and level of risk we are comfortable with.”
Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault defended Goldcorp in a damages claim brought by Kaban Resources following a failed acquisition.
Notable practitioners
Michael Feder KC (see p.287) is a highly respected litigator whose practice spans across a range of corporate and commercial disputes, encompassing fraud and misfeasance, breach of duty litigation and force majeure disputes. In addition, he also holds experience in administrative and public law disputes, appellate proceedings and challenges to arbitral awards. “Michael Feder stands out as counsel of exceptional skill and judgement.” “When it comes to appellate work, public and administrative law and class actions, Michael Feder really distinguishes himself.” Jill Yates (see p.70) is based in Vancouver where she regularly represents financial institutions and industrial clients in complex class actions and commercial litigation. She has notable experience defending clients in fraud and money laundering-related cases. She also represents clients in arbitration proceedings. “Jill Yates is very confident, brings great strategy and can be firm with the other side. I would not hesitate to use or recommend her for corporate litigation here in Vancouver.”
Alexandra Cocke (see p.284) has a growing litigation practice, representing notable clients in the mining, aerospace and technology sectors. Her disputes experience covers a range of commercial contexts, including privacy breaches, as well as M&A and joint venture litigation.
Band 3
Harper Grey LLP
What the team is known for Harper Grey is a popular choice in British Columbia for single-plaintiff and class action litigation, being well equipped to resolve disputes for clients of all sizes, from individuals to multinational companies. The Vancouver-based team is acclaimed for its specialist offerings in the fields of securities litigation and professional liability. The firm is particularly active representing clients hailing from the financial services, pharmaceutical and natural resources sectors. The law firm also advises clients on shareholder disputes, bankruptcy proceedings and fraud allegations.
Strengths “The lawyers were extremely organised and communicated clearly and efficiently.”
Notable practitioners
Rod Anderson is based in Vancouver and is widely considered to be a market leader in BC for securities litigation. He is highly experienced in representing respondents in enforcement proceedings before the BC Securities Commission. “Rod Anderson is among the most sought-after lawyers in securities matters.” “Rod Anderson is the godfather of securities litigation in the city.” Michael Hewitt has a respected general commercial litigation practice out of Vancouver. His expertise includes a wide array of contentious commercial proceedings, with experience handling shareholder oppression and fraud disputes. “Michael Hewitt is organised, knowledgeable and very effective in Litigation. He is able to deal with matters as they evolve and to provide pragmatic advice.”
Christopher Rusnak KC leverages his technical background in chemical engineering to advocate for tobacco and pharmaceutical clients in disputes concerning intellectual property rights and causation, as well as representing clients in Chapter 11 proceedings. “He has a calm and reassuring manner.”
John Sullivan is active across a wide range of disputes, including before the BC Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal. He is particularly notable for his significant representation of individual executives and entrepreneurs. Owais Ahmed is recognised for his regulatory and litigation practice in the field of securities. He regularly advocates for both corporate entities and individuals, representing clients from a range of sectors, including pharmaceutical and natural resources. “He’s developed an incredible practice, very smart and hard-working.” “He’s just a nice guy, who builds a lot of confidence in the negotiations.” Una Radoja is growing her general commercial litigation practice in Vancouver, which includes experience handling complex breach of duty claims for clients from the natural resources and financial services sectors. She acts for both corporate clients and individual directors and executives. “I felt comfortable in her ability and her experience, and that gave me a lot of confidence that we would achieve our desired outcome. She is also excellent at anticipating scenarios.” “Una Radoja is a tough and determined lawyer, but at the same time, she has a lot of empathy for her clients. I felt that she guided us very well and was very organised in her approach.”
Hunter Litigation Chambers
What the team is known for Hunter Litigation Chambers is a notable Vancouver-based litigation boutique which commands respect in the market for its trial capabilities. The firm maintains a strong practice in commercial dispute resolution, as well as administrative and public law litigation, with expertise covering judicial reviews, class actions and constitutional challenges. The team also holds particular expertise in the forestry and mining sectors. The firm is noted for its capabilities at appellate level with the team regularly appearing before the Supreme Court of British Columbia and the Supreme Court of Canada.
Strengths “Hunter Litigation was keen to learn about our company’s operations and the impact the court actions could have on us. They gave us valuable particular about how we should conduct operations to minimise risk.” “The team is always on top of every situation, responsive and well prepared.”
Work highlights Hunter Litigation represented Baker Hughes before the Supreme Court of British Columbia in a dispute concerning alleged equipment malfunction.
Notable practitioners
Randal Kaardal KC (see p.290) focuses his practice on disputes before the Supreme Court and Court Litigation British Columbia www.chambers.com
of Appeal of British Columbia, including advising on contractual litigation and liability disputes. He is noted for his activity in the financial services and natural resources sectors. Strengths: “He is very good at keeping us focused and identifying the issues that could be faced by possible decisions.” Claire Hunter

KC (see p.289) operates a notable litigation practice advising clients on a broad spectrum of disputes in the administrative and public law spheres, including constitutional challenges, gender affirmation disputes and judicial reviews. She holds additional expertise in class action. Strengths: “She is incredible. She is smart, incisive, hard-working, and always understands the issues. Claire Hunter is the best cross-examiner I have seen in our many interactions over ten years.”

Kornfeld, Shapray & Partners

What the team is known for Kornfeld, Shapray & Partners is active in a broad array of corporate and commercial disputes. The firm demonstrates particular strength in the areas of white-collar crime and securities law, alongside additional expertise in real estate property litigation, trust disputes and workplace disputes. The team represents clients in class actions and judicial reviews.

Strengths

“The firm is very responsive and consistently achieves deadlines.”

“The firm is engaged in a broad range of work that affords the lawyers a unique perspective and breadth of knowledge.”

Work highlights Kornfeld, Shapray & Partners defended Assante Financial Management in a claim of interference and assistance with breaches of duty following the move of a former Sun Life employee to Assante.

Notable practitioners Howard Shapray KC is a skilled trial lawyer who acts on a wide range of contentious proceedings, including commercial litigation and judicial reviews. He has experience in a range of claims, including those involving breach of fiduciary duty, as well as allegations of fraud and money laundering. Stephen Fitterman has wide-ranging dispute resolution expertise, including advising on class actions and breaches of fiduciary duty. Abbas Sabur’s litigation practice in Vancouver includes acting on securities and corporate/commercial disputes across the real estate and financial services sectors. He also represents clients in breach of duty and workplace harassment claims. Strengths: “Abbas Sabur is very creative, very thoughtful, very collaborative and client-focused.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Daniel Bennett KC (see p.282) of Norton Rose Fulbright is regularly active in matters arising in the telecommunications and natural resources sectors, appearing before tribunals, administrative hearings and commercial courts. Vancouver-based Catherine Boiles Parker KC of Arvay Finlay LLP acts on a wide range of administrative and constitutional matters on behalf of public bodies in BC. Noted for her skilful handling of contentious privacy cases, she holds further expertise in environmental and Aboriginal law. David Brown (see p.283) of Stikeman Elliott offers a respected commercial litigation practice that includes acting on product liability and shareholder disputes. He is particularly active in the mining, natural resources and property sectors. Strengths: “David Brown is a very good lawyer.”

Ryan Dalziel of Dalziel Law Corporation operates out of Vancouver and focuses his practice on appellate proceedings and judicial reviews. He is experienced in representing clients before all levels of court throughout BC in commercial litigation. “Ryan Dalziel is the most gifted lawyer I have worked with.”

Vancouver-based Peter Gall KC is esteemed across British Columbia for his handling of administrative and constitutional litigation. He has significant expertise in labour and employment law and has represented clients before a wide array of courts and tribunals. “He’s a legend in that area.”

Robert Grant of Gall Legge Grant Zwack LLP practices in the administrative and public law sphere and advocates before a multitude of boards and tribunals. “Robert Grant is very well respected, very thorough in his approach and a great lawyer.”

David Gruber of Bennett Jones LLP practises in Vancouver and handles a range of corporate/commercial dispute resolution cases, with additional strength in allegations of fraud and money laundering. Strengths: “David Gruber is responsive to a client’s concerns. He has a deep understanding of complicated legal issues and is able to deliver a solution for the problem.”

Angus Gunn KC of Elyard Partners LLP has a longstanding dispute resolution practice and is notable for his handling of appellate cases and arbitration, as well as his additional expertise in administrative law. He regularly represents clients in corporate and commercial disputes.

Robin McFee of Sugden, McFee & Roos is an experienced commercial litigator who acts on a wide range of contentious proceedings involving securities, professional liability and real estate matters. He is also highly regarded for his work on personal injury claims and shareholder disputes. “Robin McFee is a formidable litigator.”

Hein Poulus KC of Poulus Ensom LLP is a longstanding commercial litigator who offers expertise in development and real estate disputes, as well as shareholder disputes. “Hein Poulus is very experienced in litigation and commercial business matters.”

Mark Underhill of Arvay Finlay LLP has a broad litigation practice that includes deep knowledge of administrative, environmental and Aboriginal law. His experience includes acting on both class actions and litigation before commissions and tribunals across BC.
**Litigation** General Commercial Alberta

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**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for Bennett Jones is a stellar choice for dispute resolution in Alberta, offering top tier support in class actions, ADR, and general commercial and securities litigation. The Calgary-based team caters to clients from a wide range of industries and is particularly well versed in representing the energy, technology and construction sectors. The firm's litigators act for multinational energy corporations, public sector bodies, individuals and non-profit organisations, among others.

**Strengths**

"The Bennett Jones team maintain a high standard of quality and professionalism. They are able to understand and untangle complex details between companies."

"They are an extremely well-resourced firm with the top-calibre lawyers."

**Work highlights** Bennett Jones defended Wood Group Canada in a claim regarding the failure of a 10km, high-temperature underground bitumen emulsion pipeline.

**Notable practitioners**

Detained Calgary-based litigator Blair Yorke-Slader KC maintains a first-rate reputation for handling the full gamut of corporate/commercial litigation, including skill in securities and trusts disputes. He regularly represents clients from the financial services, real estate and chemical manufacturing sectors before trial and appellate courts, as well as the Alberta Securities Commission.

**Strengths**

"He is brilliant, straightforward and always right." Calgary-based Munaf Mohamed KC is much admired for his prowess with high-stakes commercial litigation. He offers additional strength in asset recovery, civil fraud, insurance and contractual disputes. **Strengths:** "Munaf is an exceptional counsel. He is an excellent communicator, has a tremendous ability to analyse complicated situations and synthesise the issues to drive strategy and outcomes."

Christopher Simard offers expertise in bankruptcy, restructuring and insolvency disputes, as well as commercial litigation arising from the energy space. He is based in Calgary. **Strengths:** "Christopher is extremely technically and strategically minded, and provides a great balance between being assertive and practical."

Michael Theroux represents clients across a wide array of energy contractual disputes, offering additional expertise in domestic and international arbitration. He operates out of the firm's Calgary office. **Strengths:** "Michael Theroux is very impressive on all fronts." Michael Mysak operates an active commercial litigation practice from the firm's Calgary office, focusing on fraud, securities and shareholder disputes. **Strengths:** "Michael is very smart about his approach, he has the ability to navigate complex matters and get to the point." Laura Gill handles a variety of high-stakes commercial litigation with significant expertise in shareholder and joint venture disputes. **Strengths:** "Laura is very smart and capable. "She is very knowledgeable in her area of expertise, professional and responsive."

**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon houses a wide-ranging dispute resolution practice with particular prowess in the energy industry. The Calgary group also handles high-end securities, tax, fraud and construction litigation, as well as insurance defence. The firm regularly provides counsel on interprovincial class actions and product liability claims, and also excels in alternative dispute resolution strategies through arbitration and mediation.

**Strengths**

"The litigation and regulatory groups at Blakes are very strong, they have many smart, capable and practical lawyers. They consistently deliver very strong service and are responsive to our needs."

"Blakes is extremely client-focused, consistently providing an excellent, deep team with superb organisation and attention to detail."

**Work highlights** Blake, Cassels & Graydon successfully represented Enerplus in connection with an emergent action and application to recover the entirety of its seismic data in North America.

**Notable practitioners**

David Tupper (see p.297) offers vast experience representing energy and financial services companies in both commercial litigation and arbitration. His Calgary-based practice also includes additional strength in construction and insurance disputes. **Strengths:** "David has a sharp and strategic mind."

Calgary-based Renee Reichelt (see p.294) represents clients across the banking and energy industries, advising on commercial litigation arising from shareholder and securities disputes. **Strengths:** "Renee provides thoughtful and strategic counsel, she is quick, sharp and she manages files well. "She has deep experience, communicates extremely well and is always reachable."

Dalton McGrath KC (see p.292) regularly advises clients in complicated, high-value litigation and arbitrations, with sources applauding his expertise in trial. **Strengths:** "He is a tactician and strategist." "He handles complex matters in a very pragmatic and strong way. He strives for the best results in the shortest amount of time while minimising risk."
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais is trusted national firm with a top-tier disputes practice in Calgary. The team is highly accomplished in oil and gas, energy and banking litigation, as well as general business disputes. BLG also offers clients out-of-court approaches via its dedicated commercial arbitration group, and has strength in securities and construction litigation.

Strengths "BDG is a superior firm that made our legal needs their priority. Their ability to deal with extremely complex and novel legal issues was impressive."

“The team kept a clear strategy regardless of the various complexities.”

Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais represented Canadian Energy Pipeline Association to intervene in a constitutional reference case before the Alberta Court of Appeal, concerning the Canadian government’s introduction of environmental assessment legislation.

Notable practitioners

Randall Block KC (see p.167) remains one of the leaders of the Alberta commercial Bar, representing an impressive array of oil and gas clients in high-stakes disputes. He is distinguished for his immense dispute resolution experience, from matters of contract and product liability to environmental law, fraud-related litigation. Calgary-based David Madsen (see p.291) is particularly noted for his experience in the energy and financial services sectors. His expertise covers a range of commercial litigation files, including insurance, insololvency and IP. He also has experience in alternative dispute resolution.

Strengths: “David has provided us with excellent service. He is knowledgeable, very responsive and we feel very confident that our litigation is in good hands.” Based in Calgary, Matthew Epp (see p.286) has a wide array of securities litigation experience and regularly represents investment and real estate industry professionals in civil proceedings and class actions.

JSS Barristers
What the team is known for JSS Barristers is a distinguished litigation boutique based in Calgary offering high-quality trial representation. The firm regularly acts for players in the energy and construction spaces, advocating complex multi-party class action claims on the defence and plaintiff sides. The team also has capabilities in securities, administrative and insololvency litigation.

Strengths: “JSS are a go-to firm and valued business partner, they are excellent, responsive and very effective.”

“It’s an excellent specialist litigation boutique, they’re very capable and good at what they do.”

Work highlights JSS Barristers represents the Government of Alberta in its claim against tobacco companies to recover the cost of treating Albertans with avoidable tobacco-related diseases.

Notable practitioners

Carsten Jensen KC is held in high esteem for his handling of corporate and commercial dispute resolution in the oil and gas industry. His practice out of Calgary also encompasses arbitration, class actions and shareholder litigation. “He provides solid, strategic and practical advice.” “He is a phenomenal, technical, practical and strategic lawyer.” Glenn Solomon KC is recognised for his broad, Calgary-based litigation practice, with significant experience in contract disputes and product liability files. He has acted on claims relating to professional negligence and anti-competitive conduct, in addition to representing clients in administrative hearings and appellate proceedings. “Glenn is well respected and a good advocate.” Calgary-based Bryan Duguid KC is recommended for his broad capabilities in business dispute resolution, offering expertise across commercial, administrative and regulatory litigation.

Robert Hawkes KC has a strong shareholder and securities disputes practice based out of Calgary. He represents public and private bodies in a wide array of corporate and commercial litigation. “Robert has the skills and expertise to be able to provide a cost-efficient process for clients without losing sight of their goals.” “He is an excellent lawyer and well regarded in his respective area of litigation expertise.”

Erin Baker represents a range of clients in commercial disputes, and handles large-scale litigation and arbitration matters involving regulatory and construction disputes and professional negligence claims. “She is bright, effective and a phenomenal writer.”

Andrew Wilson has been involved in numerous high-value commercial litigation matters arising from corporate shareholder disputes and securities litigation. Andrew is a great thinker and strategist and I would welcome having him on my team in any complex case.”

Band 2

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault draws upon the strengths of a truly national group to handle regional and multi-jurisdictional dispute resolution mandates involving major Alberta-based clients. The team out of Calgary offers expertise in class action defence, as well as high-profile commercial cases relating to the oil and gas, agriculture and manufacturing industries. The practice also has significant experience working on insurance coverage disputes, ADR, securities litigation and secondary market liability claims.

Strengths: “The firm has very experienced senior lawyers and highly skilled senior associates.”

“The firm has an excellent knowledge of the law and the client’s needs.”

“McCarthy’s has the depth of expertise to handle a variety of situations and they provide a very timely delivery of service.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault represented Aurora Cannabis in the defence of a putative class action regarding alleged mislabelling and product liability claims of its cannabis products.

Notable practitioners

Kara Smyth (see p.296) acts for an impressive roster of clients from a range of sectors, including oil and gas, pharmaceutical and technology. Her commercial disputes experience extends to class action proceedings. “Kara is a tenacious litigator with a thorough understanding of complex issues and the client’s needs.”

Mendy Chemos (see p.284) offers significant capabilities in commercial disputes across the energy and banking sectors from the firm’s Calgary base. Her experience includes acting on product liability, insurance, construction and securities litigation, as well as ADR. “Mendy is an experienced legal professional capable of effectively managing large, complex engagements.”

Sean Smyth (see p.296) acts for a wide array of domestic and international clients from the firm’s Calgary office, with commercial advocacy experience in both litigation and arbitration. He is noted for his experienced handling of contentious securities, contracts and product liability cases.

Band 3

Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP
What the team is known for Burnet Duckworth & Palmer has a significant presence in the dispute resolution space in Alberta, with particular strength in energy litigation, including oil and gas and power-related disputes. The Calgary team is regularly engaged by clients in the construction, government and utilities sectors. The firm offers expertise handling a broad range of trial matters from real estate and technology disputes to construction litigation and class action claims.

Strengths: “BDP assembled a deep team capable of addressing a wide variety of complex issues. They were very respon-
sive and the entire team had solid commercial awareness of the business drivers impacting legal decisions.”

Work highlights Burnet Duckworth & Palmer defended Inter Pipeline before the Alberta Securities Commission following a claim brought by Brookfield, challenging certain defensive tactics employed by Inter Pipeline in response to Brookfield’s takeover attempt.

Notable practitioners

Jeff Sharpe (see p.296) runs a sophisticated commercial litigation practice out of Calgary. He handles a broad range of corporate and securities matters, notably in the oil and gas sector. Strengths: “Jeff is a very strong lawyer.” Craig Alcock (see p.281) is a well-respected commercial litigator with notable expertise in the construction and energy sectors. He is based in Calgary. Andrew Sunter (see p.296) is well equipped to advise on a wide range of complex litigation matters, including commercial, construction, energy, regulatory and securities disputes. Strengths: “Andrew provided exceptional support, providing a comprehensive analysis of the issues and sought to tailor the litigation strategy towards a very good outcome.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt houses a high-level commercial and energy industry disputes practice, rated for its strong bench of experienced litigators. The Calgary group has a solid track record in high-stakes breach of contract litigation, as well as experience in a range of other areas including class proceedings, securities litigation and shareholder disputes. The group has also represented clients in litigation relating to constitutional and administrative law. The team leverages the firm’s strong national platform to provide high-quality advice on multi-jurisdictional files. Clients also benefit from the firm’s complementary practices in regulatory and appellate litigation.

Strengths

“The firm is practical, knowledgeable and readily able to distil a complex matter to a simple proposition.”

“The firm has a strong ability to handle complex litigation.”

Work highlights Osler Hoskin & Harcourt represented Trans Mountain in multiple claims challenging the Trans Mountain Expansion Project.

Notable practitioners

Maureen Kiloran KC (see p.290) is recognised for her handling of major litigation files in the energy and natural resources sector. Her experience includes representing both public bodies and private clients in constitutional challenges, appellate proceedings and judicial reviews, alongside her commercial dispute resolution practice. She splits her time between the firm’s Calgary and Vancouver offices. Strengths: “Maureen is an excellent lawyer; she gives astute, timely and practical advice.” Calgary-based Melanie Gaston (see p.287) is increasingly esteemed in the Alberta litigation market for her strength in the energy, infrastructure and construction sectors. Strengths: “Melanie is a practical lawyer, thorough and knowledgeable.” Skilled corporate litigator Trisram Mallett (see p.291) is noted for his expertise with contentious securities and M&A mandates. He has also represented clients in product liability, privacy and contractual lawsuits, covering both single-plaintiff and class proceedings. Strengths: “He is a great advocate and is bright.” Olivia Dixon (see p.286) acts for clients in a range of commercial disputes, with a particular focus on energy litigation, construction litigation and international commercial arbitration. Strengths: “She’s very knowledgeable and a solid lawyer.” Thomas Gelman (see p.287) operates a wide-ranging commercial litigation practice out of the firm’s Calgary office, with experience in contested M&A and other corporate dispute files. Strengths: “Thomas has a great breadth of litigation experience. He offers strategic advice tailored to commercial considerations and realities.”

Peacock Linder Halt & Mack LLP

What the team is known for Peacock Linder Halt & Mack is a sought-after boutique litigation firm with a focus on the oil and gas sector, employment law and commercial litigation. The team offers further strength in shareholder disputes, class actions, oppression litigation, securities and insurance law. The Calgary-based firm caters to both domestic and international clients and is a strong choice for referral work by major national law firms.

Notable practitioners

Peter Linder KC draws widespread acclaim from the market for his skilful handling of complex commercial and securities litigation. He regularly represents clients in the oil and gas industry from the firm’s Calgary office. “He’s very reputable and highly regarded.” Calgary-based Perry Mack KC is recognised for his work on a broad range of commercial mandates, including product liability, insurance and construction disputes. He is further noted for his strengths in ADR and class actions. “He is excellent on complex securities class actions.”

Emi Bossio is based in the firm’s Calgary office. With notable experience in oil and gas, employment and shareholder disputes, she has represented clients at all levels of the judicial system, including the Supreme Court of Canada. “She’s a very good lawyer.”

Rose LLP

What the team is known for Rose LLP is a strong Calgary-based law firm, sought after for its impressive construction litigation practice. The team routinely handles claims involving industrial, oil and gas, and infrastructure projects. The group wins praise for its capabilities in general litigation matters, including business disputes, securities litigation and professional liability mandates. The firm acts for clients in the energy, manufacturing and financial services sectors, and is widely acknowledged as a destination practice for referral work.

Strengths

“Rose is a rising firm with several respectable attorneys.”

Notable practitioners

Matthew Lindsay KC often undertakes contentious cases in the oil and gas and construction sectors from his Calgary base. He has also represented clients in complex product liability disputes. Strengths: “A very strong and knowledgeable attorney handling sizeable matters.”

David Wachowich KC is an active commercial litigator based in Calgary, with experience across the aviation and energy industries. His expertise includes acting on contentious professional liability and insurance cases, as well as contractual disputes.

Lawson Lundell LLP

What the team is known for Lawson Lundell houses an established litigation practice in Calgary, noted for its handling of disputes arising from the oil and liquidation and insurance matters and arbitration in the construction sector. He is based in Edmonton. “He is highly experienced.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is recognised for its robust litigation group, with notable capability in contentious insurance mandates, as well as a solid offering in business litigation, class actions and product liability. The Calgary office draws from industry expertise acting for clients operating in the oil and gas, construction and financial sectors.

Strengths: “The firm have been outstanding at understanding the issues from our perspective and each person has been very intelligent and competent.”

“The team are very competent and responsive and they often illustrate interchangeable skill sets.”

Work highlights Gowling WLG defended Northwynd REIT in a class action proceeding, in which the investors alleged CAD85 million in losses to their investments arising from the operation and sale of various timeshare resorts.

Notable practitioners

David Bishop’s broad Calgary-based practice includes all manner of commercial litigation, including product liability and insurance matters. He regularly acts on contentious cases for clients from the oil and gas and construction sectors. “David is outstanding, he knows the legal system well and he is very smart and responsive.” Kenneth Warren KC is experienced across a wide range of commercial disputes. His practice includes representing clients in contentious executive employment and professional liability cases. “He is very experienced and wise.”

“He’s very proficient and an excellent litigator.”

Band 4

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons Canada is adept in advising clients on a full range of commercial disputes and litigation arising from shareholder and contract disputes. It regularly handles multi-jurisdictional mandates and has particular expertise in representing energy, oil and gas clients in the market locally and globally.

Strengths: “Dentons is very capable and proficient at breaking down complex matters, offering strong client support and delivering successful results efficiently.”

“The team are very experienced, quick to respond and provided a high-quality service.”

Work highlights Dentons Canada acted as counsel to the Special Committee of the Board of Inter Pipeline, in proceedings before the Alberta Securities Commission by Inter Pipeline.

Notable practitioners

Calgary-based Gordon Tarnowsky KC is regularly mandated by major oil and gas clients to handle cases involving multiple jurisdictions. He is equally experienced in litigation and arbitration, with noted strength in contractual disputes. Thomas O’Leary operates out of the firm’s Calgary office, representing clients in a range of commercial disputes, including arbitration and class actions. He has a solid following of clients in the energy and power sectors.

“Thomas is a stalwart in the legal community.”

Dennis Picco KC has notable experience in contractual disputes, contentious insurance matters and arbitration in the construction sector. He is based in Edmonton. “He is highly experienced.”
gas, power and natural resources sectors. The firm offers representation in commercial proceedings involving insolvency, breach of contract and professional negligence, with additional experience in arbitration.

Strengths: “The firm understands the commercial issues at hand.” “They have good judgement and ensure an experienced attorney provides a quick response when required.”

Work highlights: Lawson Lundell represents Shaw Communications in its application for a Plan of Arrangement under the Alberta Business Corporations Act as part of Rogers’ Communications CAD26 billion transaction to acquire all of Shaw’s outstanding Class A shares and Class B shares.

Notable practitioners: Simon Bieber is based in Calgary, representing clients in litigation and arbitration. He operates a wide-ranging contentious practice out of Calgary, offering strength in litigation and arbitration. He is noted for his particular strength in representing power clients in contentious commercial proceedings. “Mike has provided sound and unbiased advice on various files; he has candour and commercially savvy.” “An experienced and well-respected attorney.”

Litigation General Commercial Ontario

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Adair Goldblatt Bieber LLP

What the team is known for: Adair Goldblatt Bieber is an impressive Toronto-based civil litigation boutique that is highlighted as a growing force in the Ontario market. The firm is well reputed for its representation of plaintiffs and defendants in class action proceedings. Its lawyers also represent clients in commercial litigation and arbitration.

Work highlights: A team led by Jordan Goldblatt represented Sunwing Airlines in a successful trial seeking return of money taken by an employee in a kickback scheme.

Notable practitioners: Simon Bieber is commended by market observers for his burgeoning reputation in commercial advocacy. He operates a wide-ranging contentious practice from Toronto, representing clients in litigation and arbitration. “He’s an excellent lawyer.”

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for: Bennett Jones represents a number of high-profile public and private clients from across a range of industries in corporate and commercial disputes. Clients frequently look to the firm for its multi-jurisdictional scope. Its Toronto office houses a distinguished securities litigation practice, covering regulatory and class action proceedings, with other areas of strength including breach of contract and shareholder disputes. The department also regularly assists with litigation relating to competition, insolvency and professional negligence, as well as fraud, oppression and post-M&A litigation. It continues to act for provincial public bodies across Canada on high-profile disputes with tobacco companies seeking healthcare cost recovery.

Strengths: “Bennett Jones are a solid coordinated team, they are greatly experienced and have terrific insights towards winning.” “Bennett Jones did an incredible job on the file. The firm’s attention to detail, round-the-clock availability, very high-quality work and excellent oral and written presentations were essential to the successful result.” “Bennett Jones is able to take complex issues and find simple, pragmatic solutions to them and explain the proposed options to all parties in a simplified way, such that all parties can understand each option.”

Work highlights: Bennett Jones continued to represent the Corporate Governance Committee for the board of Rogers Communications in ongoing litigation surrounding control of the company, including an investigation into the company’s governance.

Notable practitioners: Mike Mestinsek is based in Calgary, where he acts on a broad array of commercial disputes, including securities, shareholder activism and professional liability matters. He frequently represents energy and resources clients in contentious proceedings.

Strengths: “I couldn’t ask for a better litigation lawyer than Mike. He understands the client’s interests and communicates extremely well.”

Don Dear is particularly recognised by sources for his employment and insurance disputes expertise. Based in Calgary, he also has experience representing clients in construction and professional liability lawsuits. “An experienced and excellent lawyer.”

Calgary-based Jonathan Holowachuk KC (see p.289) is recognised for his broad disputes practice, with notable files covering securities and construction litigation, as well as shareholder oppression claims. “Jason is a wonderful lawyer and a good advocate. He championed the client brilliantly, provided good advice and support.”

Geoffrey Holub (see p.289) is noted for his handling of contentious cases arising from the oil and gas, natural resources and construction sectors. His commercial practice, which includes arbitration, covers contractual, lease and shareholder litigation.

Strengths: “Geoffrey always provides high-quality service and results.” “He upholds a sterling reputation.”

Experienced litigator William Kenny KC is adept at handling a wide array of corporate and commercial disputes. He is particularly noted for his work in construction and insurance disputes. He divides his time between Calgary and Edmonton.

Mike Mestinsek (see p.292) is well regarded for his dispute resolution practice from Toronto, representing clients in litigation and arbitration. He is noted for his particular strength in representing power clients in contentious commercial proceedings. “He’s an excellent lawyer.”

Robert is a very intelligent practitioner who is at the top of his field in terms of knowledge and capability.”

Darren Reed (see p.294) has a burgeoning reputation in the Calgary market, representing clients in construction, securities and insurance disputes, among others. His clients hail from a broad array of industries including oil and gas, manufacturing and financial services.

Strengths: “He is strategic, business savvy and an attorney who I can trust with our matters.”

Darren is great to deal with, he is very responsive and truly wants what is best for his client.”

Heather Treacy KC acts on commercial and constitutional disputes arising from the oil and gas sector, offering complementary strength in Aboriginal law. She has notable experience representing clients in negligence and breach of contract claims. “Heather is an exceptional legal and strategic adviser, she approaches her practice through the lens of the client’s needs and operational interests and provides practical and effective legal solutions.” “Heather is a thoughtful and pragmatic counsel.”

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the firm’s Toronto office. “He has stellar judgement, management and accuracy on courses of action and outcomes.” “Richard is responsive, strategic, creative and solution-oriented. He is knowledgeable and, more importantly, has the ability to apply a strong knowledge base to successfully resolve our legal issues.”

Amanda McLachlan enjoys a burgeoning reputation for her disputes practice, which features strengths across a broad range of commercial litigation matters, including securities, employment and fraud matters. “Amanda is an insightful and creative litigator that fights for her clients.”

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is noted for its commercial and class action practice. The firm has managed numerous matters, including securities, employment and fraud cases. The team is particularly active in the financial services, real estate and securities regulatory disputes. The firm is particularly strong in the financial services sector. Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is globally recognized as one of the leading law firms in the area of commercial litigation, with a particular focus on securities and class action matters.

Notable practitioners

Michael Barrack (see p.279) is one of the leading figures in Toronto’s commercial litigation space. He is regularly instructed on high-profile and complex matters, including contested M&A, insolvency litigation and contractual disputes. “He is a total professional, who understands complex legal issues alongside complicated client relationships.” Andrea Laing (see p.290) is noted for her representation in significant securities litigation and class actions. Based in Toronto, she acts for a number of major Canadian and multinational financial institutions, accounting firms, investment funds and asset management companies. “She is an outstanding strategic adviser and complex problem solver.”

Work highlights

- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP defended Wyndham Worldwide in a proposed class action in Saskatchewan alleging its hotels unlawfully charged destination marketing fees to Canadian guests.

- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is currently representing a number of clients in securities class actions across the country, including class actions in Ontario, Québec, British Columbia and Alberta.

- The firm’s Toronto office is noted for its commercial and class action practice. The firm has managed numerous matters, including securities, employment and fraud cases. The team is particularly active in the financial services, real estate and securities regulatory disputes. The firm is particularly strong in the financial services sector. Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is globally recognized as one of the leading law firms in the area of commercial litigation, with a particular focus on securities and class action matters.

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## Litigation: Securities

### Ontario

#### Leading Firms

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Crawley MacKewn Brush LLP

What the team is known for
Crawley MacKewn Brush is a Toronto-based litigation boutique with an expansive securities and corporate disputes practice. Particularly renowned for its securities regulatory and class action defence work, the team has further experience in directors’ and officers’ liability claims, shareholder disputes and broader civil litigation. The firm attracts leading clients from an array of sectors, such as financial services, sports and energy, as well as former corporate directors facing OSC investigations.

Strengths “They are smart, quick and grasped the issues at hand extremely fast.”

“They are skilled, creative and dedicated lawyers who look for pragmatic business solutions. The senior partners are experienced, alongside strong junior partners and associates. They have excellent talent development and management.”

Work highlights
Crawley MacKewn Brush advised the former CEO of Canada Cannabis Corporation following proceedings commenced by the Ontario Securities Commission alleging he and other defendants defrauded investors in the company.

Notable practitioners
Alistair Crawley (see p.285) is well positioned to represent clients in cases stemming from investigations into failed transactions, as well as class actions. He is based in Toronto. “Alistair is a widely respected lawyer who is very strategic. He is also a gifted orator who is very quick on his feet and excellent in the courtroom.” “Alistair provides high-level, independent advice and fiercely defends clients.”

Melissa MacKewn (see p.291) is sought out for her representation in a range of disputes including those resulting from non-compliance, market manipulation and fraud. She provides counsel to clients from her base in Toronto. “Melissa is my go-to lawyer when I have a challenging case. Her written and oral advocacy are both delivered at a superior level and her client support and service are consistently high.” Based in Toronto, Robert Brush (see p.283) is best recognised for his work on investment dealer disputes and litigation resulting from failed corporate transactions. He also impresses representing both corporate and individual clients. “Robert is an outstanding lawyer. He is pragmatic, entrepreneurial and very bright. He is our lawyer of choice in commercial and securities matters.” “He’s an excellent business-minded and client-driven lawyer.”

Michael Byers (see p.283) is a well regarded lawyer with a growing security litigation practice. He regularly assists clients with shareholder matters, investigations and enforcement proceedings. “Michael has got great instincts and a lot of talent.” “Michael is always a pleasure to work with. He is very service-oriented; his ability to grasp issues quickly and distill key points is excellent.”

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

What the team is known for
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is a leading Ontario-based law firm with an impressive capacity for handling large commercial disputes both at trial and before the appellate courts. Its expertise encompasses securities litigation, shareholder disputes and insolvency, as well as class action defence and competition law. The department demonstrates further proficiency handling industrial tort claims and disputes relating to the recovery of care costs and environmental damage. The team is commended for its litigation capabilities in sectors such as mining, lottery and gaming, automotive and telecommunications, and it is also highly experienced in coordinating multi-provincial litigation files.

Strengths “They navigated complex arguments, coordinated effectively and sensitively with the plaintiffs and developed nuanced arguments based on in-depth research.”

“They were proactive and engaging. They used the right specialised legal expertise to ensure the issues didn’t become more complex.”

Davies has very experienced litigators who are able to handle complex matters. They are lawyers at all levels who provide a wealth of knowledge and experience.”

Work highlights
A Davies team defended OMERS Administration and OMERS Private Equity against a claim brought by a former employee, alleging breaches of a long-term compensation plan and wrongful dismissal.

Notable practitioners
Kent Thomson (see p.296) is regularly engaged in some of the country’s most high-profile and complex commercial and securities cases. He is a luminary figure in Toronto’s disputes market. “He is an excellent advocate and one of the top litigators in Canada.”

Chantelle Cseh (see p.78) is an accomplished commercial litigator, best known for her handling of high-value class action proceedings, particularly those relating to competition and antitrust. She is based in Toronto. “She offers superb counsel and she’s adaptable and capable of handling complex matters.”

Matthew Milne-Smith (see p.292) continues to impress with his handling of notable single-plaintiff, class action and appellate disputes. He operates out of the firm’s Toronto office. “Matt is a highly respected litigator who is very impressive in the courtroom and with clients. He shows excellent real-world judgement and guides the client through complex matters effortlessly.”

Toronto-based Andrea Burke (see p.283) is an experienced litigator who is notably active on OSC enforcement cases and other securities suits as part of a wider commercial practice. “She’s an outstanding lawyer with excellent judgement and is very dedicated to client service.”

Toronto-based Luis Sarabia (see p.283) maintains a broad dispute resolution practice, representing clients in both complex commercial litigation and arbitration proceedings. “He’s a very, very sound lawyer, who’s tough-minded and a consummate professional.”

Derek Ricci (see p.294) is rapidly building an impressive reputation for his commercial litigation practice. He has defended clients in both single-plaintiff and class action proceedings, and is based out of Toronto. “He offers terrific counsel and works for the best resolution, regardless of whether it is a commercial solution or litigation.”

Chantelle Cseh (see p.78) has developed a notable reputation for her handling of commercial disputes, including provincial and nationwide class actions, as well as administrative appeals before the Supreme Court. “She is incredibly talented, practical and results-oriented.”

Chantelle is superlatively organised and an excellent speaker. She is fearless and is capable of making complex disputes simple and approachable.”

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for
The team at Dentons impresses for its significant international client roster. With notable experience of litigation matters arising within the financial services sector, the team is particularly active on auditors’ liability cases and class actions relating to competition and product liability. In addition to wide-ranging commercial disputes experience, the team offers strength in construction and environmental litigation, as well as regulatory, real estate, technology, insolvency and fraud matters.

Strengths “The lawyers are very knowledgeable, always give sufficient advice and they explain matters in detail.”

Work highlights
Dentons defended Bayer in a national class action alleging it breached its duty to warn of bleeding risks associated with its anti-coagulant drug Xarelto.

Notable practitioners
Matthew Fleming draws plaudits for both his single-plaintiff and class action defence work. He has a varied client roster featuring transport, automotive, healthcare and financial services companies, among others. Based in Toronto, he co-heads the firm’s financial services litigation group. “He is an excellent lawyer.”

Fasken

What the team is known for
Fasken’s Ontario litigation team regularly assists clients from the transportation, pharmaceutical and financial services sectors with a range of different matters including commercial disputes, securities litigation and white-collar defence. Recognised for its handling of high-profile professional liability disputes, the department holds an enviable ability in resolving cases through summary judgment motions. The firm operates an active Ottawa litigation practice with significant experience of competition and procurement matters. It also offers robust class action expertise.

Strengths “The Fasken team has great expertise in complex areas and will always respond in a quick and efficient manner to any questions.”

Work highlights
Fasken represented Guyana Goldfields to defend a claim filed by Maxit Capital contesting its application for approval for a statutory plan of arrangement concerning its proposed acquisition by Zijin Mining Group.

Notable practitioners
David Hausman (see p.289) operates a stellar securities disputes practice from Fasken’s Toronto office.

He has extensive experience advising on insider trading cases, securities class actions, disputes stemming from failed transactions and OSC investigations. “David was among the early specialists in securities litigation and remains at the vanguard of creative thinking and vigorous defence in securities matters.” Brad Moore (see p.293) has developed a notable profile in Toronto’s securities litigation space. He represents clients in significant investment litigation, regulatory enforcement and shareholder liability matters. He is based in Fasken’s Toronto office. “He provides excellent subject matter expertise.”

Goodmans LLP

What the team is known for
Goodmans houses a well-regarded commercial litigation department with a strong focus on disputes relating to contested M&A transactions, commercial contracts and securities. The Toronto-based firm is particularly active in the
financial services, real estate and pharmaceutical sectors, and has additional expertise in insolvency, corporate, Competition Act, enforcement matters, class action defence and product liability litigation. Its well-rounded dispute practice includes expert advice on litigation prevention strategy and risk management.

Strengths “They were very knowledgeable and had great strategic minds. They were responsive, exceptionally hard-working and the value for money was great.”

Work highlights Goodmans successfully represented Cineplex in claims brought against Cineworld Group for damages for wrongful repudiation of a merger agreement.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based Alan Mark (see p.291) is a well-known and well-respected litigator with a focus on commercial mandates. He has a notable focus on shareholder disputes, including proxy contests, with clients in sectors including auto manufacturing and mining. “He is a quality lawyer.” David Conklin (see p.284) is a notable Toronto litigator who handles a broad range of commercial disputes, including securities litigation and class actions. He has experience representing clients in OSC investigations. “David is pragmatic, hard-working and persuasive – he synthesizes facts well, excellent drafter of key documents.” Suzy Kaufman has notable commercial experience, including handling disputes relating to the enforcement of foreign judgments. Working out of Toronto, she is also noted for her counsel in arbitration proceedings. “Suzy is very reactive and provides timely advice that shows both the pros and cons.” “She is very thorough, practical and responsive.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is recognized for its significant Ontario litigation practice group, with offices in Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton and Waterloo. The team advises on securities and shareholder disputes, oppression remedies and breach of contract claims. The firm also offers additional expertise in banking and competition litigation, white-collar crime, insolvency and large-scale class actions. Its client base includes technology and electronics businesses, Canadian and US banks and publicly traded companies, as well as high-profile current and former executives.

Strengths “Gowlings provides high-quality work product and is very responsive to inquiries. “They have a breadth of expertise, which was shown throughout our engagement with the firm, and they have done well to guide us through potential pitfalls.” “The firm has a lot of bench strength, with talented people in many practice areas.”

Work highlights Gowling WLG was retained by Amazon Web Services to defend two class actions. Its client, Amazon Web Services to defend two class actions. Its client, Amazon Web Services. Its team is highly experienced at both trial and appellate level, and regularly handles class action work, acting for both plaintiffs and defendants. The firm is internationally recognized as a leader in the class action field. It acts for an impressive range of clients, including domestic and international companies and financial institutions, as well as corporate directors and officers, and is often sought out as counsel by other law firms.

Strengths “They are highly capable in handling very complex, sophisticated and mission-critical matters.”

Work highlights LGL acted for the Canadian Network of Operators Consortium to appeal a decision by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission concerning the rates at which large incumbent companies can charge their smaller competitors for wholesale internet services.

Notable practitioners Jonathan Lisus (see p.291) is an eminent commercial litigator in Toronto who features on some of the country’s largest mandates, touching on such issues as negligence, representation, breach of contract and unfair conduct, as well as shareholder disputes. “Jonathan has our utmost trust on critical matters. He cuts to the heart of complex issues, is highly effective and provides excellent service.” “Jonathan is incredibly impressive in his experience and reputation. The way he approaches matters is very, very strategic and incredibly helpful.”

Managing partner Matthew Gottlieb (see p.288) is a prominent figure in Toronto’s commercial litigation market. He is particularly respected for his insolvency disputes practice. “He’s a great lawyer.”

Crawford Smith (see p.296) is a highly regarded lawyer with a diverse commercial litigation practice. He earns plaudits for his counsel on single-plaintiff and class action disputes, with notable experience in the energy sector. He is based in Toronto. “Crawford’s knowledge and expertise are of immense value.”

Nadja Campion (see p.284) has wide-ranging commercial experience, including advising on insolvency-related cases and class actions, as well as novel issues relating to the destruction of human biological reproductive materials. She works out of Toronto. Toronto-based Paul Michell (see p.292) is a seasoned lawyer with a well-established reputation in the commercial litigation field. He is additionally instructed on arbitration matters. “He is a strong advocate.”

Rahool Agarwal (see p.281) has a robust disputes practice which sees him act for clients in a broad array of corporate and commercial claims, as well as public law and constitutional litigation. “Rahool is an excellent litigator and we trust him with our most complex matters. He quickly absorbs complex facts and provides practical advice.”

Lenczner Slaght

What the team is known for Lenczner Slaght is universally recognized as a leader in the Ontario market. Based in Toronto, the firm demonstrates significant national reach and offers expertise across a wide range of industry sectors, including health care and pharmaceutical, financial services, education, transportation and information technology, as well as acting for public sector bodies. Widely viewed as a go-to firm for bet-the-company litigation, the team is regularly instructed to defend breach of contract and consumer claims, as well as securities and shareholder disputes. The group is further noted for its experience of professional liability, defamation, public inquiries, class actions, and restructuring and insolvency.

Strengths “This is clearly a top-tier firm with immense depth for complex matters. They have very broad litigation capabilities, covering a range of industries including commercial, public, securities, and other types of litigation. Each area of litigation is headed by a respected senior lawyer with strong juniors rising through the ranks.”

“They’re easy to work with and have an easy grasp of the material business issues pertinent to the situation.”

“There was strength at every level and no gaps in servicing our needs. The team understood our objectives and business issues quickly. We didn’t waste any time teaching them about the industry or our objectives.”

Work highlights Lenczner Slaght defended Menkes Developments and Bay Yorkville Developments against breach of warranty and builder’s negligence claims brought by Toronto Standard Condominium Corporation arising out of a development project in Toronto.

Notable practitioners Tom Curry (see p.285) is held in high regard by market commentators and clients alike for his skill in complex litigation files. His practice touches all manner of areas, from commercial disputes and class actions to administrative law and professional liability. Based in Toronto, he serves as the firm’s managing partner. “He is a renaissance man – he is capable of handling any problem.” Peter Griffin (see p.288) commands a formidable reputation as a litigator and remains the counsel of choice for many high-profile corporates for their high-stakes commercial disputes. Based in Toronto, his reputation extends across the country and beyond. “Peter remains one of the premier litigators in Canada. He is well respected by all and is relied upon to be an excellent judge, even in the most complex cases. His strategic sense is impeccable.”

Toronto-based William McDowell (see p.292) stands as one of Ontario’s most highly respected practitioners for public and judicial inquiries, as well as various other investigations and public law disputes. “Will is an exceptional litigator and a great communicator. His extensive background and knowledge were of considerable help, as was his understanding of the law. Will’s work is of the highest calibre and I have no hesitation in recommending him to anyone.” Monique Jilesen (see p.289) has wide-ranging commercial litigation experience, covering such issues as construction and real estate disputes, employee fraud and energy tariffs. She represents clients from Toronto. “She’s sophisticated and detailed.” Rebecca Jones (see p.289) has particular expertise in complex cases with a regulatory dimension, and her practice covers municipal disputes, public inquiries and professional liability, among other areas. “She is incredibly impressive, collegial, hard-working, intelligent and strategic. She is a model counsel.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault possesses a strong team that is firmly placed in the top echelons of the dispute resolution market in Ontario. The firm’s Toronto lawyers offer significant experience of commercial claims, securities litigation and class action proceedings. The team’s other areas of
notable capability include civil fraud, professional liability disputes, tax litigation, defective product claims and cases arising from demutualisation. It is particularly well regarded for its in-depth knowledge of the financial services sector, and also provides expertise across a variety of other industries, including automotive, energy, education, telecommunications, healthcare and cannabis.

Strengths "Our specific issues were handled by experts in their firm. They have the depth and breadth in the area we required. "Our needs were always met by experienced lawyers who provided advice in a way that allowed the company to make the best decisions."

"They provide unparalleled expertise in all areas."

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault represents Cineplex in a M&A dispute following its termination of an arrangement to acquire the shares of Cineplex.

Notable practitioners

Wendy Berman (see p.282) has a formidable reputation for her work on securities class actions and regulatory proceedings. She is a prominent figure in Toronto's securities field, with further renown for her recent term as vice-chair at the Ontario Securities Commission. "She is very smart and has strong securities expertise." Paul Steep (see p.296) is one of Toronto's premier litigators. His commercial disputes practice encompasses significant securities litigation mandates, including class action suits. His client roster features a number of Canada's largest commercial and investment banks. "I consider him to be the finest litigator I know, he is McCarthy's go-to guy on the most difficult cases." "Paul Steep is one of the most effective litigators I have worked with. His experience allows him to step back and grasp the big picture, making his contribution to the litigation strategy exceptional. His cross-examination skills are a wonder to watch." Toronto-based Sarit Batner (see p.282) has a robust reputation for her impressively broad litigation practice, from major insurance and insolvency litigation to contractual and shareholder disputes, as well as disputes relating to IP and professional liability. "Sarit is extremely talented and impressive. She has a high level of sophistication, in an utmost professional and has a brilliant mind." "She has excellent communication and truly impressed me." Geoff Hall (see p.288) acts for major financial institutions and investment funds in various commercial disputes, with a particularly strong track record acting on contractual litigation and fraud-related cases. He is located in Toronto. "He is a very good litigator, a smart guy and well respected." Shane D’Souza (see p.285) has developed a notable profile in Toronto’s litigation space, with a practice focus on securities. His experience extends to OSC enforcement matters. "Shane has an excellent strategic vision and can identify practical solutions to extremely complex issues."
Stikeman Elliott has Toronto-based A firm of choice for negligence and commercial litigation. late cases as part of her wider commercial litigation. Paul Pape is a longstanding figure in Toronto's dis

Strengths They are consistently excellent at all levels and have an excellent team.

Work highlights Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein intervened on behalf of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association in British Columbia v. Provincial Court Judges’ Association of British Columbia, to advocate for transparency in constitutional proceedings to determine salary for provincial court judges. He maintains a strong reputation for his handling of public inquiries. She sits in Toronto and serves as the high-stakes litigation and navigates them with ease.

Polley Faith LLP

What the team is known for Polley Faith is a specialist litigation boutique with a notable presence in Ontario's civil and commercial disputes market. The team is regularly mandated on judicial review cases, insurance coverage disputes, royalties and insolvency-related disputes, class action suits and negligence claims. The group is also experienced in regulatory and criminal disputes. It represents wide-ranging Canadian and US corporates and financial institutions, as well as private individuals.

Strengths It's a firm with very good litigators.

Notable practitioners Andrew Faith impresses for the breadth of his practice, working on issues ranging from corporate and insurance litigation to disputes around insolvency, securities and privacy. He provides counsel to clients from the firm's office in Toronto. He is a very capable and astute litigator.

Mark Polley represents his clients in the full spectrum of commercial disputes. His experience includes handling judicial reviews in the gaming industry and auditor negligence claims.

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott has a strong presence in Ontario, with offices in both Toronto and Ottawa. The firm's litigation department routinely assists clients with a range of disputes involving commercial contract claims, insolvency, securities and contested corporate transactions. With notable capability in class action defence, the group wins particular acclaim in professional negligence, misrepresentation and product liability claims. It is further recognised for its representation of current and former executives and directors in oppression proceedings, as well as breach of contract and fiduciary duty. The firm also enjoys a significant reputation for its work in the energy, construction and technology sectors.

Strengths They have a full complement of lawyers with the requisite skill sets and approach each file thoughtfully, devising the best strategy for each individual matter.

Stikeman handles and manages very complex and sophisticated legal matters and they have always been very responsive and diligent.

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott represents Cen-terra in a dispute related to the expropriation of the Kumtor Gold Mine, located in the Kyrgyz Republic. Most recently, the firm brought claims against a former director alleging breaches of fiduciary duty.

Notable practitioners Peter Howard (see p.289) maintains his position at the forefront of Toronto’s commercial litigation field, with broad experience covering securities litigation and an array of commercial disputes, including contentious audits and insurance claims. “He is a very strong choice and a leading lawyer in his profession.” Seasoned litigator David Byers (see p.283) is recognised for his work on insolvency-related disputes, professional negligence and product liability matters, as well as arbitrations and class actions. “He’s an excellent lawyer.” Toronto-based Eliot Kolars (see p.289) is sought out for his counsel on various commercial disputes, such as shareholder and contract litigation. He also operates an active antitrust litigation practice. “Eliot is a fantastic litigator in all respects.” Daniel Murdoch (see p.293) has experience in securities litigations, with notable cases including breach of contract litigation, shareholder disputes and professional negligence. He represents his clients from the firm’s Toronto office.

Strengths “He is an excellent litigator. He is very strong when cross-examining and presenting the facts in a clear and succinct manner. Daniel is also an excellent strategist and prepares very well with respect to legal sub-missions and trial.” Alexander Rose (see p.295) is a Toronto-based lawyer who is respected for his adept handling of various commercial disputes. He is frequently involved in litigation concerning allegations of misrepresentation, fraud and breach of contract. “Alex finds unique solutions to drive results and he is very responsive to client requests.”

Stockwoods LLP

What the team is known for Stockwoods is a Toronto boutique law firm with extensive experience of civil, commercial, administrative and public law litigation. The group routinely represents clients in contractual disputes, oppression remedies and professional negligence claims. The team is also regularly involved in securities class actions relating to fraud and market manipulation, and is sought out for its counsel on judicial reviews. It is further noted for its expertise in insolvency, white-collar defence and municipal litigation.

Strengths “Stockwoods lawyers are fantastic commercial and public law experts, they’re superb. Overall, it’s an excellent boutique.”

Notable practitioners Toronto-based Brian Gover is particularly noted for his representation of administrative and regulatory bodies. He gains further plaudits for his handling of competition-related disputes and is well known for his representation of individuals facing criminal charges. “He is a fantastic lawyer.” Paul Le Vay stands as one of the foremost securities litigators in Toronto. He maintains a strong reputation for his handling of securities class actions and regulatory proceedings including OSC investigations. “He is a strong litigator and does an excellent job for his clients.” Luisa Ritacca has developed an impressive reputation in Ontario for her administrative law disputes practice. She is well recognised for her work on tribunals and public inquiries. She sits in Toronto and serves as the firm’s managing partner. “Luisa is terrific.” Brendan Van Niejenhuis operates a varied disputes practice from Toronto which sees him act on a range of commercial litigation mandates, including competition and IP cases, as well as class actions and judicial reviews.

Torys LLP

What the team is known for A firm of choice for litigation in Toronto, Torys has a deep bench and a strong reputation for handling complex files. The firm has a range of litigation scenarios, covering negligence, misrepresentation and fraud, as well as impressive capacity for oppression claims, competition, employment and energy matters and class action defence. It is well positioned to act for clients on multi-jurisdictional and cross-border mandates. The firm offers substantial experience across various sectors, including technology, financial services, transportation and media.

Strengths “They provide top-level thinking, combining technical and practical advice. The firm are able
to pull in experts from all relevant fields.”

“Torys has been exceptionally responsive. They are consistently available and seem to make a point of responding to our queries in a timely matter. Their client service always impresses.”

**Work highlights**

Torys defended Anson Group following claims brought by Catalyst Capital and Calidus Capital alleging Anson and entities engaged in failing claims brought by Catalyst Capital and Calidus Capital alleging Anson and entities engaged in

**Notable practitioners**

Sheila Block (see p.282) continues to be instructed on some of the market's most high-profile commercial litigation and arbitration suits. She receives plaudits for her longstanding practice at the highest level of the commercial disputes market in Toronto and across the country. “She is a terrific litigator.”

“She is a very strong choice and a leading lawyer in this profession.” Toronto-based Linda Plumpton (see p.81) represents a number of blue-chip national and international clients, including financial institutions and investment funds, in high-end disputes. She demonstrates particular skill handling commercial litigation, class action proceedings and antitrust disputes. “Linda is a legal powerhouse, with an exceptional awareness of the best way to pitch an argument to the audience at hand, to achieve the best result for her client. Whether presenting her position to a judge or opposing counsel or her client, it is always about the needed result. She is a true counselor.”

“I routinely turn to her for advice on the most sensitive and complex matters and she never disappoints. She is balanced, commercial and brings a unique perspective to the table.”

**John Fabello** (see p.286) acts for a number of financial institutions on securities class action proceedings, with expertise extending to regulatory investigations and disputes. He co-heads the firm’s securities defence practice from the Toronto office.

“John is a very strong lawyer.”

“James Tory” (see p.297) is a high-profile and well-regarded Toronto-based litigator with extensive experience representing clients in single-plaintiff and class action disputes. “Any superlatives you pick, as to ability, performance, attentiveness, wisdom or personal decency, apply to Jim.”

Andrew Gray (see p.288) focuses his practice on contentious securities matters. He has experience acting for underwriters on class action proceedings relating to issues such as misrepresentation and disclosure violations. “He is exceptionally intelligent.”

**Andrew Bernstein** (see p.232) has a varied practice handling disputes relating to allegations of fraud, defamation and environmental indemnities, among other areas of expertise. He operates out of the firm’s Toronto office. “He has impeccable judgement as lead lawyer.”

“He provides a high level of customer service and is very responsive.”

Gillian Dingle (see p.286) is developing an excellent reputation as a commercial litigator, with notable expertise in securities disputes. From her base in Toronto, she represents clients in contractual, shareholder and property-related litigation. “Gillian has an impressive balance of analytical focus and practical judgement. She does an excellent job helping her clients understand the broader legal issues and which will likely bear the most fruit during the course of the litigation.”

**WeirFoulds LLP**

**What the team is known for**

WeirFoulds operates a broad litigation practice that encompasses a wide range of business litigation matters. With lawyers based in both Toronto and Oakville, the team represents businesses of all sizes in commercial disputes, securities and class action defence, as well as professional negligence and competition litigation.

The firm is also recognised for its complementary appellate and ADR capabilities. Its client base spans real estate, financial services, non-profit organisations and law firms.

**Notable practitioners**

Ken Prehogan is a key contact.

**Wright Temelini LLP**

**What the team is known for**

Wright Temelini offers robust strengths in securities disputes, including a broad range of civil claims and regulatory enforcement matters. Its attorneys also offer wider strengths in professional discipline, employment and commercial litigation.

**Notable practitioners**

Janice Wright is a well-recognised and well-respected figure in Toronto’s contentious securities market. She handles various mandates in the securities space, including regulatory disputes and enforcement proceedings. “Janice is our go-to person.” Based in Toronto, Greg Temelini represents clients in complex securities litigation, as well as regulatory investigations before the OSC and IIROC. He is particularly well known for his representation of individual executives and directors.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Firm founding partner James Doris is a well-regarded lawyer who has built an impressive reputation for his commercial disputes work in Toronto. He handles both litigation and arbitration, with further experience of white-collar criminal matters. “His business judgement is impeccable.”

“He has shown great judgement, skill and strategic expertise in navigating the business issues that abound in this matter. His judgement is sound and wise.”

Paul Morrison of Miller Thomson is a seasoned lawyer in Toronto with an abundance of litigation experience. He has expertise in all manner of commercial disputes, including professional and product liability litigation, as well as class actions and international arbitration.

John Pirie leads Baker McKenzie’s litigation and government enforcement group in Canada. His broad practice covers commercial litigation, including breach of contract, as well as fraud and asset recovery, anti-trust and securities disputes. “He’s a seasoned lawyer.”

“He maintains a level of sophistication that is excellent.”

Peter Wardle handles both litigation and arbitration on a range of commercial subjects, including professional liability. He also represents clients in construction disputes, and is based in Toronto. “He is a very capable litigator.”

**Litigation General Commercial Québec**

**Band 1**

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

**What the team is known for**

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is a premier law firm offering services across the full spectrum of issues in the corporate and commercial litigation space in Québec. The group regularly advises on shareholder and breach of contract disputes, as well as securities, fraud, restructuring and competition litigation. It also operates an active class action practice and offers notable appellate experience. The team’s expertise cuts across sectors, including construction, financial services, investment funds, telecommunications, transportation, energy, aerospace and defence. The litigation practice in Montréal also has a strong public law component.

**Strengths**

“The law firm provides excellent service at every level – partners, associates and juniors. They always respond immediately and are always available.”

“The lawyers have a good understanding of client needs and strategy.”

**Work highlights**

Davies advised Epic Games in relation to a proposed class action by users of the video game Fortnite.

**Notable practitioners**

William Brock (see p.283) enjoys a sterling reputation in the Montréal market for his ability to handle the full gamut of matters in the commercial litigation space. He advises Canadian clients as well as international corporations. “He is an amazing lawyer – it is comforting just to have his presence on a case and mentioning his name scares the opposing counsel.”

Guy Du Pont (see p.403) operates a longstanding commercial litigation practice out of Montréal. His expertise includes a focus on tax law matters. “He is an excellent lawyer.”

Marc-André Boutin (see p.282) comes recommended for his commercial disputes practice out of Montréal. He is sought after for his expert handling of real estate mandates. “His level of sophistication and attention to detail are unmatched.”

Cara Cameron (see p.283) is based in Montréal,
## Norton Rose Fullbright

### Leading Individuals

| Band 1 | Lapierrre Stéphanie Stikeman Elliott LLP* |
| Band 2 | Benoit Fabrice Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP* |

### Strengths

Where she assists clients from both the public and private sectors with contractual disputes and commercial fraud and debt recovery issues. “She is a pleasure to work with, tireless, personable and fluent in her chosen areas.”

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## Norton Rose Fullbright

### What the team is known for

Norton Rose Fullbright is a market-leading international law firm with considerable litigation prowess in both Montréal and Québec City. The group represents local, national and international clients in securities and commercial litigation across various industries including energy, technology and healthcare. The team has particular knowledge and strength in the construction, engineering and infrastructure sectors and is frequently cited as a popular choice for securities litigation and regulation, including shareholder disputes, insider trading and oppression remedies. The firm also has a strong profile for its work on multi-jurisdictional class actions and commercial fraud matters.

### Strengths

"They are available around the clock and are very responsive. They also bring an entrepreneurial approach to the reasoning and act as if it was their clients' business at stake."

"The firm has a lot of resources internally. The lawyers are providing a high level of expertise and quality in their work."

### Work highlights

Norton Rose represented Desjardin in a proposed class action alleging that Desjardins employed a 'clutch indexing strategy' to manage the investments of certain mutual funds and portfolios of funds.

### Notable practitioners

**François Fontaine** (see p.428), based in Montréal, is well known for handling a wide range of commercial litigation matters, including white-collar and administrative law cases. "He is an excellent litigator. "François is a respected business advisor in commercial litigation matters." Jean Bertrand (see p.282) is a respected commercial litigator based out of Montréal. He has experience litigating a number of commercial mandates before all courts, notably in the aviation space. "He is very capable and extremely strategic." 

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## Stikeman Elliott LLP

### What the team is known for

The team is known for its full-service national law firm acknowledged as a leader in the Québec litigation arena, as well as boasting cross-border capabilities. The Montréal group enjoys a sterling reputation for its experience of general commercial litigation and class action defence; other areas of expertise include franchising and defamation litigation. The team regularly acts on behalf of major industry players in the aviation, construction, energy and telecommunications sectors. The firm also earns considerable praise for its extensive capabilities in competition law, securities litigation and related investigations.

### Strengths

"The partners are very strong, as expected, and the younger lawyers are stars, which makes all the difference. They are also very good at exposing the whole team, and not just the partners, to the clients."

### Work highlights

Stikeman Elliott advised Air Canada on material adverse changes, business issues and termination in the context of its proposed acquisition of Air Transat.

### Notable practitioners

**Stéphanie Lapierrre** (see p.290) is a leading Montréal-based securities litigator who has considerable experience advising on matters including derivative actions as well as shareholder disputes. "She is outstanding." Montréal-based **Yves Marteau** (see p.68) is sought after for his representation of clients in the energy, banking and manufacturing industries in a number of matters, including class actions. **Éric Mongeau** (see p.293) is an esteemed commercial litigator based in Montréal, with a diverse client roster featuring energy and transportation companies. "He understands our business and provides practical solutions." Montréal-based **Marc-André Coulombe** (see p.285) is well versed in both general commercial disputes and public law. He is highly regarded by both clients and his peers. **Eric Azran** (see p.281) is well versed in both general civil and commercial litigation, which he handles from his Montréal base. He has further experience in public law mandates. **Frédéric Paré** (see p.283) is a litigator with a fast developing reputation for his adroit representation of both public and private companies. He primarily handles real estate litigation cases and contractual disputes. "He is a great lawyer, he is well prepared and clients like him."
**Band 2**

**IMK LLP**

What the team is known for IMK is a Montréal-based boutique hosting an impressive team of lawyers who handle all manner of civil and commercial litigation. The firm acts for businesses of all sizes to resolve disputes involving breaches of contract, fraud and oppression remedies. The team’s complementary strengths include administrative and public litigation as well as insurance law, construction and real estate. The litigation group has been further noted for its expert handling of shareholder disputes, banking and professional liability litigation.

**Notable practitioners**

Douglas Mitchell is a well-regarded Montréal-based litigator. He offers significant expertise ranging from commercial law to constitutional and administrative litigation. Montréal-based Audrey Doctor is adept at handling administrative and constitutional disputes, with a focus on private international cases. She is also sought after for her commercial litigation practice. “She is an excellent lawyer and I was extremely impressed with her work.”

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is a popular choice for commercial and securities litigation as well as for class actions, providing services out of its offices in Québec City and Montréal. The firm represents clients across a broad range of industry sectors including communications, technology, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, and is particularly well regarded in the local banking community. The team’s other areas of notable capability include insider trading, financial fraud, as well as competition and product liability cases.

**Strengths** “All the lawyers involved have a very high level of expertise; they provided practical solutions and excellent understanding of our context.”

“They give good strategic advice, and have good avail- ability and depth of knowledge.”

**Work highlights** McCarthy Tétrault advised CIBC and CIBC Mortgages on a series of class actions relating to mortgage prepayment charges.

**Notable practitioners**

Seasoned practitioner Julie-Martine Loranger (see p.291) is based in the firm’s Montréal office, where she wins praise for her experience in securities matters. She moves up the rankings this year on the back of positive market feedback. “Julie-Martine Loranger is very knowledgeable of investigations processes and standard procedures. She has exceptional interviewing skills, and adapts to the client’s needs.” Mason Poplaw (see p.294) is well regarded among peers in Montréal and is particularly noted for his handling of complex class action litigation. “I have a very high regard for him. It is tough when you are against him.” Montréal-based François Giroux (see p.288) is well versed in commercial dispute resolution and arbitration. “François Giroux is an excellent lawyer and is very impressive.” Montréal-based up-and-comer Sarah Woods (see p.297) maintains a broad disputes practice that covers commercial litigation as well as class actions and ADR. “Sarah Woods handled the file very well, she did an amazing job.”

**Wood LLP**

What the team is known for Woods is a Montréal-based litigation boutique with notable experience of commercial, corporate and securities litigation across a variety of industries including construction, telecommunications and financial services. The team’s other areas of expertise include insolvency and competition disputes and class action litigation. Woods represents a multitude of clients in relation to professional liability matters. The firm also has a strong focus on private international law.

**Strengths** “Woods has developed a team with deep bench strength, knowledge and experience.”

“The Woods team went above and beyond.”

**Work highlights** Woods represented Air India in recognition and enforcement proceedings related to an arbitral award rendered against the Republic of India.

**Notable practitioners**

James Woods (see p.29) maintains an impressive and longstanding reputation for his commercial litigation practice out of Montréal. He additionally advises on commercial and international arbitration. Montréal-based Patrick Ouellet (see p.293) moves up the rankings this year and offers experience acting for clients on a range of commercial and securities litigation matters. “Patrick Ouellet is a great lawyer; he is very smart, strategic, hard-working and reliable.”

**Band 3**

**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon has a robust Montréal team with a strong focus on corporate litigation, class action defence and product liability litigation. The group advises on a range of securities and contractual disputes as well as competition and consumer protection matters. The law firm is also noted for its experience of commercial arbitration. The team regularly acts for major players in industries such as banking, technology, energy, life sciences and construction. Its recent work includes representing major Québec-based entities before the Supreme Court.

**Strengths** “Blakes is a full-service firm with depth of experience in all subject areas and a very strong grasp of complex, technical legal issues.”

“They always provide good service and are responsive, within short notice. We trust that we are in very capable hands.”

**Work highlights** Blake, Cassels & Graydon represented Jean Coutu in a class action relating to franchise agreements in the pharmaceutical industry.

**Notable practitioners**

Robert Torralbo (see p.70) has a robust profile as one of the province’s most versatile commercial litigators. He also advises on high-profile class actions from his office in Montréal. Montréal-based Claude Marseille (see p.292) is a sound choice among clients from a vast array of sectors with particular expertise in the pharmaceutical industry for advice on disputes. “I really rate his knowledge and expertise. When in court, you can see that peers and judges respect him a lot. He is an excellent litigator with very strong interpersonal skills.”

**FrameWorks** (see p.295)’s Montréal-based practice encompasses strength in commercial dispute resolution, product liability and class actions. He advises clients from a range of sectors, including manufacturers. “He is an intelligent lawyer who knows his stuff.” Montréal-based Simon Seida (see p.295) advises on commercial disputes as well as regulatory and criminal matters. “His intelligence and responsiveness set him apart.”

**Band 4**

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken advises clients on a broad range of matters including securities litigation, class actions and employment disputes. The law firm has a strong track record of alternative dispute resolution and is well known for its expertise in the transportation, life sciences and insurance sectors. The Montréal team’s industry expertise also encompasses financial services, healthcare and technology. The firm and its lawyers offer experience before the Supreme Court of Canada and various arbitral and administrative panels.

**Strengths** “They have a strong ability to quickly understand a situation and its commercial impact.”

“Fasken has been our go-to firm for years because of its ability to handle multi-jurisdictional work. The lawyers are very experienced, practical and they know our business.”

**Work highlights** Fasken represented Intact Insurance, Bélair Direct, RSA and Industrial Alliance in a class action filed in the Québec Superior Court.

**Notable practitioners**

Marc-André Fabien (see p.287) is highly regarded in the Montréal legal market for his experience handling commercial cases. He also has considerable expertise in administrative and constitutional law. “A natural born litigator, his astuteness and eloquence...
before the courts is unparalleled. His client service is very strong and he is an expert in his field.” He was the one who made the difference on the file.” Eric Simard (see p.296) is a notable litigator with a reputation for advising on class actions and construction disputes. He is based in Montréal and co-heads the firm’s litigation and dispute resolution group nationally. “He provides excellent client support and is very responsive.” Frédéric Gilbert (see p.192) has a recognised litigation practice out of the firm’s Montréal office. He has notable expertise representing clients in franchise, real estate and construction disputes.

Langlois Lawyers, LLP
What the team is known for Langlois Lawyers is a Montréal-based firm focusing on energy related disputes, including joint ventures. Rahool has acted for parties whose issues touch Europe, South East Asia and South America. He has notable expertise representing clients in Alberta, but he has also handled cases in other provinces. Rahool’s practice focuses on complex commercial and civil litigation, acting for both plaintiffs and defendants. His experience includes class actions, contractual disputes, franchise litigation, shareholder disputes, proxy fights, director and officer liability, and complex fraud cases. He is frequently called upon to handle time-sensitive matters and has extensive experience bringing and defending urgent court proceedings. Rahool has also acted in a broad range of constitutional and public law matters, including cases involving the constitutionality of a safe injection site, the application of state immunity to claims of torture, and the discretion of physicians to unilaterally withdraw life support. Rahool has appeared in trial and appellate courts in Ontario, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Quebec, and in six cases in the Supreme Court of Canada. Rahool is also engaged in the broader legal community. He is an active member of the South Asian Bar Association and The Advocates’ Society. He is a regular speaker at professional development programs on topics related to substantive law, legal ethics and practice, and equity diversity and inclusion. He was previously a member of The Advocates’ Society’s 10+ Committee, the coach of the Lakehead University Wilson Moot team, and a member of the board of directors of the South Asian Legal Clinic (Ontario).

Other Ranked Lawyers
Montréal-based Simon Potter maintains an impressive and longstanding reputation for his commercial litigation practice. He continues to handle arbitration cases, as well as class actions and mass torts. Christopher Richter (see p.294) operates a broad-based practice out of Torys’ Montréal office, which encompasses commercial and class action cases, and shareholders disputes. "Christopher Richter has strong commercial instincts and delivers practical and timely advice taking into consideration the needs of his clients.”

André Ryan is well versed in both commercial litigation and securities mandates. He is particularly active in class actions. “He is bright, practical, solution-oriented, diligent, responsive and very effective on his feet in court.”

Leaders’ Profiles in Litigation

AGARWAL, Rahool
Lax O’Sullivan Lisus Gottlieb LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Rahool’s practice focuses on complex commercial and civil litigation, acting for both plaintiffs and defendants. His experience includes class actions, contractual disputes, franchise litigation, shareholder disputes, proxy fights, director and officer liability, and complex fraud cases. He is frequently called upon to handle time-sensitive matters and has extensive experience bringing and defending urgent court proceedings. Rahool has also acted in a broad range of constitutional and public law matters, including cases involving the constitutionality of a safe injection site, the application of state immunity to claims of torture, and the discretion of physicians to unilaterally withdraw life support. Rahool has appeared in trial and appellate courts in Ontario, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Quebec, and in six cases in the Supreme Court of Canada. Rahool is also engaged in the broader legal community. He is an active member of the South Asian Bar Association and The Advocates’ Society. He is a regular speaker at professional development programs on topics related to substantive law, legal ethics and practice, and equity diversity and inclusion. He was previously a member of The Advocates’ Society’s 10+ Committee, the coach of the Lakehead University Wilson Moot team, and a member of the board of directors of the South Asian Legal Clinic (Ontario).

ALCOCK, Craig
Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP, Cambridge
Featured in Litigation (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Craig has a broad-ranging commercial litigation practice. His clients are based mainly in Alberta, but he has acted for parties whose issues touch on the United States, the Middle East, Europe, South East Asia and South America. Craig has appeared before all levels of Court in Alberta. He has extensive experience representing parties involved in commercial disputes, contract and tort claims and has experience with a variety of energy related disputes, including joint venture, accounting, royalty, operating agreement, andlease interpretation disputes. Craig is experienced with a variety of construction matters, including building owner’s lien claims, and disputes involving lump-sum contracts. Craig also advises those industries at risk of accidents in the workplace, including responding to and reporting the circumstances surrounding accidents and fatalities, and defending Occupational Health and Safety and Safety Codes charges.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta; Canadian Bar Association; Calgary Bar Association.

Personal: Craig’s military service: •President of the Canadian Light Infantry, 1997 – 2007 •Queen’s Commission, 2003 •Tours of Duty to Bosnian and Afghanistan •Awarded the Sacrifice Medal, South West Asia Service Medal, Former Yugoslavia Medal, Peacekeeping Service Medal and two Commander in Chief Unit Commissions Craig has also recently joined the Board of The Military Museums Foundation in Calgary.

AZRAN, Eric
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
+1 514 397 3169
eazran@stikeman.com
Featured in Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: Eric Arzian is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. His practice extends to all aspects of civil and commercial litigation, ranging from providing clients with legal opinions and strategic advice to representing clients in Québec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as administrative tribunals.

He also chaired the Montréal office’s Pro Bono Committee from 2010 to 2012. He is currently Co-Chair of the National Diversity Committee, and a member of the Montréal office’s Associates Committee.

BARRACK, Michael E
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
(416) 863-5280
michael.barrack@blakes.com
Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Michael E. Barrack has been one of the leading senior litigators in Canada. He has practiced in all aspects of civil and commercial litigation, ranging from providing clients with legal opinions and strategic advice to representing clients in Québec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as administrative tribunals.

He has acted on some of the most significant litigation disputes in Canada for clients in various industries.
Michael has appeared at all levels of court in Canada, as well as at proceedings in the U.S. and England. Recently he was lead litigation counsel for UK pension clients in a landmark “modified pro rata” allocation of US$7.3 billion raised from the sale of the NorTel Networks global business units and patent portfolio.

BATNER, Sarit E
McCarthy Tetrapll LLP, Toronto
(481) 601-7756
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Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Successful trial and appellate practice, focused on complex commercial litigation and arbitrations. Extensive trial and appellate experience including in cases considering breach of confidence, patent, and antitrust disputes, taxation, oppression, professional negligence, and breaches of fiduciary duties. Appears before juries, arbitration panels, administrative and regulatory tribunals, and appellate courts of all levels, including the Supreme Court of Canada.

Career: BSc, Mathematics 1995; UWO Gold Medalist in Mathematics; JD Université of Toronto 1998; Ontario Bar 2000; Douglas K. Laird Medal for Excellence in Advocacy; 2021 BQA Award of Excellence in Civil Litigation; 2018 Lexpert Zenith Award for mid-career excellence.

Professional Membership: LSI, Bar Association, Canadian Bar Association, Advocates’ Society, Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the Litigation Counsel of America.

Publications: Various contributions to texts including the following book chapters: Civil Procedure and Practice in Ontario, Courts of Justice Act Chapters, and appeals from juries, arbitration panels, administrative and regulatory tribunals, and appellate courts of all levels, including the Supreme Court of Canada.

BERG, Bradley E
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Brad brings a broad perspective and practical approach for our clients. He is widely recognized as one of Canada’s leading litigators with experience in courts and arbitrations across the country and appearing regularly at the Supreme Court of Canada. Brad’s practice includes both complex commercial cases and precedent-setting public interest litigation. He was the practice group leader for Blake’s Litigation in Toronto for 11 years (2010-21).

Professional Memberships: Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and member of the Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society. Member of the Ontario and Saskatchewan bars. Past president of The Advocates’ Society, the leading association of litigators in Canada.

BISAILLON, Ariane
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Montréal
Featured in Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: Ariane’s practice covers various aspects of civil and commercial law, with a particular focus on commercial litigation, class actions, product liability and consumer contracts. Her practice also covers shareholders’ disputes, arbitration and extraordinary proceedings. She advises national and international clients, including pharmaceutical companies, manufacturers, banks, transportation companies, and local businesses. Ariane is fluent in French and English and has a practical knowledge of Spanish.

BJORKQUIST, Sonia
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
(416) 862-5876
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Sonia has extensive experience in complex cross-border commercial and securities-related litigation, often involving parallel regulatory, criminal and class action proceedings. Provides strategic advice and representation to companies and their directors/officers on allegations of corporate misconduct and has extensive experience dealing with Canadian regulatory and law enforcement agencies. Recognized for being insightful and creative, career highlights include successfully representing clients in some of Canada’s largest investigations and proceedings involving disclosure violations, insider trading, market manipulation and other fraud-related allegations, corruption and anti-bribery, shareholders’ remedies, litigation aspects of proxy contests, takeover bids and other acquisitions, corporate governance and securities class actions.

BERMAN, Wendy
McCarthy Tetrapll LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Wendy Berman’s practice focuses on complex commercial and securities-related litigation, often involving parallel regulatory, criminal and class action proceedings. Provides strategic advice and representation to companies and their directors/officers on allegations of corporate misconduct and has extensive experience dealing with Canadian regulatory and law enforcement agencies. Recognized for being insightful and creative, career highlights include successfully representing clients in some of Canada’s largest investigations and proceedings involving disclosure violations, insider trading, market manipulation and other fraud-related allegations, corruption and anti-bribery, shareholders’ remedies, litigation aspects of proxy contests, takeover bids and other acquisitions, corporate governance and securities class actions.

BERNSTEIN, Andrew E
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416 865 7678
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Andrew’s practice focuses on intellectual property, including class actions and arbitration, and on administrative law, with emphasis on regulated activity such as competition, transportation, international trade and energy. He has appeared frequently before Quebec and federal courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada, as well as before regulatory boards such as the Commission des transports du Québec, the Régie de l’énergie, the Competition Tribunal, the Canadian International Trade Tribunal and the National Energy Board. He has also appeared before parliaments and commissions and other government bodies regarding proposed changes to legislation or to government policies. He has extensive experience representing the Canadian and Quebec governments in negotiations with First Nations peoples.

BOYLE, Sean
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sboyle@blakes.com
Featured in White-Collar Crime (National–Wide – Canada, Litigation (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Andrea's practice involves coordinating and managing teams of numerous professionals and analyzing the impact of the laws from different jurisdictions. Select Recognitions: Benchmark Canada as Top 50 Women in Canada and a Litigation Star in Commercial Law, Securities Law and White-Collar Crime Cases; Litigation (Ontario); The Best Lawyers in Canada.

BYERS, Cara
Fasken, Vancouver
+1 604 631 4756
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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Gavin Cameron is a litigator in Vancouver with a focus on commercial disputes and white-collar criminal investigations. Appearing as successful counsel in more than 50 reported decisions, including more than a dozen appeals, he advises on contractual disputes, shareholders’ rights, regulatory investigations and arbitrations. A significant part of Gavin’s practice involves acting for individuals and corporations subject to criminal and quasi-criminal investigations. His strategies to avoid charges, and defending their interests in court. He is lead trial counsel in a number of the most significant corporate and securities related matters, including criminal and securities related matters.

Burke, Andrea L.
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
416.367.6088
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Andy is an experienced and highly knowledgeable civil litigation partner. He is a trusted advisor to companies navigating complex business disputes and corporate/commercial matters. Andy also has extensive experience in securities-related litigation and law. He is currently serving a two-year term as a part-time adjudicator for the newly formed Capital Markets Tribunal, an independent adjudicative division of the Ontario Securities Commission. Andrea appears at all levels of court and in private arbitrations, mediations and high-profile tribunal and court proceedings. He is also extensively involved in conducting investigations.

BROWN, David R
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 361 1394
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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: David Brown is a partner and leader of the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. David has extensive advocacy experience appearing before both the Trial and Appellate levels in all levels of court in British Columbia. Gavin appears as counsel in trials and appeals in all levels of court in British Columbia, as well as in the Supreme Court of Canada. He also regularly acts as counsel in commercial arbitrations.
CAMPION, Nadia
Law O’ Sullivan Lisus Gottlieb LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)


CHISHOLM, Adam
McMillan LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Adam is a Partner at McMillan LLP and an experienced securities litigator. Adam’s background reflects his representation in complex disputes across industry sectors. His high profile matters have ranged from those involving traditional industries (such as natural resources) to those involving cutting-edge technology (such as digital assets). Adam teaches Securities Litigation at Queen’s University and is a member of the Ontario Securities Commission’s Securities Pro- ceedings Advisory Committee. He has been quoted in both the Globe and Mail and Financial Post with respect to his securities litigation files. He also appeared on Bloomberg News Network to discuss securities whistle-blower proceedings. Adam’s securities litigation matters have ranged beyond Canada’s borders and he has assisted clients as far away as Cyprus, Australia and Israel. He assists McMillan’s clients with securities regulatory matters in other provinces, and represents clients in multi-jurisdictional matters, including those involving FINRA, the SEC and CFTC in the United States. Adam has acted on one of Canada’s most prominent securities fraud cases and has had success at trial related to securities blackout periods and corporate director responsibilities. Other prominent parts of Adam’s litigation practice involve his expertise in administrative law and intellectual property matters.

COATES, Tammy
Lawson Lundell LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Litigation (Alberta)


Career: Tamela (Tammy) Coates, KC, FC/Arib is a senior litigation and dispute resolution partner in Lawson Lundell’s Calgary office. Tammy brings more than 30 years of experience advising clients in a wide variety of commercial disputes and with respect to risk management. Currently, she serves clients in the energy, telecommunications, and financial and professional services sectors regarding complex claims involving commercial, environmental, and intellectual property issues and risk and reputational management. Tammy has appeared before all levels of the Alberta Courts, and has experience before the British Columbia Supreme Court, the Federal Court of Canada and the Federal Court of Appeal. Tammy has extensive experience acting as counsel to numerous major energy compa- nies with respect to regulatory challenges, upstream and commercial disputes, and landowner claims regarding water, soil, vegetation, and air contamination, including media and reputation management. She has also been retained to remedy is- sues regarding freehold leases, purchase and sale, operating, pooling, split title, and production disputes in addition to a variety of commercial disputes in insolvency situ- ations, patent claims and misappropriation of intellectual property. Tammy also has extensive experience in the telecommunica- tions field. She has acted as counsel to a major telecommunications company in a variety of commercial, corporate, and telecommunications related disputes, including constitutional issues, mergers and acquisitions, facility and network placement, advertising, and class actions. Tammy frequently provides counsel to charities on a volunteer basis. Tammy is a member of the Alberta Bar (1989).

Professional Memberships: Diversity Law Institute, Member Trial Law Institute, Member Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Fellow Litigation Counsel of America, Fellow Law Society of Alberta, Former Professional Responsibility Committee ADR Institute of Alberta (ADRIA) and ADR Institute of Canada (ADRIC), Member The Advocates’ Society, Member.

CONKLIN, David
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Partner. A commercial litigator with a practice emphasis on corporate governance and business valuation. Extensive experience appearing before all levels of civil courts in Ontario (litigating commercial disputes involving Securities Act claims of misrepresentation, class actions, shareholder and partnership disputes, oppression claims, breach of confidentiality and other fiduciary duties, secured and unsecured creditor claims, professional negligence claims and other related business law issues. Represents shareholders, boards of directors and
entrepreneurs of both private and public companies.

Career: Recognized as a leading litigation lawyer by Chambers, Best Lawyers in Canada, The Legal 500, and other directories. He is a partner for the Dispute Resolution Group at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) and also with The Advocates’ Society.

Professional Memberships: The Advocates’ Society American Bar Association Ontario Bar Association

Personal: David has taught a variety of legal and business courses. For a number of years he taught trial advocacy at the University of Toronto. He also served on the faculties of the University of British Columbia and the University of Toronto.

Practice Areas: Appellate Practice Class Actions Commercial Investigations Real Estate Regulatory Securities

Chambers Global, Best Lawyers, Lexpert, Martindale Hubbell (AV) and Benchmark. Chambers and Partners, The Legal 500, and also with The Advocates’ Society. He has been recognized by Lexpert as one of the Top 500 Lawyers in Canada and has been featured in the Lexpert Special Edition on Canada’s Leading Litigation Lawyers. His practice includes all aspects of litigation, class actions, securities litigation, injunctions, investigations, enforcement, trials, and arbitrations. He has particular experience defending banking, securities, and consumer class actions.

Crawley MacKewn Brush LLP, Toronto

Crawley, Alistair

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Featured in Competition/ Antitrust (National – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

See under Competition/Antitrust for profile.

CUNDAR, Laura

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (National – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

See under Arbitration & Mediation for profile.

CURRY, Tom

Lenczner Slaght, Toronto

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (National – Canada), Healthcare (National – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Tom is managing partner at Lenczner Slaght. Recognized nationally as a leading trial and appellate counsel, Tom has a long record of success in high profile, complex litigation across a broad spectrum of cases. He represents private and public sector clients in class actions, arbitrations, business disputes, administrative proceedings and judicial reviews, professional liability matters and intellectual property cases at both the trial and appellate levels. Tom is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and is certified as a specialist in civil litigation by the Law Society of Ontario. Tom has previously been recognized with the prestigious Law Society Medal, and most recently, he has been honoured with the 2022 OBA Award for Excellence in Civil Litigation for his exceptional achievement, distinguished service and contributions. He is also being recognized as the 2022 OTLA Personal Injury Defence Bar Honouree.

D’souza, Shane

McCathy Tétrault LLP, Toronto

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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Shane is a leader of the firm’s Critical Situations & Shareholder Activism group. His practice focuses on complex securities litigation, proxy contests, shareholder disputes, M&A litigation, corporate governance, regulatory and enforcement matters, and disputes involving wealth, capital markets and crypto businesses. He has significant experience in securities class actions. Shane assists clients with their most complex and sensitive problems by conducting internal investigations into potential violations of securities law, anti-corruption and bribery legislation, civil fraud, regulatory breaches, and #metoo and BIPOC allegations.


Professional Memberships: The Advocates’ Society Ontario Bar Association South Asian Bar Association

Publications: https://www.lexology.com/t727/author/Shane_C_D_Souza/

Personal: Shane teaches Corporate Crime, Crisis & Culture at the University of Western Ontario and is an advisor of the University of Toronto’s Corporate Securities Competitive Program. He was an adjunct professor of Advanced Securities and a member of the teaching team for the Corporate Governance and Securities Law class at Osgoode Hall Law School. Since 2022, Shane has been a director of the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association. He is a member of the firm’s National Pro Bono Committee and Student Committee.

DE ZORDO, Alexander

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Montréal

adezordo@blg.com

Featured in Litigation (Quebec)

Practice Areas: Alexander De Zordo is a partner and trial lawyer in BLG’s Commercial Litigation Group in Montreal. He regularly acts for financial institutions, securities dealers and brokers, corporate victims of fraud, high-tech companies, municipalities and domestic and international corporations of every size in the context of complex (high-octane) litigation, class actions, securities litigation, injunctions, investigations, enforcement, trials, and arbitrations. He has particular experience defending banking, securities, and consumer class actions.

Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers.

Career: Alex has been litigating for 30 years, the past 20 years at BLG after 10 years in a boutique litigation firm. He served on BLG’S Partnership Board from 2014 until 2020 and was Chair of the firm from 2017 to 2020. He was a founding member of Junior Corporate As Negotiator course and an active board member as Past Chair of that organization.


DEANE, Robert J C

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (National – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

See under Arbitration & Mediation for profile.

DENNIS, Craig

McEwan Partners, Vancouver

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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)


Career: For more than 25 years Craig Dennis has represented clients in significant litigation matters at the trial and appellate levels. He has participated in the Supreme Court of Canada. Craig’s practice has a business focus with an emphasis on the effective resolution of complex commercial disputes. His litigation experience includes the defense of class actions, professional liability, shareholder and related corporate disputes, product liability, real
estate and other land-related disputes, as well as administrative and constitutional law. Industry publications consistently recognize Craig as leading counsel in the areas of securities, commercial litigation and dispute resolution, with additional recognition in class actions and product liability.

Professional Memberships: International Bar Association, Canadian Association of Arbitrators

Publications: Craig’s work has been cited by the Supreme Court of Canada. Craig has served on the advisory board of the Class Action Defence Quarterly and has written on class actions for that journal. He is the author of the chapter on professional negligence in a work on Business Disputes published by CLE British Columbia.

DVEREUX, Jeremy
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Jeremy Dvereux acts as an advocate and negotiator in a wide range of complex commercial and regulatory matters. His experience includes securities and financial services disputes, regulatory investigations and prosecutions, corporate and commercial litigation, class actions, employment law, estate litigation, mining law and administrative law. He has appeared as counsel before the Ontario courts, the Federal Court, the Federal Court of Appeal, and the Yukon Court of Appeal.

DIXON, Brad W
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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada, Canada (British Columbia)) See under Class Actions for profile.

DIXON, Olivia
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Litigation (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Olivia Dixon is a corporate and commercial litigation lawyer with a primary focus on energy litigation, construction litigation and international commercial arbitration. In her energy practice, Olivia’s experience includes complex contractual disputes involving leases, ownership interests, operating agreements and purchase agreements. Olivia has also acted in litigation surrounding major resource projects, including judicial review applications, regulatory appeals, and environmental, administrative, constitutional, Charter and Indigenous claims. Olivia’s construction litigation experience includes dealing with construction bonds (performance, bid and labour and materials bonds), and disputes that arise in the course of construction, such as scope changes and schedule changes. Finally, with respect to her international commercial arbitration practice, Olivia has experience in conducting arbitrations held under the auspices of the UNCITRAL Model Law and Arbitration Rules.

Personal: Columbia University, LLM, Harvard FXIE, Stone Scholar University of Saskatchewan, JD, with distinction

DONALDSON, Michael J
Lawson Lundell LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Litigation (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Administrative, Constitutional and Public Law; Alternative Dispute Resolution; Commercial Litigation; Energy; Intellectual Property Litigation; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; Power; Real Estate Litigation; Securities Litigation; Technology and; and US Cross-Border Litigation.

Career: Mike Donaldson, KC, has practiced energy, commercial, and securities litigation, and commercial arbitration in Calgary for over 25 years. He has extensive experience with claims in the electricity, oil & gas, midstream, petrochemical, and pulp & paper industries both before the courts and in commercial and securities arbitrations. He has also argued several precedent-setting cases that have helped to delineate the jurisdictional boundaries between the courts and arbitration panels in commercial arbitrations, and established important principles regarding enforcement and annulment of arbitration awards. Mike is a member of the bar of Alberta (1996), holds an LLM from Columbia Law School, and was named Queen’s Counsel in 2022.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta – Member; Canadian Bar Association – Member; Calgary Bar Association – Member.

DOUGLAS, James D
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Extensive experience in general commercial litigation and securities litigation, including shareholder disputes, M&A litigation, broker liability suits, regulatory proceedings, criminal prosecutions and related internal investigations. Appears regularly as counsel before all levels of court, the Ontario Securities Commission and other securities regulatory bodies.


Professional Memberships: Member of The Advocates’ Society. Publications: Frequent writer/speaker on topics relating to securities litigation and regulation, shareholders’ rights and broker liability.

DU PONT, Guy
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Featured in Litigation (Québec), Tax (Nation-wide – Canada) See under Tax for profile.

EFFENDI, Nadia
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: One of Canada’s leading securities and class action lawyers. Nadia is a trusted advisor to financial institutions and capital market participants on their most sensitive and critical cases. Co-head of Torres’ Securities Defence Practice and Co-head of the firm’s White Collar Defence and Investigations Practice. Nadia focuses on all aspects of securities litigation and financial services regulatory matters, as well as on complex corporate and commercial litigation. She routinely represents clients across Canada before securities and other financial tribunals, as well as before all levels of court. Acting as lead counsel, Nadia has successfully defended public and private company directors and officers, as well as financial institutions, in Canada’s largest securities and class actions, including in Sino Forest and CanInfir. She was seconded for over a year to one of Canada’s largest broker-dealers to
FABIAN, AD E, Marc-André Fasken, Montréal
+1 514 397 7557 mfabien@fasken.com Featured in Litigation (Québec)
Practice Areas: Marc-André G. Fabien, Ad. E. is a seasoned litigator and Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers recognized for his mastery of high-profile complex litigation. He specializes in commercial and shareholders’ disputes, securities litigation, international arbitration, and litigation involving federal, provincial and municipal bodies. In addition, he is the President of the Canadian Paralympic Committee. Marc-André appears before all levels of courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada, the Court of Appeal of Quebec, the Superior Court, various administrative tribunals, and the International Court of Arbitration for Sport. He also lectured at the Faculty of Law of the Université de Montréal, where he taught the art of advocacy. His vast experience before the courts has earned him an excellent reputation among the judiciary. He is especially sought out for his strategic expertise.

FEDER, Michael A. McCarthy Tétrault LLP; Vancouver +1 604 643 5983 mfeder@ mccarthy.ca
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Highly versatile litigator. Handles both complex commercial disputes and constitutional and other public law litigation at both the trial and appellate levels. Practices nationally in the province of British Columbia and in the federal courts. Has acted in more than 25 Supreme Court of Canada appeals on a wide variety of subjects, including as amicus curiae appointed by the Chief Justice of Canada to assist the court. Lead counsel for the successful appellants in the leading Canadian cases on contractual interpretation (Sativa Capital Corp. v. Creston Moly Corp.). Member of Supreme Court Advocacy Institute’s National Advisory Committee and past Executive Director. Fellow of the Litigation College of America. Appointed King’s Counsel in 2018. Recognized by Canadian Lawyer magazine as one of Canada’s Top 25 Most Influential in 2019. Included by Benchmark Litigation on its Top 50 Trial Lawyers in Canada list.

FERRIS, Craig
Lawson Lundell LLP; Vancouver +1 604 631 9197 cferris@lawsonlundell.com +1 514 847 7557 mfabien@ fasken.com
Practice Areas: Alternative Dispute Resolution; Class Actions; Commercial Litigation; Construction; Infrastructure & Engineering; Insurance Litigation; Litigation & Dispute Resolution; Mining; Pensions and Benefits Litigation; Product Liability; Real Estate Litigation; and Securities Litigation.
Career: Craig A.B. Ferris, KC, FCIArb., is one of British Columbia’s most accomplished litigation lawyers and acts for clients in commercial and business disputes. His particular areas of focus include shareholder remedies, trust, pension and fiduciary disputes, securities and transactional litigation, product liability, mining disputes and real estate litigation. Craig has appeared on behalf of clients in courts in British Columbia as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. He also acts in private arbitrations and in administrative settings. Craig has particular knowledge of class actions and acts as lead counsel in the defence of major class proceedings in a wide variety of industries. Craig was the President of the Law Society of British Columbia in 2020. Craig is a member of the bar of British Columbia (1991), and is a Queen’s Counsel, British Columbia (2014).
Professional Memberships: Litigation Counsel of America – Fellow, Vancouver International Arbitration Centre – Domestic and International Arbitration Panelist, Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, International Council for Commercial Arbitration – Member, ICC Canada Arbitration Committee, Member, Law Society of B.C. – Life Bencher, Canadian Defence Lawyers Association – Member, Vancouver Board of Trade – Member, Canadian Bar Association – Member, The Advocates’ Society – Director.

FISCHER, Iris Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 2408 iris.fischer@blakes.com Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Iris’ practice includes complex commercial litigation, internal and government investigations and white collar matters, constitutional and other public and administrative law cases, and competition and regulatory matters. Iris is a leading media & defamation lawyer, with related experience litigating privacy, cyber and access to information claims. Iris represents clients in a range of industries in Canada and international media organizations frequently rely on Iris’ expertise in free expression and court openness matters, including defending libel claims, opposing publication bans and getting access to court documents. More generally, she specializes in cases in which online speech intersects with commercial, privacy or other interests. She also regularly deals with evolving laws around social media, technology, and online information. Iris represents multinational clients on government and internal investigations, including in fraud, anti-corruption and Competition Act matters, as well as in matters involving public-sector laws, such as conflict of interest, lobbying and elections finance legislation. She also advises clients in a range of industries on domestic and international anti-corruption legislation and related compliance programs, and assists with anti-corruption due diligence for commercial transactions. Iris is the co-Practice Group Leader of the Toronto Litigation & Dispute Resolution group, leads the Blake’s Media & Defamation practice and is also the co-leader of the Firm’s Public Sector Crisis & Compliance group.

FONTAINE, AD E, François Norton Rose Fullbright, Montréal 514.847.4413 francois.fontaine@norotonrosefullbright.com

FORBES, Sandra A Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP; Toronto +1 416 863 5574 sforges@dvib.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/ Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Québec)
Practice Areas: Sandra Forbes’ litigation practice covers a broad range of commercial and professional liability matters, with a particular focus on securities litigation, class proceedings and regulatory issues. She has litigated civil, criminal and regulatory matters and has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario, the Supreme Court of British Columbia, the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal, and represented clients in connection with investigations and proceedings by the Ontario, Alberta and Nova Scotia securities commissions, IIROC, the MFDA and the Competition Bureau. Ms. Forbes has also directed internal investigations into matters including possible insider trading and backdating of stock options. Ms. Forbes began her legal career clerking for the Chief Justice of the High Court of Ontario. She practiced criminal law and served as a part-time assistant crown attorney before joining the Enforcement Branch of the Ontario Securities Commission as senior investigation counsel. Following a rotation at the US Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, DC, she joined a well-known litigation practice in Toronto where she practised from 1994 to 2015. Ms. Forbes is the Toronto local chair of our litigation and disputes group.

FUERST, Linda Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto (416) 216-2951 linda.fuerst@norotonrosefullbright.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Linda Fuerst’s litigation practice covers a broad range of commercial and professional liability matters, with a particular focus on securities litigation, class proceedings and regulatory issues. She has litigated civil, criminal and regulatory matters and has appeared before all levels of court in Alberta and in international and domestic arbitrations, as well as before mediators and various administrative tribunals.

GASTON, Melanie Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary +1 403 260 7055 mgaston@osler.com
Featured in Litigation (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Melanie’s practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and arbitration, with a particular emphasis on construction and energy disputes. She also advises clients on disputes involving insurance law, securities, product liability, commercial leasing and municipal matters. Acting on matters for corporate partners, owners, contractors and subcontractors, Melanie has extensive experience in energy, infrastructure, and pipeline operations and construction matters. She appears before all levels of court in Alberta and in international and domestic arbitrations, as well as before mediators and various administrative tribunals.

GALWY, Jeff W Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto 416 863 3859 jeff.galway@blakes.com Featured in Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Jeff is a senior trial and appellate counsel whose practice focuses on corporate/commercial, securities, competition and pension law matters. A significant aspect of Jeff’s practice involves class action defence. He also regularly acts as counsel in constitutional and administrative/regulatory proceedings. He has also appeared as counsel before courts in five Canadian provinces as well as before the Federal Court of Canada, the Supreme Court of Canada and various administrative tribunals.
Career: For more than 15 years, he was an instructor at a program jointly sponsored by the Canadian Bar Association, Development and The Advocates’ Society on written advocacy. Jeff is an honorary overseas member of the Commercial Bar Association of the U.K. Jeff was a member of the Consumer Bar Association and Auditing and Assurance Standards Board’s Task Force updating the Joint Policy Statement on audit inquiry.

GELDBRAN, Thomas Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Calgary tgelbman@osler.com
Featured in Litigation (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Tom Gelbman’s practice focuses on complex commercial litigation and arbitration, with a particular emphasis on construction and energy disputes. He also advises clients on disputes involving insurance law, securities, product liability, commercial leasing and municipal matters. Acting on matters for corporate partners, owners, contractors and subcontractors, Melanie has extensive experience in energy, infrastructure, and pipeline operations and construction matters. He appears before all levels of court in Alberta and in international and domestic arbitrations, as well as before mediators and various administrative tribunals.

GREY, James B. Ogilvy Fleming LLP
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Québec) Under See White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations for profiles.

HARRIS, Dean Blakes, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 2408 dharris@blakes.com
Featured in Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Dean Harris’ litigation practice involves complex commercial and regulatory disputes, including in fraud, anti-corruption and Competition Act matters, as well as in matters involving public-sector laws, such as conflict of interest, lobbying and elections finance legislation. He also advises clients in a range of industries on domestic and international anti-corruption legislation and related compliance programs, and assists with anti-corruption due diligence for commercial transactions. Dean is the co-Practice Group Leader of the Toronto Litigation & Dispute Resolution group, leads the Blake’s Media & Defamation practice and is also the co-leader of the Firm’s Public Sector Crisis & Compliance group.

HARLOW, Simon GC Allred LLP, Montreal +1 514 397 7557
Practice Areas: Simon’s practice involves complex commercial and regulatory disputes, including in fraud, anti-corruption and Competition Act matters, as well as in matters involving public-sector laws, such as conflict of interest, lobbying and elections finance legislation. He also advises clients in a range of industries on domestic and international anti-corruption legislation and related compliance programs, and assists with anti-corruption due diligence for commercial transactions. Simon is the co-Practice Group Leader of the Toronto Litigation & Dispute Resolution group, leads the Blake’s Media & Defamation practice and is also the co-leader of the Firm’s Public Sector Crisis & Compliance group.

HARRIS, James B. Ogilvy Fleming LLP
Featured in Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Québec) Under See White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations for profiles.
Risk services arising from transactions, joint ventures, corporate decision-making, regulatory proceedings, and industrial incidents. Tommy has a proven track record of handling complex and challenging clients’ corporate interests with a strategic and persistent focus on achieving their objectives, whether in the courts or by way of negotiated resolutions. He always manages files with a view to ensuring efficient and cost-effective resolutions, often under alternative fee arrangements. He skilfully assembles integrated legal teams, often drawing from across Osler’s offices, to ensure that the proper resources are dedicated to the dispute.

Personal:
University of Ottawa, L.L.L.

GELOWITZ, Mark A
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto +1 (416) 862-4743 mgelowitz@osler.com
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto

Practice Areas:
Mark is a key contact for the firm’s Corporate and Securities Litigation Group. Mark has a business-focused approach to both corporate and securities litigation, appellate and international commercial arbitration practice. His practice covers a wide variety of issues in corporate and commercial law including mergers and acquisitions, shareholder and officer liability, corporate governance, shareholder disputes, oppression, privacy, libel and slander, real estate lease disputes, product liability, mining litigation and class actions. He has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada, the Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia and Yukon Courts of Appeal, the superior trial courts of numerous provinces and the Ontario and British Columbia Securities Commissions.

Career:
Mark completed two appellate judicial clerkships, the first with the late Chief Justice E.D. Bayda of the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal in 1986 and the second with the Justice John Sopinka of the Supreme Court of Canada in 1989

Professional Memberships:
Advocates’ Society, OBA, Metropolitan Toronto Lawyers’ Association.

Publications:
Mark maintains a blog on recent developments in Canadian appellate law and practice at Conductofanappeal.com. Sopinka and Gelowitz on appellate law and practice at Conductofa.com on recent developments in Canadian law and practice.

Practice Areas:
Matthew practises business litigation involving corporate and commercial disputes, insolvency and restructuring and fraud and securities litigation. Matt’s extensive track record of success in complex, high-stakes disputes explains why he is recognized as one of Canada’s top litigation lawyers. He has significant expertise in trials and applications, in tribunal and arbitration hearings, and regularly appears at all levels of court in Ontario and other provinces, the Federal Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of Canada. Matt has acted as counsel in many major proceedings, including those regarding Air Canada, the Starchair, Sears Canada, Mattamy Homes, Xplornet, and a number of material parties in complex insolvency proceedings. Matt is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and The International Academy of Trial Lawyers. He is a frequent instructor at many litigation related seminars held by The Law Society of Ontario, The Advocates’ Society and other organizations.

GRAY, Andrew
Torys LLP, Toronto 416-865-7630 agray@torys.com

Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas:
Andrew represents and advises on a wide range of issues in corporate and securities litigation. Andrew’s broad litigation practice involves corporate and securities litigation, CCAC matters and strategic commercial litigation. In his corporate litigation practice, Andrew regularly represents and advises corporations, boards and board committees in respect of transactions, proxy fights, governance issues and internal investigations; disputes arising from completed transactions; and oppression and related proceedings. He also acts and advises on commercial disputes that are strategically critical to clients. Andrew is active in securities litigation, and his work focuses on contested transactions, regulatory investigations and proceedings that have involved disclosure, options backing, insider trading and market timing, as well as securities class actions on behalf of issuers, underwriters, directors, officers, and trustees. His practice extends to insolvency litigation matters, and he regularly represents stakeholders in CCAC, bankruptcy and receivership proceedings. Andrew has appeared as counsel in the Court of Appeal, the Superior Court of Justice, the Ontario Court of Justice and the Supreme Court of Canada, the Ontario Securities Commission and other provincial courts and securities regulators.

GREENBERG, Brook
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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas:
Brook Greenberg, KC is a leading British Columbia litigator with a stellar reputation in complex commercial litigation, including banking and forestry litigation. He has also been counsel in numerous proceedings relating to substantial construction disputes. Brook has appeared in Ontario and the common law provinces nationally and has appeared before all levels of court including the Supreme Court of Canada. Clients seek Brook out for representation in civil litigation, arbitration and regulatory matters. Brook is recognized that clients’ business objectives are the primary focus of the litigation strategy. Brook has been an elected Bencher of the Law Society of British Columbia since 2016. He is currently Chair of the Law Society Medical Health Task Force, Vice Chair of the Discipline Committee, Vice Chair of the Lawyer Development Task Force and a member of the Complaints Review Committee. He is also currently a member of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada’s National Well-Being Steering Committee. Brook has previously served as Chair of the Law Society Discipline Committee, Vice Chair of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee as well as a member of the Ethics Committee, the Access to Legal Services Advisory Committee, and the Unauthorized Practice Committee.

GRiffin, Peter
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas:
Peter is recognized by his peers as a top litigator in Canada with extensive experience in corporate commercial litigation, class actions, securities, insolvency and restructuring, professional liability, and director and officer liability. He has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario and the common-law provinces, and before the Supreme Court of Canada. He regularly advises boards of national and multinational companies. He repre- sents clients in arbitration and alternative dispute resolution proceedings and acts as an arbitrator in commercial disputes. Peter is Past President of The Advocates’ Society, a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and Past Chair of the Ontario Provincial Committee. In 2021, Peter was recognized with the prestigious Law Society Medal for his exceptional advocacy, unwavering commitment to education and mentorship, and involvement in positively advancing the legal profession.

GROLEAU, Jean-Philippe
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Montréal 514 841-6833 jgroleau@dwpv.com

Featured in Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas:
As a partner in the Dispute Resolution practice, Jean-Philippe is consistently involved in high-stakes, complex cases that often include a public law component. He has appeared before various tribunals and courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada, where he has pleaded as counsel on multiple occasions. He has specific expertise in defending clients against class actions and white collar criminal prosecution as well as in launching judicial reviews. He has an excellent track record at all levels of courts across a range of issues, including alleged breach of consumer protection legislation and constitutional challenges. He also has an expertise in health law, providing counsel and representation to two major associations of health professionals. He is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and a recipient of the Benchmark Canada Impact Case of the Year 2020 Award. He obtained an LL.M from the University of Cambridge (First Class Honors). He sits on the Board of Health and Education Now!, an organization involved in community development in Benin. Select Recognition: The Legal 500 Canada; Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation; Lexpert Special Edition: Health Sciences; Lexpert Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40; The Best Lawyers in Canada.

GRONDIN, François
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Featured in Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas:
Civil and Commercial Litigation (complex litigation matters), class actions, both at the authorization stage (including representing Google, ADM and others) and at the merits (involving the takeover dispute and the class action dealing with the Lac-Mégantic derailment), professional liability (civil and disciplinary) and defamation. Significant experience in constitutional and administrative law, including the representation of the Conférence des juges de la Cour du Québec and other entities in constitutional matters and also acting in commissions of inquiry in particular (Gomery, O’Farrell, Chamberland), as well as in professional law matters, including judicial ethics, representing various judges.

Career:
Called to Quebec Bar in 1991.

HALL, Geoff R
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto 416-601-7856 ghall@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas:
Geoff is a partner in the firm’s Litigation Group in the firm’s Toronto office. As a leading litigator on corporate and commercial matters, Geoff represents a broad spectrum of organizations in complex commercial disputes; banking disputes; tax disputes; administrative law litigation; constitutional litigation; Aboriginal litigation; and insolvency and bankruptcy cases. Highly effective and equally at ease as trial
and appellate counsel, he consistently provides high-quality, strategic advice to clients and successfully resolves precedent-setting cases before all levels of Canadian courts. Featured in the Supreme Court of Canada, and in domestic and international arbitrations.

**Career:** Ontario, 1993.

**Professional Memberships:** Honorary Overseas Member of the Commercial Bar Association of London, England (COM-BAR); Advocacy Advisor for the Supreme Court Advocacy Institute.

**Publications:** Geoff’s book, Canadian Contractual Dispute Resolution Law, is the leading Canadian treatise on contractual interpretation. It has been repeatedly cited by the Supreme Court of Canada, and by lower courts across Canada.

**HAUSMAN, David A**
Fasken, Toronto
(416) 869-3486
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** David Hausman practices exclusively in the field of securities litigation. Regularly representing investment dealers, public companies, mutual funds, directors and officers, David advises clients on securities regulatory investigations and proceedings before provincial securities commissions, all Canadian stock exchanges and self-regulatory organizations. Representing both bidders and targets in contested mergers and acquisitions transactions, David also advises clients on governance issues in the public company context. From 1994-1996, David served as an enforcement counsel at the Ontario Securities Commission. Drawing on his experience there, David continues to act for the securities regulator, as well as acting for foreign regulators on securities regulation and enforcement matters.

**HOWARD, Peter F C**
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Peter Howard is senior counsel in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. His practice focuses on commercial litigation, including securities law, class actions, commercial contracts, oppression and other types of shareholder and/or joint venture litigation and insolvency matters. Peter also has extensive experience in arbitrations, mediation and alternate dispute resolution. Peter has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada and the trial and appellate levels of courts in Ontario as well as numerous administrative tribunals including the Ontario Securities Commission. He has also appeared in the Courts of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Peter was Assistant Commissioner Counsel to the Honourable Mr. Justice Estey at the Royal Commission into the collapse of CCB and Northland Bank and Commission Counsel to the Inquiry into the Events at Queen’s Park on March 18, 1996 (the OPSEU-OPP Confrontation). Peter’s recent litigation, arbitration and mediation mandates include acting for Barclays Bank plc; Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc.; Livent Inc.; the receiver of YBM Magnex Inc.; the monitor of Ivaco Inc.; asset providers in ABCP restructuring; Frank Strachan in various matters including the plan of arrangement of Magna International inc.; and in the appellate matters in the Air Canada restructuring. His class actions experience includes acting for Tim Hortons Inc., Menu Foods and Sunbeam Canada.

**HUNTER, Claire**
Hunter Litigation Chambers, Vancouver
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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)

**Practice Areas:** Claire Hunter, K.C., is an experienced litigator with a broad civil litigation, public and administrative law and appellate practice. She appears regularly as counsel at both the trial and appellate levels, including at all levels of courts in British Columbia and the Supreme Court of Canada, and before arbitration tribunals and administrative boards. She has experience working on complex commercial matters, including conducting internal investigations and conducting trials and appeals in high profile matters on behalf of diverse clients ranging from individuals to large corporations. Claire has acted as counsel on a number of defamation matters, on class actions relating to competition and consumer protection issues, in the Supreme Court of Canada in proprietary interests, for marketing boards and stakeholders in supply managed agricultural disputes, on matters arising out of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of Child Abduction, and on important public law cases at all levels of court. Throughout her career, Claire has been a frequent presenter on professional topics – in particular civil procedure and appellate practice issues, access to justice related topics and on the role of women incorporated in the Yukon Territory.

**JACKSON, Lara**
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Featured in Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Litigation practice focuses on complex corporate and commercial matters, including class action defence, securities, and competition litigation, contract disputes, contested transactions, and regulatory proceedings. Has significant expertise with cross-border regulatory and litigation matters. Has appeared as lead counsel before all levels of court in Ontario, BC, and Alberta and various administrative tribunals, including the Ontario Securities Commission. Clients include resource companies, major financial institutions, technology companies, directors and officers, and other market participants. Also serves on her firm’s Executive Committee, Chair of the Securities Litigation Group, and serves as a member of the Board of Directors of The Advocates’ Society.

**JILESEN, Monique**
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Monique is lead counsel in highly complex proceedings from inception to trial. Her practice includes class actions, contract claims, shareholder disputes, civil fraud cases, injunctions, bankruptcy and insolvency matters, and securities and derivatives cases. Monique’s clients include major financial institutions, pharmaceutical companies, technology companies, and other multinational corporations who routinely face challenging, cross-border disputes. She appears at all levels of court and in administrative tribunals. She has an enviable record of success at trial in the-class disputes. Monique is a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and is a recipient of the Trial Lawyers’ Association Laidlaw Medal for Excellence in Advocacy.

**JONES, Rebecca**
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Featured in Healthcare (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Rebecca is an experienced trial and appellate lawyer. She represents private and public sector clients in public law proceedings, commercial disputes, class actions, and professional liability matters. Rebecca’s public law practice includes judicial reviews, public inquiries, international constitutional and regulatory proceedings, and expropriation disputes. She acts for governments, public institutions and senior public officials, as well as individuals and corporations. Rebecca has significant experience in the constitutional landscape or involved in disputes or investigations with public entities. Rebecca’s commercial and class action practice covers a range of industries, including insurance, technology, transportation and professional services. In her professional liability practice, Rebecca has acted for professionals and for Regulatory Colleges, and has been retained to act as independent counsel. Rebecca is also retained to

**HALOWUCHAK, Jason**
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Featured in Litigation (Alberta)

**Practice Areas:** Jason Halowachuk has experience in banking and securities related matters. Significant experience in contested mergers and acquisitions transactions. David also advises clients on governance issues in the public company context. From 1994-1996, David served as an enforcement counsel at the Ontario Securities Commission. Drawing on his experience there, David continues to act for the securities regulator, as well as acting for foreign regulators on securities regulation and enforcement matters.

**HOLUB, Geoffrey**
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**Practice Areas:** Geoffrey Holub is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. His practice focuses on the areas of civil and commercial litigation and arbitration, with an emphasis on oil and gas, construction, manufacturing and the energy sector. Geoffrey has acted for companies, shareholders, directors and officers in a wide variety of corporate and securities disputes, including directors’ and officers’ liability, oppression, dissent rights and corporate opportunity cases. Geoffrey is involved in a wide range of commercial matters including contract drafting, negotiation and interpretation, corporate plans of arrangement, strategic advice and contractual risk analysis primarily in the energy generation, transmission and distribution industries. He has appeared before the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen’s Bench and the Court of Appeal in Alberta. Geoffrey represents and advises companies in international and domestic arbitrations conducted under a variety of rules, including the ADRIC, ICC, LCIA, and UNCITRAL Rules and regularly appeared before Panels of Commissioners at the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva, Switzerland. As well, he has been counsel on matters before the Yukon Supreme Court, including most recently on a contested proxy battle relating to control of a company incorporated in the Yukon Territory.

**HUNTER, Morton Rose Fullbright, Calgary**
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**Practice Areas:** Clarke Hunter has practised litigation and dispute resolution since 1980, following a clerkship with Chief Justice Laskin at the Supreme Court of Canada. He has represented clients in domestic and international arbitrations and mediations, at all levels of the courts in Alberta, in the courts of two other provinces, and in the Federal Court, the Tax Court and the Supreme Court of Canada. The disputes on which he has acted have involved a broad range of subject matters, including aboriginal (government side), contractual and joint venture, fiduciary duties, oil and gas, corporate securities, director and officer liability, shareholder remedies, profession: alleging negligence, product liability, intellectual property and tax.
Alberta and Manitoba securities commissions and the Alberta Utilities Commission. Mr. Leit is a regular speaker and writer on issues pertaining to securities litigation, insolvency and class actions.

LISUS, Jonathan C
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Jonathan’s practice focuses on commercial and public law litigation and appellate litigation. He has deep experience with infrastructure and FS-related litigation, class actions for plaintiffs and defendants, product liability, aboriginal land claims, oppression remedies, and securities litigation. He appears as counsel in courts and arbitral tribunals across the country and the Supreme Court of Canada. Jonathan is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the International Academy of Trial Lawyers. Jonathan is a member of the Chief Justice of Ontario’s Advisory Committee on Professionalism and a member of the Supreme Court Advocacy Institute. He is a Director of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association and regularly acts as Special Counsel on constitutional challenges to government actions. Jonathan has been lead counsel in many landmark decisions in the area of class actions, professional liability, public and constitutional law, and commercial litigation. He has tried over 80 cases to judgment and argued over 55 appeals in provincial appellate courts and the Supreme Court of Canada.

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Featured in Litigation (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Appeals and Judicial Review, Environmental Law, Civil Litigation Employment Law, Human Rights Law, Labour Mediation and Arbitration Pension Litigation Public and Administrative Law

Career: Andrew Lokan is a distinguished advocate in the areas of constitutional law, administrative law, aboriginal law, labour and employment law, and complex commercial litigation. He has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada in more than 25 cases that have defined the rights of Canadians and the limits of government powers and frequently appears before other appellate and trial courts. Andrew has published widely on public law, and is a frequent speaker on the subject. He is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, which he has frequently represented on a pro bono basis, and he teaches constitutional litigation at Osgoode Hall Law School.

Professional Memberships: Ontario Bar Association, Canadian Civil Liberties and Human Rights Rights Section

Constitutional Extemporizations: The Remedy that Dare Not Speak its Name – 27 N.I.C.L. 178 – 2009
The Federal Court’s Jurisdiction to Apply the Constitution – 27 N.I.C.L. 155 – 2007
- From Weber to Pardy Sound: The Expanded Scope of Arbitration – 11 C.L.E.L. 1. 2004
- The Rise and Fall of Case B: Section 1 of the Charter – 24 Ottawa L.Rev. 103 – 1992

LORANGER, Julie-Martine
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Featured in Litigation (Quebec)

Practice Areas: Litigation partner based in Montréal. Practice focuses on class actions; product liability, tort, consum- er protection, securities and intellectual property. Experienced trial lawyer with over 30 years of experience, and has appeared before courts of all jurisdictions, including the Supreme Court of Canada, the Quebec Court of Appeal, Superior Court, and various regulators, arbitrators and mediators. Recognized as a skilled negotiator with proven affinity for strategy and negotiation.


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Institute of Directors.

Publications: Writing the legal column of Finance & Investissement for many years, and on securities in JurisClasseur Québec.

LOUCHEKOV, Ivan
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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Commercial Litigation, class actions and arbitration practice, securities/investment fraud litigation, insolvency and corporate liquidations, intellectual property, regulatory matters, and other complex matters.

Career: Ivan has practiced law for over 40 years in British Columbia and Ontario, representing clients in high stakes, complex, regulatory matters. Ivan has been named a Top 500 Most Influential Person in the Field of Canadian Law by Canadian Lawyer magazine. Ivan was recently recognized as a “Litigator of the Year” by the Intellectual Property Law Association of Canada. Ivan is a Certified Fraud Examiner.

LUCHENO, Alexandra
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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Alexandra has expertise as lead counsel in complex commercial and transactional matters before all levels of Court in Canada, a number of administrative tribunals and regulatory proceedings. She has significant experience working on behalf of private equity clients and financial institutions as well as mining, resource, health sciences and technology companies. A considerable amount of her experience involves multifaceted legal and reputational issues that require coordination of numerous areas of specialization, including regulatory com-
Professional Memberships: Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the Litigation Counsel of America, and a former director and Past President of The Advocates' Society. Frequent speaker and course developer.

MARTINHEAUM, Claudie
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Featured in Litigation (Quebec)
Practice Areas: Class actions, procedural and appellate, and corporate and securities law. Claudie has extensive experience in securities law, representing issuers and investors in litigation involving securities fraud and related matters.

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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Administrative & Public Law Appellate Practice Class Actions
Commercial Litigation
Corporate & Shareholder Environmental Insolvency & Restructuring
Insurance Investigations
Product Liability & Complex Torts
Professional Liability Real Estate Regulatory

Career: Ken McEwan practices as general counsel focusing on complex corporate, commercial litigation, class action litigation, commercial arbitration and administrative law in the federal, provincial and appellate courts.

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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Paul practices in commercial litigation and arbitration, and frequently acts as an arbitrator in commercial, corporate and securities law. He has represented clients in a wide range of industries. Paul excels at resolving difficult issues through innovative litigation strategies. He is noted for his strategic approach to complex disputes.

MCGRATH, Dalton W
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Featured in Litigation (Alberta)
Practice Areas: For approximately 30 years, Dalton has acted as lead counsel in some of the leading and high-profile litigation and arbitration cases in Canada. He is a highly respected litigator and trusted advisor to some of the most successful companies and people in Canada. Dalton is also a well-known appellate lawyer. He has acted as lead counsel in many high-profile cases involving securities, corporate governance and other areas of civil litigation. He is a contributing author to a number of law books and is a contributing author to a number of law books and is a contributing author to a number of law books.

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Practice Areas: Class actions, commercial and securities litigation. He has represented clients in a wide range of industries. Paul excels at resolving difficult issues through innovative litigation strategies. He is noted for his strategic approach to complex disputes.

MCLEAN, Doug
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Doug practices in commercial litigation with a focus on securities litigation. He advises companies and individuals in disputes relating to corporate governance, director and officer liability, securities, auditor liability, mergers and acquisitions, and insider trading. Doug has extensive experience with stakeholder disputes involving both public and private companies, including securities litigation and complex class actions.

MELCHERS, Sophie
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Sophie Melchers practices mainly in the areas of commercial, corporate and securities law. She has represented clients before the Québec courts and the Supreme Court of Canada in connection with disputed take-over bids, dissenting shareholder remedies, plans of arrangement, insider trading and market manipulation.

MESTINSEK, Mike
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Featured in Litigation (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Michael is Head of the Advocacy Group in the Calgary office and is a member of the Partnership Board.

MICHEL, Paul
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Featured in Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Paul is a trial and appellate lawyer. He is the lead lawyer in a number of complex litigation and arbitration cases. He has represented clients in a number of significant cases involving securities law, corporate governance, and shareholders’ rights. Paul is a recognized expert in securities law and has represented clients in a number of high-profile cases involving securities fraud and related matters.

MILNE-SMITH, Matthew
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Featured in Dispute Resolution ( Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Matthew practices in the litigation field. He has represented clients in a wide range of complex litigation matters, including securities disputes, complex class actions, securities disputes, constitutional

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challenges, insolvency proceedings and novel tort claims. He acts before a variety of courts and tribunals, including as trial counsel, and in numerous precedent-setting appeals before the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. Matthew has enjoyed particular success in obtaining summary dismissal of actions against his clients. His reported cases include leading decisions in the areas of class actions, securities litigation, enforcement of foreign judgments, insolvency, freedom of speech, and solicitors’ duty of loyalty. Matthew clerked for the Honourable Mr. Justice Iacobucci of the Supreme Court of Canada from 1999 to 2000. Select Recognition: Chambers Canada; Benchmark Canada; The Legal 500 Canada; The Lexexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Litigation.

MORRIS, Ryan
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Practice Areas: Ryan has developed a strong presence in the securities litigation space, with significant experience defending securities class actions (often with parallel actions in the US), securities matters, complex commercial litigation and regulatory proceedings. He has successfully litigated some of the most significant recent securities transactional disputes in Canada. Ryan was lead counsel successfully in court-supervised transactions, and corporate disputes in Canada, the takeover battle for Torstar, one of Canada’s leading media companies. He also had a leading role in arguing the contested takeover of one of Canada’s oldest companies, the Hudson’s Bay Company, before the Ontario Securities Commission and the courts. Ryan is regularly sought out as defence counsel on securities class actions related to financial products, including exchange traded funds, mutual funds and syndicated mortgage products and has one of the largest practices in the country in this developing area. He has represented clients in enforcement proceedings before the securities commissions in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Quebec and recently settled an IIROG proceeding relating to the largest block trade in Canadian history.

MURDOCH, Daniel
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Practice Areas: Dan Murdoch is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group and a member of the Associates Committee in the Toronto office. He is also Chair of the Firm’s Claims & Risk Management Committee. His practice focuses on complex class commercial litigation and insolvency and restructuring matters. His class action practice includes securities, product liability and professional negligence. Dan has been counsel on multiple securities class actions, frequently obtaining early dismissal. His commercial litigation practice involves a wide range of matters, including securities, shareholder disputes, real estate, professional negligence, and product liability disputes. In his insolvency practice, Dan has acted for debtors, monitors, and creditors in Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA), bankruptcy and receivership proceedings, including cross-border CCAA/Chapter 15 proceedings. Dan has appeared at all levels of courts in Ontario, regulatory tribunals, and acts regularly in commercial arbitration matters.

NATHANSON, Andrew
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Practice Areas: Andrew Nathanson, KC focuses on complex commercial litigation and white collar crime. He is Co-Chair of Fasken’s Commercial Litigation Group in BC and Co-Leader of the firm’s National White Collar Defence and Investigations group.

O’NEILL, Louis-Martin
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Practice Areas: Louis-Martin is a litigation partner at Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg in Montréal. He brings extensive experience in high-stakes litigation and special situations. His practice covers a broad spectrum of M&A, corporate, securities, commercial and insolvency matters, including cross-border matters and white-collar matters. He has been involved in numerous major M&A and securities litigation cases in Quebec, including the landmark Supreme Court of Canada’s decision relating to BCE’s proposed $52 billion privatization. He frequently advises boards on governance and sensitive issues. He has worked in the United Kingdom, and is acting for many international clients on multimillion-dollar matters. Select Recognition: Benchmark Canada; Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation; The Canadian Legal Lawyer Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Lexper’s Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40.

OUELLET, Patrick
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Practice Areas: Patrick is known as one of Quebec’s finest trial and appellate lawyers. His practice spans the fields of commercial, corporate, and civil litigation as well as arbitration. His particular focus has been in litigation involving securities, telecommunications, class actions, construction, and shareholder disputes, in which he has been and remains responsible for many especially high-profile cases.

PETIT, Douglas
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Practice Areas: Douglas Petit is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. He represents and advises clients in all areas of civil and commercial litigation, including class actions, securities, white collar crime, and arbitration. He has represented clients in complex securities litigation and consumer class actions. Douglas Petit is recognized for his experience in high-stakes cases and is regularly sought out as counsel of choice for many especially high-profile cases. He has been involved in several major M&A and securities litigation cases in Quebec, including some of the largest and most complex matters in Canadian history.

PARÉ, Frédéric
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Practice Areas: Frédéric Paré is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group, where he acts as lead counsel for many public and private companies in large and complex cases. His practice covers the full spectrum of financial law, including shareholder disputes, securities, transactional litigation, product liability, as well as franchise law and special remedies such as injunctions. Frédéric has also extensive experience in class actions representing among others, financial institutions and car manufacturers and importers (product liability and consumer protection issues). He also regularly appears in front of civil courts (first instance and appellate) and administrative tribunals, as well as in complex commercial arbitration cases.

PASPARAKIS, Orestes
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Practice Areas: Orestes Pasparakis is co-chair of Norton Rose Fullbright’s Canadian special situations team, which encompasses Canada’s leading shareholder activist practice, sophisticated securities and complex cross-border reorganization transactions. Mr. Pasparakis has led and won some of Canada’s most contentious and complex corporate disputes. Mr. Pasparakis focuses on high-stakes disputes that often proceed in “real time” or on an urgent basis. His approach is practical and results-oriented. Many of his cases are international, involving cross-border issues. Mr. Pasparakis has specific experience with complex commercial litigation, corporate restructurings, insolvency proceedings, injunctions and patent disputes. Details of his experience are found under “representative experience.” Mr. Pasparakis has appeared as lead counsel before the Supreme Court of Canada and courts at all levels in Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the Ontario Securities Commission, the Competition Tribunal and the Tax Court of Canada, as well as numerous arbitral and other administrative tribunals.

PICHÉ-MESSIER, Mathieu
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Practice Areas: Mathieu Piché-Messier is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. He acts as lead counsel for many public and private companies in large and complex cases. His practice covers the full spectrum of financial law, including shareholder disputes, securities, transactional litigation, product liability, as well as franchise law and special remedies such as injunctions. Frédéric has also extensive experience in class actions representing among others, financial institutions and car manufacturers and importers (product liability and consumer protection issues). He also regularly appears in front of civil courts (first instance and appellate) and administrative tribunals, as well as in complex commercial arbitration cases.
is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a Fellow of the Litigation
Council of America who focuses his complex corporate, commercial and securities disputes
practice on corporate commercial litigation
areas, including banking litigation, securities litigation, class action litigation, several courts and
tribunals across Canada, including appellate courts in various provinces, the Federal Court of
Canada, the Ontario Securities Commission and the Competition Tribunal. He has managed
all aspects of complex commercial disputes, including multiple preced-
tent-setting motions, trials and appeals for the firm’s most high-profile clients.

Derek is a frequent author and gives talks on the topic of continuing education programs relating
to commercial litigation and advocacy. He is the sole representative for Toronto of ICC
Freda, a global network of fraud and asset recovery legal specialists, administered by the
International Chamber of Commerce. Select recognitions: Lexipert Rising Stars: Leading
Lawyers Under 40; Telfer School of Management’s 2019 Young Achiever’s Award; Benchmark
Canada’s Emerging Talent of the Year Award; Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation; The Canadian
Legal Empire Directory; Who’s Who Legal: Litigation.

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Featured in Litigation (Quebec)
Practice Areas: Christopher Richter’s skills with complex corporate and commercial
disputes helps leading organizations advance their interests both in Canada and outside the
courtroom. Christopher is an experienced trial and appellate lawyer who brings a unique
strategic approach to securities and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and
dispute resolution, including advising on litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His
practice also includes class actions, enforcement and other regulatory matters, product
liability and employment law. He has appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and
appeal, the superior courts of several others as well as the Federal Court and Federal Court of
Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and administrative
tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury board and
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litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
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administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
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Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
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enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
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Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
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board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,
enforcement and other regulatory matters, product liability and employment law. He has
appeared before the Quebec courts of first instance and appeal, as well as the Federal Court and
Federal Court of Appeal for the State of Quebec, and numerous arbitration panels and
administrative tribunals (including the Quebec securities commissions, the federal treasury
board and corporate, commercial and civil litigation and dispute resolution, including advising on
litigious aspects of corporate transactions. His practice also includes class actions,

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Montréal District Bar Association; Advocates Society.


Personal: Western University, BA (Economics/Political Science) (Osgoode Hall, LLB, London School of Economics, LLM, Merrick F. Hille Institute of Corporate Directors (Directors’ Education Program).

ROBERTS, Peter
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Featured in Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Alternative Dispute Resolution; Commercial Litigation; Con- struction; Engineering & Architecture; Defamation and Media; Estate Planning and Litigation; Healthcare; Insolvency & Restructuring; Insurance Litigation; Litiga- tion & Dispute Resolution; Mining; Product Liability; Real Estate Litigation.

Career: Peter Roberts, KC, is a litigator with a wide range of experience, prac- tising for over 30 years in Vancouver. For a number of years he practised criminal law before resuming civil and commercial litigation, including cases involving alle- gations of fraud. He has appeared before all levels of court in British Columbia as well as other professional bodies. He is called to the bar in a number of jurisdic- tions in Canada. His experience includes products liability, property law disputes, professional negligence claims, insurance defense and coverage, defamation, commercial disputes, contracts, company law, banking and insolvency litigation and estate litigation and administration. He also has experience obtaining and defend- ing various types of injunctions, including Mareva and Anton Piller injunctions. He is well versed in strata corporation windups having completed the first court approved windup in BC. Peter was the Head of the Litigation Group at Lawson Lundell from 2008–2010. Admitted to British Columbia (1991), Northwest Territories (2009), Nunavut (2017), Ontario (2019) and Yukon (2020). Bars.

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Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: Class Actions; Commercial Litigation; Insolvency; Securities Litigation.

Career: Nick Rodrigo is a litigator with over 15 years of experience in complex civil matters and class action litigation. In this capacity he has appeared before courts and administrative tribunals in British Columbia, the Federal Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of Canada. Nick has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Osgoode Hall, and before numerous administrative tribunals. Nick has extensive experience in commer- cial arbitration.

ROSENBERG, Kenneth
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation- wide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Bankruptcy and Insolvency; Derivatives and Class Actions; Commercial Litigation; Energy Law Mediation and Arbitration; Pension Litigation; Public and Administrative Law.

Career: Ken Rosenberg is widely respected for his strategic approach to problem-solving in business and financial disputes, including commercial litigation, insolvency litigation, class actions, administrative law/regulated industries, cross-border disputes, and arbitrations. Ken has acted as mediator in more than 100 cases and has also acted as an arbitrator in several matters. He has appeared at all levels of court in Canada and has appeared in U.S. courts. Prominent litigation cases with significant litigation success have included Sino-Forest Corporation, Lac Megantic Railway disaster, ABCP, Nartel, Sears, Air Canada, Stelco, Algomac, MacDonald vs BMO, Pace Securities. Investors Rep. Action plus hundreds of civil litigation cases and administrative law cases. Ken and the Paliare Roland team also developed and advanced the “Pro Rata” theory in the approximately $7.3B Nortel Allocation cross border, bi-national trial, involving many countries and estates and dozens of counsel. On numerous occasions, Ken has acted as legal counsel to Ontario’s Premier Elect, and then Premier regarding the transition to government and issues thereafter. For over 15 years, Ken was Secretary of the Ontario’s Commercial List Bench/Bar stakeholder committee – The Commercial List User’s Committee (CLUC). Ken’s recent appointments include acting as a Neutral: – Mediator/Facilitator – The Ontario Energy Board (OEB) has appointed Ken to mediate/facilitate an OEB Settlement Conference in the 2023 – 2027 Hydro One Joint Rate Application Case (Transmission and Distribution) involving billions of dol- lars and many parties, stakeholders and intervenors. – Arbitrator – Ken has been appointed by the CCAC Supervising Judge (C.J. Morawetz) as a claims officer in the Laurentian University CCAC proceeding.

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Member Commercial List Bench/Bar Users’ Committee, Secretary, Insolvency Institute of Canada The Advo- cates’ Society Turnaround Management Association.

ROTHEIN, Linda R
Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP, Toronto
(416) 646-4327
linda.rothein@paliareroland.com

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Appeals and Judicial Review; Class Actions; Commercial Litigation; Constitutional Litigation; Defamation, Libel and Slander; Employment Law; Hu- man Rights; Judicial Inquiries; Inquests; Mediation and Arbitration; Professional Discipline; Restructuring; and Solicitors and Administrators of Insurance Litigation and Administrative Law.

Career: Linda Rothstein is recognized as one of Canada’s most accomplished litigators and advocates, with a practice spanning class actions and commercial litigation, professional regulation and administrative law, appeals, and more. In 2021, she was awarded the Advocates’ Society Medal – the highest expression of esteem in which the Society can commend to one of its members. She often works with other law firms to resolve internal disputes, and has acted as counsel on countless high-profile cases and public inquiries, including the Inquiry into Pediatric Forensic Pathology. Linda is frequently engaged as a mediator and arbitrator in a range of disputes. Linda has earned several other accolades throughout her career, and has been awarded the Toronto Lawyers Association Award of Distinction, and the Ontario Bar Association Award of Excellence in Civil Litigation. She serves on the board and leadership roles at such professional organizations as the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, The Law Society of Upper Canada, and The Advocates’ Society.

ROUFEUL, Francis
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Montréal
+1 514 982 4016
francis.roufeul@blakes.com

Featured in Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: Francis is the Practice Group Leader for the litigation group in the Montreal office of Blakes. Francis is experienced in commercial litigation, including product liability, contract law, corporate litigation and shareholder disputes, securities and related regulatory litigation, construction and real estate law. He has acted in the defence of insurance carriers/brokers, represented various creditors/debtors in large restructuring matters, and has ex- tensive knowledge of class action defence work in the fields of product liability, price fixing, consumer contracts and financial institutions. Francis represents banks in trials and appeals at all levels of court, including the Federal Court and Supreme Court of Canada.

Professional Memberships: Francis is a member of the International Associa- tion of Defense Counsel (IADC) and the Defense Research Institute (DRI). He is also a member of the Montréal Bar, the Quebec Bar and the Canadian Bar Association.

RUBIN, Peter
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 3315
peter.rubin@blakes.com

Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation- wide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

See under Restructuring/Insolvency for profile.

SAINSBURY, Caitlin
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
416.367.6438
csainsbury@blg.com

Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Practices in the areas of commercial litigation. Cait frequently represents clients in complex commercial disputes, capital market litigation, and representation/antitrust and securities class actions. Cait also regularly acts for dealers and individuals in securities regulatory matters.

Career: JD, University of Toronto, 2006. BA (Honours), Trent University, 2003.

Ontario 2007

Professional Memberships: Chair, The Advocates’ Society’s Securities Litigation Practice Group; Co-Chair of American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section Re- gional Sub-Committee (Canada) on White Collar Crime. Member of the Canada - Human Rights Watch. Member of the U of T International Human Rights Program Alumni Committee.

SARBIA, Luis
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6961
lsarabia@dwpv.com

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

See under Arbitration & Mediation for profile.

SEIDA, Simon
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Montréal
514-982-4103
simon.seida@blakes.com

Featured in Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: Simon’s practice covers various fields of commercial litigation, including class actions, insurance disputes, professional malpractice, and post-closing disputes. In addition to regular civil proceedings, he represents clients in obtaining, or defending against, injunctions, seizures before judgment and other extraordinary proceedings. In the course of his practice, he regularly appears before courts and administrative tribunals in Québec, including for several trials and class actions. Simon also advis- es corporations and individuals in relation to regulatory or criminal matters, such as anti-corruption, competition, securities or financial matters. In this context, he advises clients in responding to search warrants and investigations by govern- ment authorities or in conducting internal investigations. He also defends clients in enforcement proceedings brought by government authorities and self-regula- tory organizations, including public prosecu- tors and securities regulators. Simon has advised national and international corporations on various matters dealing with dispute avoidance and resolution and has compliance with the penal provisions of statutes in Québec and Canada.

Professional Memberships: Simon is a member of the New York State Bar, the Montreal Bar, the American Bar Association and the Young Bar Association of Montreal. He is also a member of the Quebec-Japan Business Forum. At Blakes,
Simian is a member of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

SHARPE, Jeff
Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP, Cambridge
jess@bdplaw.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Jeffrey specializes in commercial litigation. He has acted as lead counsel before all levels of courts in Alberta, the Federal Court of Canada (trial division), the Supreme Court of Canada and other tribunals including the Alberta Securities Commission and the Workers’ Compensation Board. Jeffrey has extensive experience in construction and structuring arbitration and mediation. Jeffrey is active in a variety of oil and gas litigation matters, including in the price caps and in the duties of operators, accounting principles and gas purchase contract interpretation disputes. He advises clients in all areas of corporate and securities litigation involving shareholder and oppression disputes, directors’ and officers’ liability claims, prospectus misrepresentations and public disclosure issues. Jeffrey is experienced in defence of class action shareholders’ claims and securities fraud claims, against investment dealers and related claims.

Career: Jeffrey was recently recognized internationally by his fellowship in the American College of Trial Lawyers, the Litigation Counsel of America and the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta; Canadian Bar Association; Calgary Bar Association.

SHORTREED, Megan E
Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP, Toronto
416.646.4308
megan.shortreed@paliareroand.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Ontario)


SIMARD, Eric
Fasken, Montréal
(514) 937 5147
esimard@fasken.com
Featured in Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: Eric Simard is Co-leader of the national Litigation and Dispute Resolution group. He practices as a litigator in civil and commercial litigation. He acts primarily in complex litigation and defends clients in all classes of actions. He also represents clients during injunction and safeguarding proceedings. Eric regularly appears in arbitration matters and before the Superior courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada. In a world of globalization, a large number of foreign manufacturers and suppliers operating in Canada rely on Eric’s advice related to distribution agreements as well as trademarks of enterprise and for complex disputes. He is known for his relevant, sound advice and provides practical, innovative solutions to clients from the private, public and parapublic sectors.

SMITH, Crawford G
Lax O’Sullivan Lisus Gottlieb LLP, Toronto
416.598.8648
csmith@lolg.ca
Featured in Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Crawford’s litigation practice focuses on corporate and commercial matters, energy regulatory proceedings and securities and competition law, as well as public and administrative law and class action expertise. He has appeared as counsel in all levels of court in Ontario, in the Supreme Court of Canada, in the Federal Court, in commercial arbitrations, and before a variety of administrative tribunals including the Ontario Energy Board, the Ontario Securities Commission, the Competition Tribunal and the Environmental Review Tribunal. Crawford’s energy practice involves economic issues in multi-party litigation and frequent appearances as counsel before the Energy Board at hearings regarding rate regulation, infrastructure development and demand-side management. His securities broker/dealer practice includes acting as counsel for investment dealers, mutual fund dealers, and on behalf of securities industry participants. Crawford also handles regulatory proceedings and investigations by the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada and the Ontario Securities Commission.

SMYTH, Kara L
McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Calgary +1 403 260 3724
ksmyth@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Litigation (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Partner in firm’s Calgary Litigation Group. Practice focuses on corporate commercial, class action and public law litigation. Represents clients from a wide range of industries such as oil and gas, farm and farm development, commercial real estate, retail and agroindustries in disputes concerning commercial contracts, class actions; departing fiduciary obligations, product liability and a variety of complex commercial transactions. Appeared before arbitral tribunals, all levels of court in Alberta and the Federal Court including on complex interlocutory motions, judicial reviews, trials and appeals.


Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association; Law Society of Alberta

SMYTH, Sean S
McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Calgary +1 403 260 3698
ssmyth@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Litigation (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Sean has appeared before all levels of court in Alberta, the superior courts of Ontario, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan, the Federal Court of Canada, the Supreme Court of Canada, and many regulatory, disciplinary and arbitral tribunals. Represents clients in a variety of industries (oil and natural gas, pharmaceuticals, agroindustries, telecommunications, manufacturing, real estate) in contentious matters involving commercial contracts, shareholders’ rights, directors’ liabilities, securities, real estate transactions, product liability, intellectual property rights, class actions, and other matters related to corporate law and commercial transactions.

Career: Alberta Bar, 1994; Solicitor, England and Wales, 1997; Queen’s Counsel, 2016.

Professional Memberships: Fellow of Charteried Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb), ADR Institute of Canada and ADR Institute of Alberta

STEEP, R Paul
McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Toronto 416.601.7998
psteep@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Ontario – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Litigation partner based in Toronto, with a broad commercial litigation practice that focuses on securities litigation including class actions. Has appeared before all levels of the Courts of Ontario, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Acts in major commercial disputes, including contractual disputes, all forms of securities litigation, directors’ and officers’ liability cases, banking litigation, and class actions. Regularly appears before the OSC on a variety of regulatory and enforcement matters, and acts on behalf of corporations and individuals subject to OSC investigations.

Professional Memberships: Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

SULLIVAN, James
Blacks, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver 604 631 3356
james.sullivan@blakes.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

See under Class Actions for profile.

SUNDER, Andrew
Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP, Cambridge
416.260.0100
asunder@bdplaw.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Andrew’s practice is focused on complex, high-stakes litigation across a wide range of areas, including commercial, construction, energy, regulatory and securities disputes, corporate governance issues and class actions.

Before joining BD&P in 2011, Andrew worked at a top national law firm in Toronto. Andrew has appeared as lead counsel before lower courts in Alberta and Ontario, before the Alberta Court of Appeal, before administrative tribunals and in commercial arbitrations.

THOMSON, Kent E
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
416.863.5566
kentthomson@dwpv.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Ontario – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Kent is the Head of Litigation at Davies in Toronto, which has received the Litigation Firm of the Year honour from Chambers Canada. He has extensive experience in complex, high-stakes litigation, and has acted as lead counsel in numerous precedent-setting cases in the areas of oppression, plans of arrangement, class actions, securities, defamation, contract, tax, intellectual property and elections. A number of these cases have been decided by the Supreme Court of Canada. He has conducted many trials and appeals, and appeared in courts throughout Canada, as well as in complex domestic and international arbitrations in Canada, the US, Europe and Africa. Recognized repeatedly, in among others, Expert Guides’ Best of the Best as one of the world’s top 30 litigators; Bench-mark as one of Canada’s Top 50 Trial Lawyers; The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; and as one of Canada’s leading litigation counsel in Chambers Global; Chambers Canada; Benchmark Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada; and Who’s Who Legal: Litigation. Recipient of Martindale-Hubbell’s highest ranking for legal ability and integrity. Kent is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, International Society of Barristers and International Academy of Trial Lawyers.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Pensions & Benefits
**Pensions & Benefits**

**Nationwide**

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<td>Harrison Andrew, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP*</td>
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**Leading Individuals**

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<td>Brown Elizabeth M, Brown Mills Klinck Prezioso LLP*</td>
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<td>Bush Kathryn M, Blake, Cassels &amp; Graydon LLP*</td>
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<td>Campbell Murray, Lawson Lundell LLP**</td>
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<td>Winfield Gregory, McCarthy Tétrault LLP*</td>
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<td>Wolpert Martin, Fasken*</td>
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**How lawyers are ranked**

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

What the team is known for: Blake, Cassels & Graydon commands widespread respect for its national pensions and benefits practice, with lawyers in Toronto, Montréal and Calgary. The firm maintains a leading reputation across Canada, acting for clients such as government agencies, investment managers, trust companies, banks, and health and welfare funds. Its respected team often advises on heavyweight domestic and cross-border M&A transactions as well as pension fund structuring, governance and compliance, executive compensation arrangements and de-risking. The group handles a breadth of complex pensions matters, including litigation proceedings, insolvency and deficit cases and restructuring.

**Strengths**  "The depth and breadth of knowledge within the pension team is superb. They also know when to draw on the expertise of others in the firm for highly specialised advice as necessary."

"They are very aware of business needs and commercial risks."

**Work highlights** A Blake’s team led by Kathryn Bush is advising LifeWorks Inc as the Plan Administrator of the Sears Canada Pension Plan. Recent work includes reducing the plan’s deficit via the CCARA process.

**Notable practitioners**

- Kathryn Bush (see p.303) is a Toronto-based lawyer who possesses a wealth of experience acting on pensions litigation mandates and supporting clients in the pensions and benefits aspects of transactions. Her clientele includes pension funds and government entities, and market sources widely acknowledge her long-standing presence in the field. "She is an excellent pension lawyer." Jeremy Forgé (see p.304) has considerable regulatory experience, and his work includes advising on the pensions and benefits elements of restructurings. Based in Toronto, he is also skilled in de-risking pension plans and advising on tax structuring. "Jeremy is an amazing lawyer with both a deep understanding of pension law and the practical aspects of our business." Jeremy is very commercial in his provision of advice across our enterprise. He is comfortable finding commercial solutions for our business and easily grasps the complexity of the transactions at hand." Natalie Bussière (see p.303) is a Montreal-based lawyer with a notable presence in pension litigation, particularly with regard to pensions surplus issues and contributions holidays. Her clients include pension committees and pension plans. “Natalie can juggle extremely complex legal and tax concepts and make them simple for the customer to understand.” "Her expertise in retirement plans is very high. Without her, we would not have been able to manage this very complex file.” Jeffrey Sommers (see p.305) is highly active on pension plan governance matters, as well as advising on pensions and benefits issues arising from M&A. He is based in Toronto and is also experienced in pension restructurings, de-risking work and asset and liability transfers. "Jeff is very helpful and a pleasure to work with.” He provides an excellent service, with very strong technical skills and a good business sense.” Sean Maxwell (see p.305) is based in Calgary, where he acts for a range of clients including airlines and energy companies. He is adept at advising on the pensions aspects of M&A alongside his strengths in pension restructurings and deferred compensation arrangements. "Sean is very knowledgeable and responsive. He always stays on top of the project.” Lindsay McLeod (see p.305) frequently advises leading national companies on the pensions and benefits aspects of major acquisitions. She is based in Toronto and also excels..."
Koskie Minsky LLP

What the team is known for Koskie Minsky is a go-to Canadian law firm for employee-side pensions and benefits advice. Its lawyers advise individuals and benefit trustees on a wide range of matters, including plan administration and pensions litigation. Koskie is lauded for its knowledge and representation of multi-employer pension plans, and is also able to offer counsel and representation in the context of insolvent, bankruptcy and restructuring issues, in addition to pension conversions and plan administration matters. Based in Toronto, it offers services in Western Canada through its affiliated firm in Vancouver, Koskie Glavin Gordon.

Notable practitioners

Murray Gold is based in Toronto and possesses a wealth of litigation and regulatory experience in the pensions space. His clients include pension boards and plan sponsors. Mark Zigler is based in Toronto. He offers extensive expertise in pensions, benefits and insolvency matters. His clients include unions and trustees of pension and benefits trusts. He also has deep experience in disputes, including class actions. Mike Mazzucco is managing partner of Koskie Minsky in Toronto and is noted for his work advising on multi-employer pension plans. He also has considerable pensions litigation experience before courts and administrative tribunals, including class action proceedings. Roberto Tomassini is based in Toronto and is widely recognised by sources for his expertise in the tax aspects of pensions. His skills also include pension plan structuring, fiduciary responsibilities and regulatory compliance.

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt has a first-rate team which advises an enviable portfolio of blue-chip clients from both the public and private sectors. The firm maintains a strong national practice, with pensions lawyers in Toronto and Montréal capable of advising clients across the country. It is respected for its work on large-scale pensions and benefits mandates, including pension plan restructuring, insolventcies, pension investments, plan design and de-risking. The firm is further noted for its experienced representation of clients in pensions disputes and its advice on investment compliance.

Strengths "Osler has always provided accurate, detailed, and thorough responses to my inquiries, many of which are complex and sophisticated." They have a terrific bench strength and always apply an in-depth analysis so we can be confident in their findings." "They have a terrific bench strength and always apply an in-depth analysis so we can be confident in their findings." "They have a terrific bench strength and always apply an in-depth analysis so we can be confident in their findings."

Key highlights An Osler team led by Paul Litner advised the Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan on a variety of ongoing matters, including governance and compliance issues as well as plan mergers.

Notable practitioners

Paul Litner (see p.304) is a Toronto-based lawyer who is distinguished for his regular activity on major mandates in the pensions space, including the pensions and benefits elements of M&A. He is also experienced regarding the merging, converting and restructuring of pension plans. "Paul is deeply experienced, technically knowledgeable, strategic and commercial. "Paul has incredible insight, knowledge and experience, and always provides innovative solutions. "He is practical, very knowledgeable and forward-thinking. Andrea Doctor (see p.303) chairs the Osler pension and benefits group from her base in Toronto. She often advises on the pensions and benefits aspects of acquisitions, and supports a range of clients in pension administration and investment matters. Andrea is very knowledgeable on pension issues. She often asks for and uses what we are trying to accomplish. Andrea is smart, sensible and deeply technical – I appreciate her comprehensive analysis and pragmatic recommendations." Juliet Ranger (see p.305) is a Montréal-based lawyer who is well versed in providing advice on pension governance as well as merging and restructuring plans. He is particularly active on pensions and benefits work relating to M&A and also acts on litigation. "He is very knowledgeable, precise and quick to respond. He always provides the rationale for any strategies he puts forth and weighs the pros and cons so we can make decisions best suited to our needs. Jonathan Marín (see p.305) is a prominent lawyer in the pension administration and governance space in Toronto. Jonathan provides detailed answers to my questions and he is a pleasure to work with. "He is top-notch, responsive, well-informed and articulate."

Brown Mills Klinck Prezioso LLP

What the team is known for Brown Mills Klinck Prezioso is an esteemed boutique law firm based in Toronto with specialist pension and benefits expertise. Its lawyers often act for public sector clients, including governmental bodies and clients in the education industry. The firm also advises wealth management firms and lenders on the pensions aspects of M&A deals, such as pension plan mergers and debt restructuring. It is also notable for providing support on pensions class action disputes.

Strengths "BMKP have a very strong understanding of the regulatory environment, but also the client’s unique organisational context." "They are highly sophisticated with a deep knowledge base and have handled some of the most complex pension issues that arise.” Work highlights A BKMP team led by Lisa Mills advised Laurentian University on the pensions and benefits aspects of its restructuring proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act.

Notable practitioners

Elizabeth Brown (see p.303) is a highly acclaimed Toronto-based lawyer who is renowned for her work on the formation and restructuring of major pension plans. She regularly advises employers in the public and private sectors and is notably active in the representation of universities. "Elizabeth is available at all times and is committed to finding solutions to complex problems. "She is brilliant, tireless and committed. "Terra Klink (see p.304) is esteemed for her skills in pension governance, compliance and implementation. Based in Toronto, she frequently provides pensions and benefits advice to clients such as banks and insurance companies. "Terra is able to handle very complex work and explain it in an understandable manner. "Terra Klink is an exceptional lawyer who is very sophisticated and thoughtful in her approach. She provides outstanding client support." Lisa Mills (see p.305) is based in Ottawa and is regularly praised for her abilities concerning the creation, sponsorship and administration of all types of private-pension plans. Her clients often include universities and energy companies. "Lisa is brilliant and client-friendly with an in-depth understanding of how her work fits with the larger picture. "Lisa provides excellent advice and is always a pleasure to work with. "John Prezioso (see p.305) is based in Toronto and is widely considered a rising star in pension administration and compliance. His strength in representing pension plan sponsors and also has experience advising on pension governance. "John provides expert advice. "He provides solutions and is good at finding common ground."

Lawson Lundell LLP

What the team is known for Lawson Lundell is one of the dominant law firms for pensions advice in Western Canada, regularly providing services to clients across British Columbia, Alberta, the Northwest Territories and Yukon. The team receives accolades for its comprehensive pensions and benefits coverage, regularly handling matters such as pension plan restructuring and administration, as well as the creation, administration and review of plan documentation and contracts. Its impressive client roster includes an extensive range of entities from sectors such as healthcare, manufacturing, mining and education, while its expertise extends to both employer and union-sponsored arrangements.

Strengths "Lawson Lundell has been a player in the pension field for decades. They are completely aware of the marketplace." "They draw from their deep knowledge in their respective areas of work as well as our business needs."

Notable practitioners

Murray Campbell (see p.303) is based in Vancouver and advises on pensions and benefits disputes as well as regulatory matters. He is especially well regarded for his expertise in implementing and redesigning pension plans. "Murray’s expertise was critical to our success. “He has a history and knowledge of the industry that is invaluable." Murray is first class and a leading expert in the pension field. "Kathleen Burns (see p.303) is a skilled Vancouver-based lawyer who provides counsel to pension and benefit plan sponsors on a variety of matters. He also has experience overseeing the merging of pension plans and provides regulatory pensions advice to clients across Western Canada and the Northwest Territories. "Ken is exceptional." Lisa Chamzuk (see p.303) has acquired a significant reputation for pension governance and administration mandates. Based in Vancouver, she is well versed in issues relating to multi-employer pension plans. "Lisa is a key expert. Her work is exceptional. "She provides practical advice. “Megan Kaneen (see p.304) is based in Vancouver and is increasingly well regarded for her work assisting with the maintenance and governance of pension funds. She is also well versed in pension regulatory matters. "Megan has a pension practice that takes complex issues and reduce them to the important points for clients. "She is easy to work with and extremely flexible, committed and well organised."

Torys LLP

What the team is known for Torys provides an Ontario-centred pensions practice recognised for its strength in pension investment and transactional issues. The firm is also noted for its ability to advise both Canadian and US companies on executive
compensation and employee benefits issues. It also offers general governance advice as well as handling pension and benefit litigation. The team is adept at advising on multi-provincial strategic and regulatory matters, representing a broad range of clients, including those in the energy and financial services sectors.

**Strengths** “Torys is an excellent firm with fantastic lawyers who are committed to the work and offer expertise in these subject areas.” “And the firm has a tremendous amount of technical knowledge and is always able to find answers to complex situations.”

**Work highlights** A Torys team led by Susan Nickerson advised IFM Investors and the Ontario Teacher’s Pension Plan Board on the CAD2.8 billion acquisition of Enwave Energy Corporation.

**Notable practitioners**

**Mitch Frazer** (see p.304) has established a reputation as a leading pensions lawyer in Toronto, particularly with regard to fiduciary matters and the restructuring of pension funds. He often acts for asset managers on both regulatory and transactional matters. “Mitch is one of the best in the industry. He is my go-to on the most complex and sensitive matters.”

**Susan Nickerson** (see p.305) is based in Toronto and is particularly skilled at providing pensions law advice in the context of significant M&A deals. A valued source of strategic advice, she provides clients with a range of pensions governance support, including with regard to new pension plans. “Susan has provided great advice on the benefits of implementing certain investment structures to address pension-related concerns.”

**Tom Stevenson** (see p.306) is a well-regarded partner who wins recognition for his pensions work, which includes matters relating to restructuring and M&A transactions as well as general operational advice. Based in Toronto, his practice also has a notable focus on pension governance. “Tom definitely provided value when dealing with provincial multi-jurisdictional issues.”

**Band 3**

**Dentons Canada LLP**

What the team is known for Dentons draws praise for its work on pension plan wind-ups and mergers, as well as advising on the pensions and benefits aspects of M&A transactions and insolvencies. The firm is commended for its provision of strategic planning advice to provincially and federally regulated pension plans. It fields noteworthy teams of pensions lawyers in both Toronto and Vancouver, with multi-national clients benefiting from their ability to call upon the firm’s global network when handling cross-border matters.

**Work highlights** A Dentons team led by Scott Sweatman advised 3sHealth on a range of matters, including converting its health and welfare trusts into Employee Life and Health Trusts.

**Notable practitioners**

**Vancouver-based Scott Sweatman** advises on a variety of pensions and benefits issues, including regulatory compliance and the impact of M&A on plans. He represents domestic and international clients, and has experience acting for multi-employer plan sponsors. “Scott is very knowledgeable and professional. He tells it how it is and gets back to you quickly.” “He is always available when we need him. We receive exceptional service from Scott.”

**Picard** is a Toronto-based lawyer who often advises on pensions and benefits issues in the context of restructuring and insolvency. She is also adept at the administration, redesign and adaptation of existing pension plans.

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken offers an experienced pensions team exhibiting strengths in matters ranging from the administration and governance of complex pension plans to advising on the benefits aspects of contentious claims. The firm has notable experience of pensions litigation and represents a range of international and national employers, plan administrators and agencies across various sectors, including financial services, telecoms and energy. It maintains a strong bench in this field, with teams of pensions specialists in Toronto, Montreal and Calgary.

**Strengths** “They have solid expertise in all matters related to Canadian pensions and excellent knowledge related to differing provincial requirements. We appreciate their insight advising on general trends within the industry.”

**Work highlights** A Fasken team led by Michael Wölpert advised TC Energy on the governance and administration of its federally regulated pension plan.

**Notable practitioners**

**Ross Gascho** (see p.304) is a skilled pensions lawyer based in Toronto who possesses notable experience advising on federal pension plans. His clients include insurers and other financial institutions, and he has experience concerning both governance and investment issues. “Ross is very strongly focused on client service.”

**Jordan Fremont** (see p.307) is a pensions and benefits lawyer with a strong track record of over 25 years’ experience advising on multi-provincial strategic and regulatory matters. He is based in Toronto and is also active on pension regulatory and governance issues, as well as handling the pension aspects of M&A.

**Kelleher Lynch** (see p.305) is a senior associate who garners significant recognition in the market. He acts for public and private companies on a variety of pensions and benefits, most notably in negotiating plans and advising on the pension aspects of M&A. “He is an excellent young lawyer who delivers on service and value.” Kelleher’s experience shows. He was a great sounding board who ably guided us through some difficult issues.”

**Band 4**

**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for Bennett Jones fields an increasingly prominent pensions team out of Toronto which is best known for its provision of pension regulatory and governance advice, in addition to assisting with restructuring and insolvency issues in this field. It is further active providing counsel on the pension aspects of M&A and private equity transactions, which often includes redesigning and harmonising existing plans. The firm’s clientele includes provincial and national companies from the life sciences, pharmaceutical, construction and energy sectors.

**Strengths** “Bennett Jones have a very good technical understanding of pension matters in Canada.”

**Work highlights** A Bennett Jones team led by Susan Seller assisted Dayco Canada with its defined benefit registered pension plans, including legislative compliance and pension fund investments.

**Notable practitioners**

**Jordi Munteanu** has amassed a notable reputation for his work advising on the pensions elements of high-value M&A transactions and assisting with the tax aspects of employee benefits. Based in Toronto, his practice also encompasses regulatory compliance, governance, and plan administration matters. “Randy is great, he has a real gift for dealing with what seems arcane and complex. He is practical and business-minded.”

**Susan Seller** is a very experienced pensions lawyer with a strong track record of overseeing the restructuring of pension funds on behalf of a range of international clients. She is based in Toronto and is also active on pension regulatory and governance issues in addition to fund investment matters. “Susan is very knowledgeable and acts with great care.”

**Deron Waldock** (see p.306) has accrued a significant reputation for advisory and transactional support in the pensions space, including in relation to M&A. He is based in Toronto and is also well practised in pension regulatory issues and pension-related insolvent matters. “Deron Waldock has incredible experience and has a unique ability to explain challenging concepts in simple terms and then provide practical advice.”

**Scott Bell** (see p.303) is based in Toronto and garners considerable market recognition for his pension investment work. He is especially skilled in advising on regulatory and governance matters, as well as handling the pension aspects of M&A.

**Kelleher Lynch** (see p.305) is a senior associate who garners significant recognition in the market. He acts for public and private companies on a variety of pensions and benefits, most notably in negotiating plans and advising on the pension aspects of M&A. “He is an excellent young lawyer who delivers on service and value.” Kelleher’s experience shows. He was a great sounding board who ably guided us through some difficult issues.”
The pensions team at Borden Ladner Gervais regularly advises on plan structuring and implementation, pensions litigation and group annuity policies. The firm fields a notable team of Toronto-based lawyers with strengths advising on pension issues arising from mergers and acquisitions, as well as acting in relation to pension investments and related tax matters. The team represents plan administrators, employers and regulatory bodies, while BLG is also noted for its complementary strengths in employment and labour disputes.

**Strengths** “The firm has been able to provide subject matter expertise on a wide range of matters at various levels and across multiple jurisdictions in Canada.”

“BLG is very thorough and highly competent at handling complex and sophisticated matters.”

**Work highlights** A BLG team led by Sonia Mak acted as Canadian counsel to the New York Times concerning the pensions and benefits aspects of its acquisition of The Athletic.

**Notable practitioners**

Andrew Harrison (see p.204) is based in Toronto, where he is BLG’s regional managing partner. He is praised by sources for his prodigious skills in pension amendments and compliance matters. He also has experience advising on the administration of pension plans and buyout annuity purchases. Sonia Mak (see p.305) is highly adept at assisting clients with the establishment and amendment of pension plans, as well as providing regulatory advice. She is based in Toronto, and her clients include plan administrators and investment managers. “Sonia is proactive and very responsive. She brings a high level of sophistication and commercial awareness to the issues affecting the company.” “Sonia’s client service, attitude, pension knowledge, level of sophistication and commercial vision are exemplary.”

**Goldblatt Partners LLP**

**What the team is known for** Goldblatt Partners is highly regarded for its work representing trade unions and individual employees in pensions and benefits matters. The firm offers a notable bench of lawyers in Toronto and is well versed in advising on both single-employer and multi-employer pension plans. The team’s work includes appearing before regulatory tribunals and representing clients in pensions-related class actions.

**Notable practitioners**

Susan Philpott garners great respect from market commentators, who have observed her success in growing the pensions group at Goldblatt Partners. Based in Toronto, she is well versed in representing trade unions, including bargaining with regard to new pensions and benefits arrangements. Simon Archer is a highly sought-after lawyer when it comes to advising trade unions and boards of trustees on pensions and benefits. He is based in Toronto and has a significant track record concerning pension regulatory issues within Ontario.

**Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie LLP**

**What the team is known for** Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie is a boutique law firm in Ontario with deep expertise in all aspects of employment, labour and pensions. It has offices across the province, including in Toronto, and its lawyers are noted for their expertise in plan design and restructuring. In addition, the firm is regularly called upon to advise on pensions and benefits issues relating to insolvency and large-scale M&A transactions. The Hicks team has considerable experience advising on joint-sponsored pension plans and is noted for handling a wide range of executive benefits matters on behalf of clients hailing from sectors such as education, financial services and mining.

**Strengths** “All the lawyers we work with have been extremely knowledgeable. During the peak points of the transaction, they were 100% committed to seeing its completion.”

“They have an excellent depth of knowledge of related laws, with outstanding teams of experienced subject matter experts.”

**Work highlights** A Hicks Morley team led by Natasha Monksman provided counsel to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board on the conversion of its single-employer pension plan into a jointly sponsored pension plan.

**Notable practitioners**

Stephanie Kalinowski is based in Toronto, maintaining an extensive practice in pension regulatory and governance matters. She acts on pension mergers and asset transfers as well as litigation, with her clients including plan administrators and employers. “Stephanie provided outstanding services and is very knowledgeable and effective in advising and guiding the client through the process.”

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

**What the team is known for** Stikeman Elliott fields an able group recognised for its expertise in the pensions and benefits aspects of mergers and acquisitions. The firm is also highlighted for its experience advising on the administration of federally regulated plans. It has further skills advising on investment management and restructuring matters in the pensions space. With offices across the country, Stikeman’s team includes accomplished pensions lawyers based in Toronto and Montréal.

**Strengths** “They have a strong team with expertise in all aspects of pensions. Their talented pension experts were extremely helpful in presenting complex legal requirements in an easily digestible format.”

**Notable practitioners**

Natasha vandenHoven (see p.306) is based in Toronto and is well versed in pension administrations and restructurings, acting for a variety of pension boards as well as clients in the aviation and education sectors. She also advises on regulatory and investment structuring matters. “Natasha brings experience and pragmatism to a file.” Mark Firman (see p.304) is a well-established lawyer based in Montréal who has acted on a number of pension investments, structurings and administration matters. His work also includes advising on M&A and joint ventures. Mark is a talented and highly skilled lawyer with tremendous expertise in the pension and benefits area. He is responsive, prioritises client needs and delivers excellent client service.” “Mark is very knowledgeable, personable and a pleasure to work with.”

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Level Chan is based in Halifax and is a key player for pension matters in Atlantic Canada. He is currently based at Stewart McKelvey and advises on matters such as plan administration and amendments, with further capabilities in investment management.

José Dumoulin is based with Gravel2 avocats in Montréal, where she is widely recognised by sources for her extensive experience and skills in pension-related litigation.

Daniel Hayhurst is based in Toronto and leads Gowling WLG’s pensions practice. He has considerable experience in plan administration, investment and governance, acting on such matters for several provincial and federal pension plans. “Dan has very good pension investment experience.”

Tina Hobday is deeply experienced in pensions governance and litigation mandates, as well as insolvency proceedings. A Montréal-based lawyer at Langlois Lawyers, she represents clients before all levels of the provincial and federal courts.

Hugh Wright is a highly acclaimed Halifax-based pensions lawyer at Miller Thomson who provides regulatory and governance advice, as well as acting on pensions litigation. His clientele includes plan sponsors and employee groups.
Leaders' Profiles in Pensions & Benefits

BAUSLAUGH, Randy M McCurley Tetrait LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 7695 rblauslaugh@mccarthy.ca Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)


Career: Ontario, 1983

Professional Memberships: Member of the International Pension and Employee Benefits Lawyers Association, leadership role in other domestic trade associations and government advisory groups.

Publications: Author of numerous articles in industry and legal publications; member of Editorial Advisory Board of 'Benefits and Pensions Monitor'. Frequent speaker at local, national and international conferences.

Personal: Vice-Chair, Board of Directors, Canadian National Exhibition Association; Independent Expert Trustee, OECTA Employee Life & Health Trust.

BELL, Scott McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 8277 sbwel@mcctarry.ca Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses exclusively on advising Canadian pension funds and their asset managers on structuring investments and other activities around the world to comply with the pension fund's unique governing legislation and applicable Canadian pension legislation. He routinely acts as lead pension investment counsel on both domestic and international transactions in the areas of private equity, infrastructure and real estate, as well as fund investments, platform investments and co-investments, for many of Canada's most respected pension funds including CPP Investments (formerly Canada's most respected pension funds) investments and co-investments, for many of Canada's most respected pension funds.

Career: Elizabeth has appeared as counsel in numerous pension litigation disputes and provides ongoing advice to provincially and federally-regulated plan sponsors and administrators on jointly sponsored pension plans, defined benefit pension plans and distribution plans, and savings and profit-sharing plans. She has extensive experience advising on large corporate transactions, including insolvencies, mergers and acquisitions, and reorganizations. The Ontario Bar Association honoured Elizabeth with the 2017 Award of Excellence in Pensions and Benefits Law.


BURNS, Kenneth Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver +1 604 631 9286 kburns@lawsonlundell.com Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Administration, Pension Governance & Investment; Mergers & Acquisitions; Pension & Benefits Issues; Multi-Employer Pension & Benefit Plans; Pensions & Employee Benefits

Career: Ken advises pension and benefit plan sponsors on legal and regulatory issues affecting their plans, with particular emphasis on pension governance and compliance assessments, regulatory matters and the handling of pension disputes. He works with administrators in the drafting and maintenance of pension documents, including pension text, governance, funding and investment policies, service provider contracts, trust agreements and special funding arrangements such as letters of credit and solvency reserve accounts. Ken is also frequently involved in advising on pension and benefits issues arising in mergers and acquisitions. Admitted to the British Columbia (1998), North-West Territories (2000), Yukon (2018) and Ontario (2021) Bars.

BUSH, Kathrym M Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 2633 kathrym.bush@blakes.com Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Kathy has over 30 years' experience in the area of pension, benefits and executive compensation. She closely assists businesses structure their pension, benefit and executive compensation arrangements and their related investments. She also has substantial litigation experience defending large corporations from challenges at all levels of Canadian courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Kathy was a member and vice-chair of both the Ontario pension regulator and the tribunal, and was the management expert on the Ontario Expert Commission on Pensions. She is the former chair of the Association for Canadian Pension Management's National Policy Committee. Currently she is a member of the CD Howe Pension Policy Committee and a leader of the Blakes Pension Benefits and Executive Compensation group. Kathy is the vice-chair of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee on Pensions at Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSSR). Kathy has provided advice to many provincial governments, the Federal government and a great many of Canada's largest and most experienced pension funds and Benefit Law Group. He acts for boards of trustees and other sponsors of pension and benefit plans in the private and public sectors in British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta. He has significant experience advising clients with respect to converting their pension plans from defined benefit and defined contribution and target benefit plans. Recently, he has been assisting with clients with plan modernization to ensure compliance with governance and assessment requirements under the new pensions legislation. While Murray is a solicitor, he regularly provides strategic direction with respect to pension and benefit legislation. Murray is a member of the bar of British Columbia (1996) and the Law Society of British Columbia.

Professional Memberships: International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans – Member; International and Employee Benefits Lawyers Association (BELA) – Member; Canadian Pension and Benefits Institute – Member.

BAUSLAUGH, Randy M McCurley Tetrait LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 7695 rblauslaugh@mccarthy.ca Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)


Career: Ontario, 1983

Professional Memberships: Member of the International Pension and Employee Benefits Lawyers Association, leadership role in other domestic trade associations and government advisory groups.

Publications: Author of numerous articles in industry and legal publications; member of Editorial Advisory Board of 'Benefits and Pensions Monitor'. Frequent speaker at local, national and international conferences.

Personal: Vice-Chair, Board of Directors, Canadian National Exhibition Association; Independent Expert Trustee, OECTA Employee Life & Health Trust.

BELL, Scott McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto +1 416 601 8277 sbwel@mcctarry.ca Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses exclusively on advising Canadian pension funds and their asset managers on structuring investments and other activities around the world to comply with the pension fund's unique governing legislation and applicable Canadian pension legislation. He routinely acts as lead pension investment counsel on both domestic and international transactions in the areas of private equity, infrastructure and real estate, as well as fund investments, platform investments and co-investments, for many of Canada’s most respected pension funds including CPP Investments (formerly Canada’s most respected pension funds) investments and co-investments, for many of Canada’s most respected pension funds.

Career: Elizabeth has appeared as counsel in numerous pension litigation disputes and provides ongoing advice to provincially and federally-regulated plan sponsors and administrators on jointly sponsored pension plans, defined benefit pension plans and distribution plans, and savings and profit-sharing plans. She has extensive experience advising on large corporate transactions, including insolvencies, mergers and acquisitions, and reorganizations. The Ontario Bar Association honoured Elizabeth with the 2017 Award of Excellence in Pensions and Benefits Law.


BURNS, Kenneth Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver +1 604 631 9286 kburns@lawsonlundell.com Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Administration, Pension Governance & Investment; Mergers & Acquisitions; Pension & Benefits Issues; Multi-Employer Pension & Benefit Plans; Pensions & Employee Benefits

Career: Ken advises pension and benefit plan sponsors on legal and regulatory issues affecting their plans, with particular emphasis on pension governance and compliance assessments, regulatory matters and the handling of pension disputes. He works with administrators in the drafting and maintenance of pension documents, including pension text, governance, funding and investment policies, service provider contracts, trust agreements and special funding arrangements such as letters of credit and solvency reserve accounts. Ken is also frequently involved in advising on pension and benefits issues arising in mergers and acquisitions. Admitted to the British Columbia (1998), North-West Territories (2000), Yukon (2018) and Ontario (2021) Bars.

BUSH, Kathrym M Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 2633 kathrym.bush@blakes.com Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Kathy has over 30 years' experience in the area of pension, benefits and executive compensation. She closely assists businesses structure their pension, benefit and executive compensation arrangements and their related investments. She also has substantial litigation experience defending large corporations from challenges at all levels of Canadian courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Kathy was a member and vice-chair of both the Ontario pension regulator and the tribunal, and was the management expert on the Ontario Expert Commission on Pensions. She is the former chair of the Association for Canadian Pension Management's National Policy Committee. Currently she is a member of the CD Howe Pension Policy Committee and a leader of the Blakes Pension Benefits and Executive Compensation group. Kathy is the vice-chair of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee on Pensions at Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSSR). Kathy has provided advice to many provincial governments, the Federal government and a great many of Canada's largest and most experienced pension funds and Benefit Law Group. He acts for boards of trustees and other sponsors of pension and benefit plans in the private and public sectors in British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Alberta. He has significant experience advising clients with respect to converting their pension plans from defined benefit and defined contribution and target benefit plans. Recently, he has been assisting with clients with plan modernization to ensure compliance with governance and assessment requirements under the new pensions legislation. While Murray is a solicitor, he regularly provides strategic direction with respect to pension and benefit legislation. Murray is a member of the bar of British Columbia (1996) and the Law Society of British Columbia.

Professional Memberships: International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans – Member; International and Employee Benefits Lawyers Association (BELA) – Member; Canadian Pension and Benefits Institute – Member.

CHAMZUK, Lisa Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver +1 604 631 6732 lchamzuk@lawsonlundell.com Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Administration, Pension Governance & Investment; Mergers & Acquisitions; Pension & Benefits Issues; Multi-Employer Pension & Benefit Plans; Pensions & Employee Benefits, Pension and Benefits Litigation, and Privacy & Data Management.

Career: Lisa Chamzuk is a partner in the firm’s Pensions and Employee Benefits Group and Protection of Privacy and Freedom of Information Group. Lisa’s pension and employee benefits practice has a particular emphasis on multi-employer pension plans and health and welfare
trusts, usually sponsored for specific indus-
tries. Lisa provides advice and strategic support to boards of
trustees, sponsors of pension and em-
ployee benefits plans and administration
teams in respect of the interpretation and
administration of plan texts, the application of the
governing legal principles and
provincial and federal legislation and also
on the day to day issues that arise with
these plans. Through her practice experience
Lisa works regularly with the BC Financial
Services Authority and other regulatory
agencies. Lisa manages and provides stra-
tegic support and risk assessment to her
clients on complex pension and employee
benefit legislation, including class actions.
Lisa is the firm’s privacy law and docu-
ment retention lawyer and works regularly
with clients to comply with applicable
privacy legislation and to find and imple-
ment creative solutions to privacy issues
as they arise. Lisa works regularly with the
Personal Information and Protection Act
(British Columbia), the Personal Informa-
tion Protection and Electronic Documents
Act (Canada), and the Freedom of Informa-
tion and Protection of Privacy Act (British
Columbia). Lisa is a member of the bar of
British Columbia (2002).

Professional Memberships: The Law Society of British Columbia - Member,
Canadian Pension and Benefits Institute - Member, International Foundation of
Employee Benefit Plans - Member; Canadian Legal/Legislative and Public Sector - Committee - Member

FIRMAN, Mark
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montreal
+1 514 397 3349
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Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Mark Firman is a part-
ner in the Montreal office’s Tax Group and
the Pensions & Benefits Group. Mark
advises on all aspects of pension, benefits and
corporate compensation law, including pension
fund investments; plan governance and administra-
tion issues; stock option and other equity-based
incentive plans; and corporate governance
relating to executive compensation design and
disclosure. His practice focuses on pensions
and benefits and executive compensation
issues in corporate transactions, including
mergers and acquisitions, insol-
vencies and reorganizations as well as in-
centric plan design. Mark brings a unique
perspective to his practice, informed
by his previous experience as in-house
counsel at the Ontario Teachers’ Pension
Plan, Canada’s largest single-occupation
pension fund. Mark has been recognized as
a leader by the legal industry’s most notable directories, including Chams-
ber and The Best Lawyers in Canada.

FORGIE, Jeremy J
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
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jeremy.forgie@blakes.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Jeremy advises some
of Canada’s largest pension plans and
pension funds managers on plan and fund

governance, pension fund investment,
diversification, acquisition, funding and
de-risking issues. He works with numer-
ous private and public-sector employers,
CFA firms, pension-consulting firms and
financial institutions on cross-border,
pension, tax, trust and benefit issues. Jere-
my also advises several large professional
sports leagues on their players, officials
and other employee pension, benefit and
cross border compensation plans.

FRAZER, Mitch
Toerys LLP, Toronto
416.865.8220
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Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: One of Canada’s
leading pensions lawyers, Mitch serves
as long-standing advisor to some of Canada’s
leading boards and investment coun-
sulting firms and financial institutions on
cross-border, pension, tax, trust and benefit issues. Jere-
my advises on all aspects of pension, benefits and
employment matters. Clients also regularly seek
Mitch’s advice in the context of M&A
transactions. Mitch serves as the Chancel-
or of the Ontario Tech University.

GASCHO, Ross
Fasken, Toronto
+1 416 865 5447
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Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Ross Gascho practices
exclusively in the area of pensions and
employee benefits. He advises clients on
all aspects of the implementation, admin-
istration, funding, communication, investment,
governance and wind-up of pension,
group benefit and profit-sharing plans.
Working with administrators, financial
institutions, plan sponsors and trustees,
Ross advises on issues in federally and
province-regulated defined benefit
and defined contribution plans across the
private and public sectors, for both union
and non-union employers. A recognized
expert in his field, Ross frequently assists employers who are redesigning their
broad-based plans, both registered and
unregistered, to better fit their business
objectives. He also advises clients on
pension and benefit issues in corporate
transactions.

HARRISON, Andrew
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 0046
aharrison@blg.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Andrew is experienced
in all aspects of pension and benefits ar-
rangements, including design, governance
and administration, investment, pension
plan transactions, corporate transactions
and reorganizations involving plans, ex-
cecutive compensation and supplemental
plans, and pension and benefit product
development. He advises plan admin-
istrators, employers, boards of directors,
trustees, insurance companies, investment
managers and financial institutions.
Career: Partner since 1995, Ontario Bar,
1989. Recognized in The Best Lawyers
in Canada® (Employee Benefits Law);
National leader of BLG’s Pensions and
Group Benefits Group.

KANEEN, Megan
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 9229
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Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Administration, Pension
Governance & Investment, Mergers &
Acquisitions: Pension & Benefits Issues,
Employee Benefits & Employee Benefits.
Career: Megan advises boards of
trustees and plan sponsors on a variety
of legal matters involving pension plans,
employee life and health trusts and
other benefit plans. Her clients include
both single employer plans and trusted
multi-employer plans across a wide range
of industries. Megan prepares and amends
plan texts and trust agreements, advises
on the application of provincial and feder-
al pension legislation and regulator policy,
and drafts supporting plan documenta-
tion such as participation agreements,
third party reimbursement agreements and
governance policies. She advises on issues that arise in day-to-day plan
administration, assists her clients with
specialized projects such as plan con-
versions, plan terminations and matters
related to ownership of plan surplus, and
assists the resolution of benefit disputes
outside of court. She regularly works with the
BC Financial Services Authority and other regulatory agencies from time
to time. Megan also negotiates a variety
of plan contracts for her clients, including
investment management and sub-
arreements, custodial or solvency
reserve account trust agreements, letter of
credit trust agreements, securities lending
arrangements, annuity contracts, disability
insurance policies and other pension and
benefit plan service provider agreements.
Megan has significant experience review-
ning and advising on pension and benefit
plan investment agreements. Megan is a
member of the bar of British Columbia (2008).

Professional Memberships: The Law
Society of British Columbia - Member;
Canadian Bar Association, Pensions and
Employee Benefits Bar - Member.

KLIKNIC, Terra
Brown Mills Klinck Prezioso LLP, Toronto
416-922-1106
terra.klinick@blmklaw.com
Featured in Employment (Nationalwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Pension, Benefits and
Executive Compensation
Career: Terra has over 20 years’ ex-
perience advising private sector employees and plan administrators,
primarily in the private sector, on all legal issues relating to
pension plans, retirement savings plans and benefit plans, including
administration, fiduciary responsibilities, plan administra-
tion and regulatory compliance, funding
requirements, pension fund investment
and surplus utilization. Terra has extensive
experience advising on pension and
benefits mortgage in corporate transactions,
including mergers and acquisitions, insol-
vencies and restructurings. She also has
a wealth of experience advising private sector employees and
plan administrators on their legacy
defined benefit pension arrangements,
including investment restructuring and
de-risking initiatives (e.g., buy-in and buy-
out annuity purchases), plan mergers and plan wind-
ups.

Professional Memberships: - Cana-
rian Bar Association | Executive Member, Pension and Benefits Section | Secretary 2021-2022 • Co-chair of the Advocacy
and Government Relations Committee since 2019 • Ontario Bar Association | Member, Pension and Benefits Law
Section Executive (previously participated on the Executive) • Osgoode Professional Development | Instructor, Pension Law
Certificate Program • Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario, Standing
Technical Advisory Committee for Defined Contribution Pension Plans | Member

LITNER, Paul W
Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 4730
plitner@osler.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Paul is a partner on
Oslers’ Pensions & Benefits Group. His
practice relates exclusively to pensions,
benefits and compensation plans and
their related investment arrangements. He
advises both private and public
sector clients on the legal and regulatory
aspects of pension and employee benefits
plans including; governance, fiduciary
responsibilities, plan administration and
compliance, pension fund investment,
pension committees, plan wind up, surplus
strategies, and the negotiation and draft-
ing of plans and amendments.
Career: Joined Oslers as student lawyer in 1987. Has served as Board counsel
and advisor to several jointly sponsored
pension plans in Ontario. Past Chair of ACPM’s National Pensions Committee
and Ontario’s Financial Services Tribunal from 2002 – 2010
Publications: Consulting Editor for Lancaster House’s Pension E-Bulletin from
2004 – 2010. Co-authored several sub-
missions to government agencies: Ontario Expert Commission on Pension Reform,
Canadian Association of Pension Supen-
visory Authorities and the Joint Forum of
Financial Market Regulators. Co-authored

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a regular column for Benefits Canada on current legal issues. 

**Personal:** Queen's University, LL.B., University of Toronto, B.A. Recognized as a leading pension and benefits & employee benefits by Best Lawyers Canada, Who's Who Legal, Acritas Stars and Legal 500. Recipient of Lexpert Zenith Award Celebrating Mid-Career Excellence (2015) and Lexpert Award for Exceptional Volunteerism (2013)

**LYNCH, Kelleher**

McCarthy Tétrault LLP; Toronto

**Practice Areas:** Senior Associate in McCarthy Tétrault’s National Pension, Benefits and Executive Compensation Practice in Toronto, and a member of the Firm’s Pension Funds Investment Group. Kelleher advises public, private and not-for-profit clients on legal issues relating to the sponsorship and administration of pension plans, health and welfare benefits, and other employee compensation arrangements. He also has expertise advising on employee plan matters in major M&A transactions and secured lending transactions.

**Career:** New York, USA; 2012; Ontario, 2014; British Columbia, 2017.

**Professional Memberships:** Past Chair of the Ontario Bar Association’s Pensions & Benefits Section Executive; Member of the Canadian Bar Association’s Pensions & Benefits Section Executive; Member of the Canadian Pension and Benefits Institute’s Ontario Regional Council; Member, International Pension and Employee Benefits Law Association; Member of the Law Society of Ontario and the Law Society of British Columbia.

**Personal:** Prior to joining McCarthy Tétrault, Kelleher worked in the legal services branch of Ontario’s pension regulator and was a judicial clerk at the Federal Court of Canada.

**MAK, Sonia**

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP; Toronto +1 416 367 6717 smaka@blg.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Sonia practises primarily in pensions and benefits law, focusing on legal compliance, governance and plan restructuring. She is the leader of BLG’s Pensions and Benefits Group at the Toronto office and Past Chair of the Pensions and Benefits Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association.

**Career:** Partner. Ontario Bar, 1992; Hong Kong (Solicitor), 1985; England (Solicitor), 1988; LLB, University of Hong Kong, 1982.

**Professional Memberships:** Member, Ontario Bar Association, Pensions and Benefits Law Section; Canadian Bar Association, Pensions and Benefits Law Section; Chair (2016), Past Chair (2019), Member of Executives (2010-2020).

**MARIN, Jonathan**

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP; Toronto +1 416 862 5935 jomarin@osler.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Jon practices exclusively in the pensions and employee benefits law area where he provides advice on legal and regulatory issues affecting all aspects of provincially and federally regulated pension plans and other employee benefit plans. Jon deals with issues such as plan design, governance and administration, pension de-risking, plan wind ups, plan compliance, as well as pension and benefit issues arising in corporate transactions generally, including acquisitions, divestitures, mergers and corporate reorganizations.

**Professional Memberships:** Law Society of Ontario, CBA, CBA, Canadian Pension & Benefits Institute, Association of Canadian Pension Management and International Foundation.

**Publications:** Regular contributor to the Osler Pensions & Benefits Law Blog (http://www.pensionsbenefitslaw.com)

**Personal:** University of Western Ontario, J.D. University of St. Andrews, M.Litt Queen’s University, B.A. (Hons.)

**MAXWELL, Sean**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP; Calgary +1 403 533 1661 sean.maxwell@blakes.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Sean is involved in pension and employee benefits plans including fiduciary duties, pension fund investments, plan terminations, ongoing plan administration and compliance issues, disputes over the use of plan assets, and development and documentation of pension and employee benefit plans. Sean advises on the establishment and implementation of incentive compensation arrangements, including stock option, phantom stock, share appreciation rights, deferred share unit plans, employee profit-sharing plans and supplementary retirement plans.

**Professional Memberships:** Sean is a past Chair of the Alberta Regional Council for the ACPRM and has served as a member of its National Council, National Policy Committee and National Conference Planning Committee. He has also served as an executive of the Pension & Employee Benefits Law Section of CBA’s Southern Alberta Branch.

**MCLEOD, Lindsay**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP; Toronto 416 863 3881 lindsay.mcleod@blakes.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Lindsay provides strategic and practical advice in all areas of pensions, employee benefits and executive compensation. She advises clients on regulatory compliance as well as the taxation, design, administration, governance and termination of these arrangements. Lindsay also has extensive experience advising clients on the risks and legal risks that arise in connection with corporate transactions, including with respect to equity-based compensation arrangements.

**Career:** Lindsay spent time at a top-tier global firm in the UK, where she advised multi-national employers and pension plan trustees on a variety of matters including automatic enrolment, funding negotiations and global transactions.

**MCLEOD, Lindsay**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP; Toronto 416 863 3881 lindsay.mcleod@blakes.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Lindsay provides strategic and practical advice in all areas of pensions, employee benefits and executive compensation. She advises clients on regulatory compliance as well as the taxation, design, administration, governance and termination of these arrangements. Lindsay also has extensive experience advising clients on the risks and legal risks that arise in connection with corporate transactions, including with respect to equity-based compensation arrangements.

**Career:** Lindsay spent time at a top-tier global firm in the UK, where she advised multi-national employers and pension plan trustees on a variety of matters including automatic enrolment, funding negotiations and global transactions.

**MCLEOD, Lindsay**

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP; Toronto 416 863 3881 lindsay.mcleod@blakes.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Lindsay provides strategic and practical advice in all areas of pensions, employee benefits and executive compensation. She advises clients on regulatory compliance as well as the taxation, design, administration, governance and termination of these arrangements. Lindsay also has extensive experience advising clients on the risks and legal risks that arise in connection with corporate transactions, including with respect to equity-based compensation arrangements.

**Career:** Lindsay spent time at a top-tier global firm in the UK, where she advised multi-national employers and pension plan trustees on a variety of matters including automatic enrolment, funding negotiations and global transactions.

**MILLS, Lisa**

Brown Mills Kinclie Prezioso LLP; Toronto (613) 369-5477 lisa.mills@bmkplaw.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Pension, Benefits and Executive Compensation

**Career:** Lisa has 25 years of experience in pension, benefits and executive compensation law. She is a founding partner of BMKP Law, a boutique law firm specializing in that area. She provides advice to both federally and provincially regulated pension and benefit plans in all areas of pension plan design, regulatory compliance and all other aspects of administering defined benefit, defined contribution and hybrid pension plans. Lisa also has a particular interest in pension plan de-risking and significant experience in resolving the income tax elements of pension and benefit matters. In 2018 Lisa received the Lexpert Zenith Award for mid-career excellence.

**Professional Memberships:** Can. Adm. Revenue Agency Registered Plans Division Stakeholder Consultation Group – Participant - International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans – Member - Ontario Bar Association – Member (Pensions and Benefits Law Section) - Canadian Bar Association – Member (Pensions and Benefits Law Section) - Queen’s University Faculty of Law – Sessional Instructor. Pensions and the Law (2009-2013) - Institute of Corporate Directors – Member - Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario, Standing Committee for Defined Benefit Single-Employer Pension Plans – Member - PHSS Medical & Complex Care in Community Board of Directors – Board Member (2022).

**NICKERSON, Susan**

Torys LLP; Toronto +1 416 865 7514 snickerson@torys.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** An accomplished lawyer in pension and benefits law, and a thought leader in pension matters, at the forefront of the latest developments and issues affecting pension clients across Canada. Susan regularly drafts advisory papers on emerging pension issues and provides consulting with lawmakers across Canada on areas of pension reform and guidance. She has assisted in the drafting of major publication of the Canadian Association of Pension Management (ACPM) Papers, including on tax reform, target benefit plan design and implementation, funding reform, annuity discharges for pension plans and pension risk management, enhancing the Canada Pension Plan, as well as many other submissions to government.

**PREZIOSO, John**

Brown Mills Kinclie Prezioso LLP; Toronto 416-922-6697 john.prezioso@bmkplaw.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Pension, Benefits and Executive Compensation

**Career:** In the area of pension, John advises employers and plan administrators in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors on compliance, administration and governance issues relating to their pension plans and other employee benefit plans, and issues relating to pension plan investment, de-risking of defined benefit pension plans and decumulation issues in the defined contribution environment. John has extensive experience working with employers and leading compensation consultants in the design, drafting, administration and communication of incentive compensation plans for employees and executives, and with tax, employment and other compliance issues relating to incentive compensation plans. John regularly advises employers with respect to tax issues relating to employees, officers, directors, shareholders and independent contractors, including source deduction and tax reporting issues relating to employee compensation and taxable benefits, as well as payroll audits and the correction of deduction, remittance and reporting errors. John has taught the Pension Law course at Queen's University Faculty of Law.

**Professional Memberships:** Canadi. Bar Association | Member - Ontario Bar Association | Member - Queen's University Faculty of Law | Past Sessional Instructor, Pensions and the Law | Osprey Professional Development | Instructor, Pension Law Certificate Program

**RANGER, Julien**

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP; Montréal +1 514 904 5631 jranger@osler.com Featured in Employment (National - Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Julien has extensive expertise advising employers, pension fund administrators and service providers on issues such as pension plan governance and design, de-risking strategies, annuity purchases (buy-in, buy-out), longevity insurance, retirement planning, plan administration, plan mergers, plan conversions, use of surplus assets, and retiree benefit matters. He also assists them in their representations before regulatory authorities, administrative tribunals and courts. Julien has significant experience in advising clients on pension and employment issues arising in connection with various corporate events including acqui-
Practice Areas: Tom is known for providing practical, results-oriented advice to major Canadian and international employers in all areas of pension governance and employment law. Tom advises clients across all areas of pension governance and employment law, including in the context of corporate and commercial transactions. He also regularly advises clients regarding the interpretation and application of pension, employment, labour and human rights legislation in the workplace, as well as assisting clients in the drafting and implementation of pension and employment documentation and practices.

VANDENHOVEN, Natasha
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5240
nvandenhoven@stikeman.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Natasha vandenHoven is a partner and Head of the Pensions & Benefits Group. Her practice focuses on statutory and governmental plans, governance, fiduciary obligations, investment and administration issues, trusts, and compliance matters. In particular, she advises clients on pensions and benefits issues relating to corporate transactions, creditor/debtor agreements, and bankruptcy and insolvency matters. Natasha is experienced in executive compensation and advises clients on matters including equity and non-equity based compensation, supplemental retirement arrangements and bonus plans. She has also developed an expertise in de-risking strategies involving complex annuity buy-in and buy-out transactions including with respect to regulatory discharges. In addition, Natasha regularly advises on regulatory and investment structuring matters.

WALDOCK, Deron P
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416-601-7523
dwaldock@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Provides strategic legal advice with respect to retirement, health & welfare and other compensation plans. Recent focuses are on investments, DB plan freezes and innovative plan designs, governance and changes to retiree benefits. Advises on the treatment of benefit plans in M&A transactions, lending transactions and insolvencies; advises on private and public sector pension plans. Experience in litigating matters before pension regulatory authorities and provides pension expertise to McCarthy litigation team in pension class proceedings. Represented employer in connection with nation’s first Employee Life and Health Trust. Frequent speaker and writer on benefits topics, including Canadian contributor to first UNEP FI paper on ESG for Institutional Investors.

Career: Ontario, 1986

WOLPERT, Michael
Fasken, Calgary
403.218.7513
mwolpert@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael practises exclusively in the area of Pensions and Benefits law. He provides private and public sector clients, including boards of trustees, with strategic advice and practical counsel about legal, legislative and regulatory issues surrounding retirement plans, employment benefits and related human resource matters. In business transactions, Michael advises clients on the pension and benefit implications. He assists clients with drafting, amending and interpreting a wide variety of plan and trust documentation and provides support on pension and benefit litigation. Michael is also highly experienced in the legal aspects of governing, administering and documenting group benefit plans, including non-pension post-retirement benefit plans. For many years, Michael has been active in the area of legislative reform for pensions through a variety of forums. He is a member of the Legal Consultative Committee for Alberta Treasury Board and Finance. Michael served on the Advisory Committee for the Joint Alberta-British Columbia Drafting of Pension Legislation, which was formed by those two governments to provide input and advice into the development of a new joint pension standards act and regulation for the two provinces.

Washington, D.C., 2000

Stevenson, Jeff
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416-863-2534
jeff.somers@blakes.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jeff has practised exclusively in the area of pensions, benefits and executive compensation for over 25 years. He frequently advises on pension and benefit issues arising in the context of corporate transactions, loan agreements, insolvencies and compliance disputes. His practice also focuses on pension investment, governance and fiduciary matters. Jeff has extensive experience assisting clients with pension plan mergers, as well as de-risking strategies, including buy-in and buy-out annuities and longevity insurance arrangements. Jeff’s clients include both public and private sector plan sponsors and administrators and a wide range of financial institutions and service providers.

Sommers, Jeffrey
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416-863-2534
jeff.somers@blakes.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jeff’s clients buy-in and buy-out annuities and longevity clients with pension plan mergers, as Jeff has extensive experience assisting with pension, employment, labour and human rights legislation in the workplace, as well as assisting clients in the drafting and implementation of pension and employment documentation and practices.

VandenHoven, Natasha
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5240
nvandenhoven@stikeman.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Natasha vandenHoven is a partner and Head of the Pensions & Benefits Group. Her practice focuses on statutory and governmental plans, governance, fiduciary obligations, investment and administration issues, trusts, and compliance matters. In particular, she advises clients on pensions and benefits issues relating to corporate transactions, creditor/debtor agreements, and bankruptcy and insolvency matters. Natasha is experienced in executive compensation and advises clients on matters including equity and non-equity based compensation, supplemental retirement arrangements and bonus plans. She has also developed an expertise in de-risking strategies involving complex annuity buy-in and buy-out transactions including with respect to regulatory discharges. In addition, Natasha regularly advises on regulatory and investment structuring matters.

Waldock, Deron P
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416-601-7523
dwaldock@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Provides strategic legal advice with respect to retirement, health & welfare and other compensation plans. Recent focuses are on investments, DB plan freezes and innovative plan designs, governance and changes to retiree benefits. Advises on the treatment of benefit plans in M&A transactions, lending transactions and insolvencies; advises on private and public sector pension plans. Experience in litigating matters before pension regulatory authorities and provides pension expertise to McCarthy litigation team in pension class proceedings. Represented employer in connection with nation’s first Employee Life and Health Trust. Frequent speaker and writer on benefits topics, including Canadian contributor to first UNEP FI paper on ESG for Institutional Investors.

Career: Ontario, 1986

Wolpert, Michael
Fasken, Calgary
403.218.7513
mwolpert@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Employment (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael practises exclusively in the area of Pensions and Benefits law. He provides private and public sector clients, including boards of trustees, with strategic advice and practical counsel about legal, legislative and regulatory issues surrounding retirement plans, employment benefits and related human resource matters. In business transactions, Michael advises clients on the pension and benefit implications. He assists clients with drafting, amending and interpreting a wide variety of plan and trust documentation and provides support on pension and benefit litigation. Michael is also highly experienced in the legal aspects of governing, administering and documenting group benefit plans, including non-pension post-retirement benefit plans. For many years, Michael has been active in the area of legislative reform for pensions through a variety of forums. He is a member of the Legal Consultative Committee for Alberta Treasury Board and Finance. Michael served on the Advisory Committee for the Joint Alberta-British Columbia Drafting of Pension Legislation, which was formed by those two governments to provide input and advice into the development of a new joint pension standards act and regulation for the two provinces.
The leading lawyers
and law firms in Canada

Privacy & Data Protection
**How lawyers are ranked**

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness, astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

**Privacy & Data Protection**

**Nationwide**

**Leading Firms**

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**Privacy & Data Protection**

**Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners**

| Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners |
| Sookman Barry McCarthy Tetrault LLP* |
| Eminent Practitioners |
| Young David David Young (ORL) |

**Leading Individuals**

**Band 1**

| Cameron Alex Fasken |
| Fraser David T.S. McInnes Cooper (ORL) |
| Gratton Éloïse Borden Ladner Gervais LLP |
| Kardash Adam Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP* |
| Thompson Kirsten Dentons Canada LLP |

**Band 2**

| Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP* |
| Michaluk Daniel J. Borden Ladner Gervais LLP* |
| Salloum John Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP* |

**Band 3**

| Banks Timothy nNovation |
| Bernier Chantal Dentons Canada LLP |
| Elder David Stikeman Elliott LLP (ORL) |
| Morgan Charles S. McCarthy Tetrault LLP* |
| Promislow Ruth Bennett Jones LLP |
| Reynolds Molly Torsy LLP* |

**Band 4**

| Ahmad Imran Norton Rose Fulbright |
| Aylwin Antoine Fasken |
| Burns Stephen Bennett Jones LLP |
| Fine Joanna Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP |
| Glover Daniel McCarthy Tetrault LLP* |
| Henry Elisa Borden Ladner Gervais LLP* |
| Himo Julie Torsy LLP |
| Klein Kris nNovation |

**Up-and-coming individuals**

| Buchanan Jade McCarthy Tetrault LLP |
| Cassell John Norton Rose Fulbright |
| Joëlle-Coeur François Borden Ladner Gervais LLP |
| Shah Ronak Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP* |

**Assess to watch**

| Saban Tina Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP* |
| Walt Nic Torsy LLP* |

**Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

What the team is known for

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt maintains a highly regarded privacy and data management group. It serves a broad client base, advising several high-profile banks and as well as tech, retail and hospitality companies in the digital marketing space on privacy and anti-scam issues. The firm also assists with regulatory concerns, data processing matters and security incidents. It is regularly mandated by high-profile private sector organisations to advise on data governance and contentious privacy issues, and is increasingly experienced in the emerging data ethics and big data spaces. Osler is highly rated for its innovation and commitment to practice development and policy discussion via its celebrated AccessPrivacy platform.

**Strengths**

“The firm offers extremely sophisticated understanding and the right contacts at offices to most effectively service clients. The team is extremely knowledgeable about the law, practical in their approach, with good business judgement and highly responsive.”

“The firm adopts a very practical approach in the handling of complex issues. They always keep in mind our organisation’s particular context and have great advice to provide.”

**Notable practitioners**

Adam Kardash (see p.312) is widely agreed to be a pre-eminent lawyer and heavyweight authority in the field of privacy and data protection. Based in Toronto, he is highly experienced advising clients on responses to data security breaches as well as assisting with regulatory investigations. **Strengths:** “Adam is a brilliant thinker and extremely responsive. He has a superb command of Canadian data protection law not only at a federal but also provincial levels.” John Salloum (see p.313) maintains an impressive practice dedicated to the confluence of privacy and advertising law, advising notable clients in the hospitality and e-commerce sectors. He is based in Toronto.
Toronto-based Joanna Fine (see p.311) continues to build an impressive reputation for her involvement in an array of privacy, data protection and anti-spam matters. She acts for big-name clients in the banking and e-commerce sectors, among others. Strengths: “She works efficiently and her guidance is always practical, actionable and clearly articulated. She is a true expert in her field and our organisation has come to rely on her sound advice.” Associate Tina Saban (see p.312) is well versed in data security incident response. Strengths: “She is highly organised and deeply responsive.”

**Band 2**

**Dentons Canada LLP**

What the team is known for Dentons is renowned for its deep regulatory knowledge in the field of privacy and data protection. It ably assists with data governance and e-commerce matters including anti-spam, cybersecurity and marketing to children. Its privacy and data protection group is regularly active on behalf of clients operating in the automotive, technology and fintech sectors who benefit from Dentons’ global resources on a variety of cross-border matters. The Dentons Canada team is experienced in sensitive data breach litigation and also increasingly proficient in privacy issues concerning new technologies such as facial recognition and autonomous vehicles.

Strengths: “Dentons is always available for us, even on short notice, to assess the materiality and risk of harm, and to support us. It is the only firm I rely on for privacy advice.”

“I find their expertise second to none in terms of depth of knowledge and ability to communicate that knowledge in easy terms.”

Work highlights Dentons Canada LLP counselled Cadillac Fairview in connection with numerous privacy regulatory investigations and class actions.

**Notable practitioners**

Kirsten Thompson is distinguished for the breadth of her expertise in the privacy field, providing compliance advice and considerable experience in investigations, public disclosure and courtroom advocacy. Based in Toronto, she is the head of the firm’s transformative technologies and data strategy group. “Kirsten is outstanding to interact with and brings the needed experience to our endeavour.” “I appreciate Kirsten’s level of knowledge and business pragmatism.” Chantal Bernier is a recognised authority in Canadian privacy law, having previously acted as interim commissioner at the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC). She continues to be sought after for her international experience, advising on a range of issues including cybersecurity and data gathering innovation. She is based in Ottawa. “Chantal Bernier is extremely knowledgeable in the privacy field and manages to provide focused and detailed responses to our inquiries.” “Chantal provides an amazing level of technical expertise, but is at the same time very practical in her advice.”

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken has a strong regulatory practice in Canada which is recognised for its experience in freedom of information matters and privacy compliance. The firm frequently acts for insurance companies and public sector clients. It operates a highly regarded cybersecurity practice with notable expertise in incident response, risk management and cyber insurance. The team is also experienced in acting on privacy class action proceedings before all levels of court. It is increasingly engaged on mandates involving data transfer and storage issues, as well as innovative data capture proposals.

Strengths: “Fasken provides an exceptional balance of top-level legal analysis together with a client-centric approach.”

“The depth and breadth of the firm is impressive and everyone I have ever had the privilege of working with at Fasken has shown tremendous ability.”

“The lawyers at Fasken who handle cyber and privacy are highly skilled and understand that they need to give precise, clear and accurate information to help the client make good decisions.”

Work highlights Fasken acted on behalf of Capital One in 12 privacy class actions across the country relating to a cybersecurity incident which was alleged to have impacted the personal information of approximately six million Canadian consumers.

**Notable practitioners**

Alex Cameron (see p.311) is an exceptionally well-respected lawyer in the privacy sphere with an outstanding client following, particularly in areas such as insurance and financial services. Based in Toronto, he leads the firm’s privacy and cybersecurity group.

Strengths: “Alex is simply the very best of the very best. His superb business knowledge together with an exceptional grasp of the law truly sets him apart. He is recognised in the industry as the gold standard.”

“Alex’s combination of subject matter legal expertise, combined with his years of experience plus elite customer service availability is at an elite level.”

Antoine Aylwin (see p.311) is based in Montreal, from where he regularly provides counsel on cybersecurity incident response as well as assisting clients with privacy-related regulatory proceedings. His privacy work is complemented by his growing expertise in trusts and estates legislation. Strengths: “He is very skilled.”

**Band 3**

**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for Bennett Jones LLP is a go-to counselor on privacy and data security issues for clients across a range of sectors, including technology, energy, financial services, retail and hospitality. The team frequently counsels clients on regulatory matters, as well as assisting with privacy class actions and incident response. The firm offers nationwide coverage, with offices in Calgary, Edmonton, Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver.

Strengths: “The lawyers provide good response times and really practical, clear and commercial advice. The turnaround is excellent.”

“They are fantastic to work with and for complex transactions, definitely top of mind.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones LLP advised Marriott in connection with a privacy class action relating to a data breach of its reservation system which affected up to 500 million guests worldwide.

**Notable practitioners**

Ruth Promislow offers clients extensive experience in privacy, data protection and cybersecurity compliance, with her recent work covering advice on data management programmes, responses to ransomware attacks and privacy class actions. She is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Ruth Promislow is an expert. She is incredibly practical and focused.”

“Ruth Promislow is an exemplary lawyer who provides clients with top-notch service. She is a pleasure to work with.”

“Ruth Promislow is very knowledgeable yet eminently practical. I appreciate the perspective that her litigation background brings to privacy matters. She has excellent communication skills and will work to find solutions.”

Calgary-based Stephen Burns is a strong choice to advise clients on data breaches. He serves as co-head of the firm’s innovation, technology and branding practice. Strengths: “He is a great communicator and advisor who understands our business and offers business-oriented, practical solutions.”

**Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP**

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graddon LLP is recognised for its work advising major national and multinational organisations on Canadian regulatory compliance, and the development and implementation of data management programmes and cyber risk strategies. The firm also acts as defence counsel in class actions and regularly advises on privacy issues ancillary to mergers. In the privacy space Blake represents clients hailing from a broad range of sectors, including heavily regulated industries such as healthcare, foods, financial services and energy.

Strengths: “They provide concise, practical guidance that is easy to implement and understand.”

“IT is an amazing team, which is very responsive and knowledgeable.”

“The service is outstanding: the team always anticipates our needs and provides practical tools, and the turnaround time is excellent. They are good drafters and sophisticated lawyers.”

**Notable practitioners**

Wendy Mee (see p.312) is a skilled privacy and data protection expert with a high-calibre client portfolio, featuring standout names in the pharmaceutical, telecoms and financial services sectors. Based in Toronto, she serves as the national privacy officer for the firm. Strengths: “Wendy is attentive, thorough, and gives practical guidance that I can easily implement. She is also efficient and direct, which helps us get through issues quickly and effectively.”

“She is an amazing lawyer who is very professional, knowledgeable and very responsive.”

Ronak Shah (see p.313) is an adept advisor on data protection and privacy issues, including regulatory compliance and data breach response. He is based in the firm’s Toronto office. Strengths: “He is excellent and gives good advice.”

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault’s privacy practice advises several well-known Canadian and international clients on a variety of issues within this space. The firm is highly experienced acting as defence counsel in privacy-related class actions and is also regularly called upon to advise on matters arising from cybersecurity breaches. Outside the contentious sphere, McCarthy is also well versed in negotiating master data sharing agreements as well as providing guidance on issues of privacy legislation.

Strengths: “They bring years of valuable experience and can handle and make recommendations on any tricky issue.”

“They did outstanding work and the team as a whole is super responsive.”
McCarthy Tétrault continued to  

Ontario-based firm

by domestic and international clients on Canadian

experienced privacy lawyer who is frequently sought out

absolutely an expert in his area.”

“He is fabulous – super smart and

business-oriented.” “He is fabulous – super smart and

a proficiency in the technology and outsourcing

tise in privacy, cybersecurity and anti-spam law with

Timothy Banks

Ontario Telehealth Network accreditation.

connection with regulatory issues, including privacy,

consumer protection, professional regulatory and

a broad practice which sees him assist clients with

a variety of technology and telecoms transactions in

addition to advising on the related data and pri-

vacy concerns. “Charles has a very in-depth knowl-

dge of Quebec privacy law and is our go-to person

when privacy issues arise in the province.” “He is very

knowledgeable and available.” Toronto-based partner

Daniel Glover (see p.414) co-leads the firm’s cyber-

data practice group. He has a strong track record of

advising clients on privacy regulations and data

breaches. “He is an expert in privacy law, responsive

and very knowledgeable.” “He has a great blend of

cyber and legal knowledge.”

Jade Buchanan (see p.311) advises public and private-sector clients on

privacy and data security issues, including incident

response. He is based in the firm’s Vancouver office.

“He provides very practical advice and is very good at

finding solutions.” “He is very knowledgeable on multiple fronts.”

nNovation

What the team is known for

Ontario-based firm

nNovation offers skilled practitioners handling high-

level privacy issues. The team advises an impressive

roster of clients from the technology, healthcare,

real estate and retail sectors. The firm offers a com-

prehensive privacy and data security practice, from

designing compliance programmes to assisting with

data security breaches.

Strengths

“The lawyers provide fantastic service – they are

responsive and knowledgeable.”

“The team is very practical and very informed on the

latest trends.”

“They are invariably incisive, responsive and succinct.”

Work highlights

nNovation counselled WonderMD in connection with regulatory issues, including privacy,

consumer protection, professional regulatory and Ontario Telehealth Network accreditation.

Notable practitioners

Timothy Banks combines his considerable exper-

tise in privacy, cybersecurity and anti-spam law with

a proficiency in the technology and outsourcing

sphere. Strengths: “He is extremely practical and

business-oriented.” “He is fabulous – super smart and

absolutely an expert in his area.”

Kris Klein is an experi-

enced privacy lawyer who is frequently sought out by

domestic and international clients on Canadian

privacy issues. Strengths: “He is very knowledgeable

and an expert in his field. He knows what he’s doing, is

responsive and collaborative.” “Kris is good – he under-

stands the technology quickly and gives succinct

advice.”

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for

Norton Rose Fulbright is a full-service global firm with a wealth of experience

understanding data protection and privacy mandates.

It is a strong choice to handle cybersecurity incident response in addition to providing privacy compliance

counsel. The firm frequently assists clients in the healthcare sector, in addition to those in the tech-

ology, financial services, telecommunications, retail

and energy industries.

Strengths

“The firm is very timely, very insightful, very helpful

and offers a very high calibre of legal service. It is a

firm of very respected lawyers.”

“The level of advice and support has been exceptional.

Their understanding of the laws, regulatory obligations

and the impact of cyber breaches is a game changer

for us.”

Notable practitioners

Imran Ahmad (see p.311) divides his time between

Toronto and Montréal. He is a distinguished expert

in the field of cybersecurity, providing compliance

and regulatory guidance as well as advice on data

breaches and responses. Strengths: “His level of

sophistication and his ability to break down complex

correlations to operational terms is extremely impressive. He is also very responsive.” “Imran is excellent. His

guidance and expertise are invaluable.”

John Cassell (see p.311) is developing an impressive privacy and

data security practice as part of his broader litiga-

tion experience. He serves as co-head of the firm’s

information governance, privacy and cybersecurity

team and is based in the Calgary office.

Strengths: “John is an exceptional communicator, prompt, timely

and always available to help. He displays a very high

level of expertise in this area.” “He is very supportive, responsive and knowledgeable.”

Torys LLP

What the team is known for

Torys fields an impres-

sive privacy and data protection practice, which

sees the firm frequently counsel clients on incident

response, class actions and regulatory compliance.

The firm offers broad geographic coverage with

offices in Toronto, Montréal and Halifax. The team

also offers notable expertise in cybersecurity.

Clients from a wide range of sectors, including finan-

cial services, telecommunications, technology and

life sciences, seek out Torys’ privacy expertise.

Strengths “Torys is our go-to firm on complex or

sophisticated privacy issues.”

“The team provides clear, direct and practical advice on all aspects of the matter, including complex, techni-

cal areas. Everyone on this file has been extremely

responsive and has met every deadline for deliverables

and responses to our requests.”

“Our team have great expertise and an ability to distil
difficult and complex privacy matters into easy-to-im-

plement instructions for the operations.”

Work highlights

Torys acted on behalf of Bell Mobility

in a national class action brought on behalf of a class

of approximately five million Canadian consumers

alleging that an online behavioural advertising pro-

gram constituted an invasion of their privacy.

Notable practitioners

Molly Reynolds (see p.312) is a regulatory expert and

accomplished courtroom advocate whose skills are

frequently sought after by a range of financial insti-
tutions including major banks, pension funds and for-

eign exchange companies. She is based in Toronto.

“Molly’s wealth of experience leads to her giving great, commercial and practical advice.” “Molly is a true sub-

ject matter expert in the area of privacy and is able to

provide practical advice that can be implemented into

our business. Molly takes the time to understand our

business before recommending any solutions. Molly is

on top of all current and emerging trends.”

Julie Himo (see p.312) is an experienced breach coach and fre-

quently assists clients with navigating data security

incidents. She is based in the firm’s Montréal office.

“Julie is very competent and knowledgeable. She has the

ability to synthesise complex matters and her sug-

gestions and communications are very clear, making

it really easy to come up with efficient strategies.

Her respectful attitude and good judgement towards

the other parties helps a lot in negotiation of delicate

matters.” “Julie Himo has a strong knowledge and very

practical experience.”

Toronto-based associate Nic

Wall (see p.313) is developing an impressive privacy and
data governance practice, frequently counsel-

ling clients on compliance and regulatory investi-

gations. “His quality far exceeds his experience. He is

very thoughtful in covering all angles and thorough.”

“He is very responsive and helpful.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

David Elder (see p.311) continues to draw acclaim

for his expertise in privacy matters affecting the tel-

ecoms industry. From his base in Ottawa, he repre-

sents clients in a range of matters before the CRTC,

including those arising from anti-spam concerns.

Strengths: “He is very smart.”

David Fraser is widely regarded as being at the fore-

front of the legal profession when it comes to privacy

and data protection. Based in Halifax, he acts for

clients from both the private and public sectors on

issues relating to provincial freedom of information

laws and federal privacy legislation. “He is great.”

David Young advises on a variety of issues ranging

from corporate compliance to submissions advo-

cating for legislative amendments. One of the most

experienced lawyers active in this field, he is highly

respected by sources within the legal profession.

“David delivers quality work, on time and on point. He

provides detailed responses to complicated matters

that are very important for our business.” “He is highly

sophisticated and experienced.”
AHMAD, Imran
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
416-202-6708
imran ahmad@nortonrosefullbright.com
Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide–Canada)

Practice Areas: Imran Ahmad is the Canadian head of our technology sector and Canadian co-head of our information governance practice. He is a recognized leader in cybersecurity and data breach incident preparedness and response. In addition, Imran often acts as “breach counsel” in the event of a cybersecurity incident, such as a data breach or cyber breach, and has extensive experience in managing complex security incidents and cross-border breaches. He also provides representation in the event of an investigation, an enforcement action or a litigation.

BUCHANAN, Jade
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide–Canada)

Practice Areas: Jade’s cybersecurity practice begins before the incident, helping organizations with incident preparedness, risk management and the acquisition of cybersecurity software and services. She has worked on some of the largest cybersecurity incidents in Canadian history and dozens of other incidents, including data breaches and ransomware attacks. On privacy compliance, Jade has particular experience in the retail and technology sectors, helping clients balance compliance, risk, innovation and competitiveness. Jade has a strong interest in leading the rapid development of privacy and cybersecurity law. Jade has spoken on technology, privacy and cybersecurity at dozens of events and guest lectured at the University of Victoria and for Osgoode Hall Law School’s Certificate in Privacy and Cybersecurity Law.

Career: British Columbia, 2017 Saskatchewan, 2012

Professional Memberships: Canadian Technology Law Association (CAN-TECH) – Board Member International Association of Privacy Professionals – Member Personal: Metis Nation British Columbia – Member

CAMERON, Alex
Fasken, Toronto
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide–Canada)

Practice Areas: Alex Cameron is co-leader of the firm’s Privacy & Cybersecurity Group. Antoine’s practice focuses on administrative, civil, commercial litigation and regulatory matters. Clients seek his expertise and he represents their interests in the areas of estate and trust litigation, access to information in documents held by public bodies, protection of personal information in the public and private sectors, in cybersecurity, public and administrative law, disciplinary law, and extra-territorial remedies such as injunctions and judicial review. He also assists clients with the application of the Children’s Law of the French Language in Quebec. Antoine appears before various courts and administrative tribunals, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Antoine publishes and delivers seminars on privacy and information protection and estate law. He has also produced works on behalf of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada. He often acts as breach counsel for companies that have experienced a security incident involving the protection of personal information in their possession. Moreover, he frequently appears before the Régie du)|(Québec on behalf of agri-food companies and several working groups. He serves a broad range of clients in the communications industry including broadcasters, advertising, Internet content providers, software-as-a-service providers, IT security drivers, government departments and agencies, industry associations and telecommunications service providers employing Internet, wired and wireless and satellite technologies.

Joanna is a member of the Privacy and Data Management Group. She provides practical and strategic advice to organizations across all sectors, from large multi-national companies to emerging companies. Joanna regularly assists clients in identifying and mitigating privacy risks associated with complex and innovative data collection and use initiatives, including interest-based advertising, “big data” analytics, AI, surveillance technologies, and anti-fraud initiatives. Joanna also assists clients with security incident response and privacy regulatory investigations, including liaising with the U.S. and provincial privacy regulators in Canada. She regularly provides privacy and anti-spam training to clients, drafts privacy policies and procedures, conducts privacy reviews, and advises on privacy issues in mergers and acquisitions and outsourcing arrangements (including transborder data flows).

FINE, Joanna
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
416.862.5685
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide–Canada)

Practice Areas: Joanna is a member of the Privacy and Data Management group. She provides practical and strategic advice to organizations across all sectors, from large multi-national companies to emerging companies. Joanna regularly assists clients in identifying and mitigating privacy risks associated with complex and innovative data collection and use initiatives, including interest-based advertising, “big data” analytics, AI, surveillance technologies, and anti-fraud initiatives. Joanna also assists clients with security incident response and privacy regulatory investigations, including liaising with the U.S. and provincial privacy regulators in Canada. She regularly provides privacy and anti-spam training to clients, drafts privacy policies and procedures, conducts privacy reviews, and advises on privacy issues in mergers and acquisitions and outsourcing arrangements (including transborder data flows).

Ali and his team also work closely with clients on the development of innovative solutions to all manner of privacy issues. He also assists clients in managing compliance with Canada’s Anti-Spam Law (CASL).

CASSELL, John
Norton Rose Fullbright, Calgary
403-207-8233
john.cassell@nortonrosefullbright.com
Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide–Canada)

Practice Areas: John Cassell is co-head of the national information governance, privacy and cybersecurity team. John assists clients with all manner of privacy and cybersecurity law issues including: responding to complex local and international cybersecurity incidents, advising on risk management strategies, assisting clients with access to information requests, complying with Canada’s anti-spam legislation and proceedings before the offices of the Alberta and federal privacy commissioners. John also maintains a general commercial civil litigation practice with a particular focus on insolvency and reorganization matters.

ELDER, David
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Ottawa
1 613 566 0532
delder@stikeman.com
Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide–Canada)

Telecommunications

Practice Areas: David Elder is counsel who practices communications, competition and privacy law. He heads the Communications and Privacy & Data Protection Groups and is a member of the Competition & Foreign Investment, Government Relations, and International Regulation & Compliance Groups. He also serves as the firm’s Chief Privacy Officer. David is recognized as one of the country’s foremost authorities on Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL), having been involved in all stages of the development of the new law, including making formal submissions on behalf of a number of clients and having successfully worked to help secure some key amendments to the law and regulations during the legislative process. He has advised many clients with respect to the interpretation and application of the new law, as well as assisting businesses with the development of anti-spam compliance programs. He is in high demand as a speaker on the topic of CASL. With respect to privacy matters, David provides privacy compliance advice to a wide range of Canadian and international businesses, including technology companies, on-line service providers, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers, conducting both “bricks and mortar” and online activities. He also provides advice with respect to managing data breaches and navigating privacy issues arising in M&A transactions. David serves as Special Digital Privacy Counsel to the Canadian Marketing Association, in which role he advocates and advises on a range of electronic privacy issues, including spam regulation, including representing the CMA before several Parliamentary Committees. David has shared his cybersecurity expertise as an author, speaker and lecturer. In his communications law practice, David has provided legal and strategic advice with respect to a wide range of broadcasting and telecommunications proceedings, including those relating to licensing, policy matters and competitive disputes. In various written, oral, expedited and dispute resolution proceedings he has advocated on behalf of clients before the CRTC, Industry Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal, the Privacy Commissioner of Canada and several Parliamentary Committees and working groups. He serves a broad range of clients in the communications industry including broadcasters, advertising, Internet content providers, software-as-a-service providers, IT security drivers, government departments and agencies, industry associations and telecommunications service providers employing Internet, wired and wireless and satellite technologies.

David is also one of Canada’s leading practitioners in the area of unsolicited telecommunications. He has many years of experience in this area, assisting, during his tenure as counsel with the CRTC, with the development of some of the current rules, and in subsequent roles, arguing some of the key cases dealing with the interpretation and application of the Unsolicited Telecommunications Rules. He has advised a range of clients with respect to compliance with these Rules and National Do Not Call List compliance and litigation. He has represented clients with respect to investigations and enforcement action by the CRTC. David is editor of the firm’s Communications Law Newsletter, writes and speaks widely on regulatory and legislative issues relating to communications. He is also a Research Contributor to the “Privacy Interviews with Experts Series” published by Nymity News, an international provider of privacy information, compliance and accountability solutions.

Joanna is a member of the Privacy and Data Management group. She provides practical and strategic advice to organizations across all sectors, from large multi-national companies to emerging companies. Joanna regularly assists clients in identifying and mitigating privacy risks associated with complex and innovative data collection and use initiatives, including interest-based advertising, “big data” analytics, AI, surveillance technologies, and anti-fraud initiatives. Joanna also assists clients with security incident response and privacy regulatory investigations, including liaising with the U.S. and provincial privacy regulators in Canada. She regularly provides privacy and anti-spam training to clients, drafts privacy policies and procedures, conducts privacy reviews, and advises on privacy issues in mergers and acquisitions and outsourcing arrangements (including transborder data flows).

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, The Canadian Technology Law Association, International Association of Privacy Professionals, Ontario Bar Association. Joanna is a member of the Privacy and Data Management Group. She provides practical and strategic advice to organizations across all sectors, from large multi-national companies to emerging companies. Joanna regularly assists clients in identifying and mitigating privacy risks associated with complex and innovative data collection and use initiatives, including interest-based advertising, “big data” analytics, AI, surveillance technologies, and anti-fraud initiatives. Joanna also assists clients with security incident response and privacy regulatory investigations, including liaising with the U.S. and provincial privacy regulators in Canada. She regularly provides privacy and anti-spam training to clients, drafts privacy policies and procedures, conducts privacy reviews, and advises on privacy issues in mergers and acquisitions and outsourcing arrangements (including transborder data flows).

Joanna is a member of the Privacy and Data Management group. She provides practical and strategic advice to organizations across all sectors, from large multi-national companies to emerging companies. Joanna regularly assists clients in identifying and mitigating privacy risks associated with complex and innovative data collection and use initiatives, including interest-based advertising, “big data” analytics, AI, surveillance technologies, and anti-fraud initiatives. Joanna also assists clients with security incident response and privacy regulatory investigations, including liaising with the U.S. and provincial privacy regulators in Canada. She regularly provides privacy and anti-spam training to clients, drafts privacy policies and procedures, conducts privacy reviews, and advises on privacy issues in mergers and acquisitions and outsourcing arrangements (including transborder data flows).
GLOVER, Daniel
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Featured in Media & Entertainment (Nationwide – Canada), Privy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada), Intellectual Property (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Telecommunications, Media & Broadcasting for profile.

HENRY, Elisa
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Elisa is a partner at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP where she co-leads the firm’s Privacy and Data Protection Practice. She is the Montreal Regional Leader of the Firm’s Technology Law Group. She advises international and domestic clients on strategic issues ranging from cyber security and compliance, data protection, and anti-spam legislation. She also advises clients on various technology matters, including with respect to outsourcing and licensing arrangements.
Professional Memberships: Member of the Canadian Advisory Board, International Association of Privacy Professionals; Officer of the Technology Law Committee of the International Bar Association, Registered Trademark Agent in Canada; Paris Bar; Quebec Bar.
Publications: Managing Privacy in a Connected World (with Eloise Gratton), Lexis Nexis Canada, 2020; Practical Guide to e-Commerce and Internet Law (with Stanton Koo), Pustak Mahal, Canada, 2015. Elisa Henry is also the author of several articles, the most current ones being posted at https://www.blg.com/en/people/H/Henry-Elisa

HIMO, Julie
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416-847-6017
jhim0@torys.com
Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Julie is a highly regarded advisor to Canadian and multinational clients across industries in their cybersecurity governance, conducting strategic risk and privacy assessments and providing counsel on a wide variety of privacy issues. Julie frequently acts as breach coach for clients and has considerable experience with all types of cyber incidents, including cyber extortion in the context of information theft, DDoS attacks, large-scale ransomware attacks, sophisticated hacking, malware and phishing attacks, lost and stolen devices and paper information, and data breaches impacting payment cards and PCI rules. With many of these incidents having international implications, Julie is experienced in coordinating notification and regulatory filing efforts across multiple countries. Julie has served as a breach coach for Canadian and international insurance companies and represented numerous policymakers in responding to data security incidents, covering Canada, the U.S. and various other countries in various fields, including dealing with PCI DSS and other related reporting obligations. She also has experience in the education sector, advising universities and other institutions subject to cyberattacks, working with forensic experts during the investigation and guiding them through their regulatory and PR responses. In addition to her breach coach work, Julie conducts strategic risk and privacy assessments; counsels clients on “privacy by design” for new products and marketing initiatives, including supporting consumer engagement activities; such as marketing, and provides input on CASL compliance; and intervenes on a wide variety of privacy issues. She also assists clients with strategic requests to obtain material information for business or legal purposes and with resisting the disclosure of important confidential information before institutions, regulators and the courts. Julie also has extensive experience in commercial litigation and has acted on major disputes in a diverse range of areas, including commercial fraud, contractual disputes, shareholder disputes, bankruptcy and insolvency, take-overs by means of plans of arrangement, as well as corporate and securities matters. She has also represented client in numerous disputes involving extraordinary remedies such as seizures and injunctions. Julie is fluent in French, English and Arabic.

JOLI-COEUR, François
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+1 514.954.3144
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: François is a Partner in BLG’s Privacy and Data Protection practice group. He primarily advises international and domestic clients on compliance and risk issues pertaining to privacy and anti-spam legislation, cybersecurity and data breach management. François also advises clients on information technology and data protection law. He is the author of many publications and frequent speaker at conferences on privacy law.
Career: LL.B., Université de Montréal, 2009; L.L.M., Law & Technology, University of California, Berkeley, 2014; Graduate degree (DESS) in e-business, HEC Montréal, 2017. Call to Bar, Quebec, 2010; California, 2017; Ontario, 2022.
Professional Memberships: Member, International Association of Privacy Professionals (CIPP/C); CIPP/US; CIPP/EU; Member of the CIPP/C Advisory Board, International Association of Privacy Professionals.

KARDASH, Adam
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 867 4203
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Adam advises Fortune 500 clients in their business critical data protection issues, compliance initiatives and data governance. He regularly represents clients on regulatory investigations and security breaches. He has also worked on a wide variety of transactions involving information technology, including technology acquisitions, licensing, outsourcing and service-provider arrangements, as well as general corporate commercial issues with respect to carrying on business over the Internet and in the electronic environment.
Career: Adam is an acknowledged Canadian legal industry leader in privacy and data management; he leads the firm’s National Privacy and Data Management practice. Adam has been lead counsel on many of the most significant privacy matters in Canada.
Professional Memberships: International Association of Privacy Professionals, Information Accountability Foundation, Centre for Information Policy Leadership.
Publications: Editor, AccessPrivacy’s Private Sector Source and the Public Sector Source subscription information services.

MEE, Wendy
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Wendy is the Co-Chair of the Blakes Privacy Group and the National Privacy Officer for the Firm. She provides practical and strategic privacy advice to clients in a wide range of industries including technology, financial services, insurance, life sciences, education, retail and consumer goods industries. Wendy advises clients on privacy requirements relating to new and innovative technologies and business models, including privacy considerations in connection with big data, artificial intelligence, blockchain technology and machine learning. Wendy provides privacy advice in connection with corporate transactions, outsourcing arrangements, trans-border data flows, cloud computing, and online and offline marketing and advertising activities. Wendy helps clients operate in the evolving context of privacy law requirements, including through the development of privacy related policies and procedures, incident response plans, privacy training and tabletop exercises. She also helps clients manage and respond to data breaches and other privacy-related incidents. Wendy is frequently involved in global privacy compliance projects. She provides Canadian privacy law input into global privacy policies, consent frameworks, data protection agreements and internal privacy policies and procedures. Wendy also advises clients on the requirements of Canada’s anti-spam law, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission’s Do Not Call rules, misleading advertising, contests and promotions.

MICHALUK, Daniel J.
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 867 4253
DMichaluk@blg.com
Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Dan is a cybersecurity, privacy and information management lawyer, with significant experience working with Canadian education and public sector organizations. Dan has maintained a privacy and security practice since 2003 and has acted as a security incident “coach” since 2006. He has represented clients in significant privacy, security and freedom of information litigation, including at the Ontario Court of Appeal and Supreme Court of Canada.

MORGAN, Charles S
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+1 514-397-4230
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada), Privy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Information Technology for profile.

REYNOLDS, Molly
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: From advising on data governance best practices and transactional matters to assisting clients in disputes, Molly gives comprehensive, cross-border counsel to clients in the evolving areas of digital innovation, cybersecurity, data protection and ethics, and privacy litigation. Molly has a deep and nuanced understanding of privacy law compliance, giving clients advice to support their operations and their commercial transactions, as well as data security best practices, breach response, regulatory investigations, and privacy class action defence. She represents clients in administrative proceedings under access to information, anti-spam and privacy legislation, as well as in the context of civil litigation. Her dual calls to the Ontario and New York bars allow her to advise on personal information handling and marketing regimes that reflect and comply with both Canadian and American reality.

SABAN, Tina
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416.862.4248
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Tina is an associate in Osler’s Privacy and Data Management Group. She helps clients with a wide range of privacy, data management and cybersecurity matters, and focuses primarily on data security incident response. In addition to incident response, Tina’s practice also involves helping clients navigate and manage privacy risks in day-to-day business decisions, advising on internal information management and governance practices, and reviewing privacy-related provisions in complex commercial agreements. She also helps businesses comply with Canadian privacy, anti-spam and consumer protection laws, in particular businesses that are newly entering the Canadian market.

Personal: University of Toronto, Juris Doctor University of Toronto, Honours Bachelor of Arts
SALLOUM, John
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
416-862-6492
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Featured in Advertising (Nationwide—Canada), Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide—Canada)

Practice Areas: John is a member of the Marketing & Distribution and Privacy & Data Management practice groups. John has a thorough understanding of the technology underlying social media promotional programs. He has advised clients extensively on these campaigns, speaking in Canada, the United States and abroad on program design and implementation, as well as on strategies to mitigate risk. He reviews advertising and promotional materials across all media, with an emphasis on Internet-based and mobile media, including compliance issues relating to misleading advertising, contests, games, sweepstakes and consumer protection issues.

Career: Recognized in numerous legal publications as a leading expert on marketing and privacy law.


SHAH, Ronak
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide—Canada)

Practice Areas: Ronak practices in privacy, data protection and data governance, where he advises clients on privacy and data management issues. Ronak also advises clients on broader regulatory issues, including related to Canada’s Anti-Spam Legislation, Unsolicited Telecommunications Rules, and short- and long-text codes, artificial intelligence, and open banking. Ronak’s multi-disciplinary background attracts clients from a wide range of industries, including those in the financial services, health, pharmaceutical, technology, social media, public, not-for-profit and education sectors. Ronak’s holistic data advisory practice means he counsels clients on data governance issues throughout the data life cycle, including related to cross-border privacy and cybersecurity compliance, addressing data subject rights issues, and assisting clients with regulatory investigations relating to their data processing activities. Ronak also routinely provides strategic advice related to the sharing and transfer of digital assets, including personal and confidential information, both in the commercial and transactional context. Ronak is also a sought-after speaker given on privacy, data protection and law reform issues. He is the incoming Vice-Chair of the Ontario Bar Association’s Privacy and Access to Information Law Executive. Ronak also enjoys mentoring the next generation of privacy lawyers, both formally and informally, including through the South Asian Bar Association and First-Generation Network.

SOOKMAN, Barry
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Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide—Canada), Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide—Canada), Intellectual Property (Nationwide—Canada)

See under Intellectual Property for profile.

WALL, Nic
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (Nationwide—Canada)

Practice Areas: Nic’s practice focuses on privacy, cybersecurity, data governance and litigation. He regularly advises clients on privacy law compliance and data governance in their businesses and in the context of new initiatives and commercial transactions, as well as on data breach preparedness and response. Nic also represents clients in regulatory complaints and investigations, administrative proceedings and civil litigation. Nic takes a holistic, practical approach to policy, risk management and achieving business objectives informed by his previous experience as a litigator and political staffer. Nic has appeared as counsel at the Supreme Court of Canada, all levels of court in Ontario, the Federal Court and in arbitrations.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Private Equity
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine ranking) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness, astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Private Equity Buyouts Nationwide

Private Equity: Buyouts
Leading Firms

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Stikeman Elliott LLP
Torys LLP

Band 2
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
Band 3
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
Goodmans LLP
McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Oster, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Band 4
Bennett Jones LLP
Fasken
McMillan LLP

Eminent Practitioners

Eminent Practitioners
Cockburn Matthew W Torys LLP*

Leading Individuals

Band 1
Akkawi Michael Torys LLP *
Horn Samantha Stikeman Elliott LLP

Band 2
Berman Guy Torys LLP *
Ferguson Ron Stikeman Elliott LLP *
Pukier Brian M Stikeman Elliott LLP *

Band 3
Barry Patrick Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP*
Bodgen John-Paul Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Boisclair Michel Fasken *
Castiel Peter Stikeman Elliott LLP*
Duke Laurie Torys LLP *
Groenewegen John W Oster, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Lamonde Sophie Stikeman Elliott LLP*
McGrath Shevlin McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Menda Patrick Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP*
Mercury John Bennett Jones LLP*
Shea Patrick M McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Sutcliffe Stewart Stikeman Elliott LLP*

Up-and-coming individuals
McCary James Bennett Jones LLP
Rose Caitlin Fasken *
Sarno Kurt Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP *

Associates to watch

Truss Danielle Torys LLP *

* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band; Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for
Stikeman Elliott is a prominent corporate law firm offering longstanding experience of private equity transactions across its offices throughout Canada. The private equity lawyers act for both buyers and sellers, demonstrating considerable depth of expertise in relation to private equity and venture capital funds. The team advises on both high-end and mid-market deals originating in a variety of industry sectors. The firm regularly represents foreign investors and is cited as a top choice of Canadian counsel on US-Canadian private equity deals.

Strengths
“The Stikemans team is extraordinarily supportive in responding to all requests very quickly.”

Work highlights
Stikeman Elliott advised Francisco Partners and its portfolio company Keyloop on the acquisition of Rapid RTC.

Notable practitioners
Samantha Horn is a highly experienced lawyer in buyout transactions, with particular expertise concerning matters in the technology space. “Samantha Horn has a visible market presence. Clients like her and working with her.” Ron Ferguson (see p.317) is a respected Toronto-based lawyer with significant experience in both domestic and cross-border private equity mandates. He assists a number of high-profile clients in this space and is well regarded within the legal community. Toronto-based Brian Pukier (see p.318) is held in high regard for the quality of his private equity counsel. “He’s extremely bright and a simplifier. He has outstanding judgement and is a pleasure to work with.”

Montreal-based Peter Castiel (see p.111) acts for several significant private equity houses on high-value, cross-border buyout transactions. “Peter Castiel is a good people manager. He is also able to synthesise complex ideas and express them clearly and simply to the business people.” “He knows when to push and when to step back. He has a good commercial sense.” Sophie Lamonde (see p.317) is a well-regarded lawyer who has significant experience representing major private equity firms. She is based in Montreal and frequently assists clients with add-on acquisitions. “Sophie Lamonde is knowledgeable and efficient. She’s an excellent all-around lawyer.” Toronto-based Stewart Sutcliffe (see p.318) attracts strong praise for his capabilities in the private equity space. He has notable experience representing major European and US-headquartered private equity houses in acquisitions arising in such sectors as energy and aviation. He heads the private equity team in Toronto. “Stewart Sutcliffe is a well-known and good lawyer.”

Torys LLP
What the team is known for
Torys is respected for its experience in major private equity deals and recognised by the market for its commitment to this area.

The firm has a strong tradition of representing large Canadian-based pension funds in global transactions, and benefits from the support of its New York office to advise Canadian and US private equity firms on cross-border matters. It offers significant expertise in mid-market buyouts, and draws on additional experience in areas such as fund formation and corporate governance. Its Toronto and Calgary-based lawyers also offer strength in secondary acquisitions and divestitures, with expertise cutting across a variety of sectors including infrastructure, energy and consumer products.

Strengths
“Torys is able to quickly assess a situation, offer a range of potential solutions and support the design of the most appropriate solution.”

Work highlights
Torys team advised Brookfield Asset Management in its USD6.5 billion acquisition of Brookfield Property Partners.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Matthew Cockburn (see p.317) maintains a distinguished reputation in private equity, having overseen a number of noteworthy deals. “He has a strategic presence.” Department head Michael Akkawi (see p.317) is a respected name in Canada’s private equity arena, with more than two decades’ experience advising on market-leading buyout transactions. Based in Toronto, he is also well experienced in assisting with outbound buyouts and the restructuring of investments. “Mike is an excellent lawyer who balances commercial awareness with sound legal advice.” “Mike is knowledgeable, attentive and provides outstanding levels of service.”

Toronto-based Guy Berman (see p.317) has extensive experience advising on buyouts, public M&A and a variety of corporate structuring mandates. “Guy Berman provided sound and practical advice.” “He offers great advice and picks his spots as to where to push and where to concede.” Toronto-based Laurie Duke (see p.317) is a respected lawyer in Canada’s private equity buyouts space, with a long list of notable deals to her name. “I greatly value Laurie’s advice and trust her in helping to shape critical negotiations. She is able to tailor her advice to suit our firm as well as the counterpart. I have worked with her in several situations in which the counterparty was particularly challenging and found her to be extremely effective.” “She’s bright and responsive.” Daniella Traub (see p.318) is a senior associate in Torys Toronto private equity team. She regularly advises clients on management and inbound buyouts. “Daniella Traub’s attention to detail is strong and she provides honest and candid feedback when appropriate.” “She’s very commercial and a pleasure to work with.”

Band 2

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon operates an active deal practice in private equity, with a significant national scope. The group demonstrates equal strength acting for buyers and sellers on domestic and cross-border buyout, investment and exit transactions. It also stands out for its...
representation of US funds in connection with their Canadian investments, supported by the firm’s offices in New York. With experienced Toronto, Vancouver and Montréal-based lawyers, the team has experience handling private equity buyouts in sectors such as telecoms, manufacturing and energy.

**Strengths** “They are extremely commercially oriented in looking for solutions, which is the main reason why I keep going back to them.”

“We have worked with Blakes across numerous jurisdictions in Canada. The team in each location is experienced and well respected, with good depth and breadth.”

**Work highlights** Blakes advised Apollo Global Management on the Canadian aspects of its USD3.3 billion going-private acquisition of The Michaels Companies.

**Notable practitioners**
- John-Paul Bogden (see p.110) has a wealth of experience in the private equity space assisting various clients from tech players to pension scheme providers. “He’s a very good and focused PE lawyer.”
- Montréal-based Patrick Menda (see p.318) is experienced in the representation of private equity firms in M&A mandates. “We really liked working with Patrick. He has both strong technical skills and good bedside manners.” “He is very practical.”
- Kurt Sarno (see p.318) is a Toronto-based lawyer with a growing practice in the sphere of private equity. He primarily assists clients with management and inbound buyouts. “Kurt is a strong partner with excellent private equity knowledge.”

**Band 3**

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is a well-regarded M&A law firm with a strong reputation for fund formation and transactional work in private equity. The group attracts significant clients including major private equity houses and their funds, institutional investors and sponsors. It advises on both acquisition and financing work, and maintains a longstanding presence in both Toronto and Montréal. The buyouts team often collaborates with colleagues in other departments to advise on a range of mandates; it has a strong track record advising large clients investing in the Canadian mid-market. Its expertise cuts across sectors including real estate, technology, consumer products and the automotive industry.

**Strengths** “Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is savvy and nimble.” “They are very responsive despite the industry-wide capacity constraints.”

**Work highlights** A Davies team represented Birch Hill Equity Partners in the sale of Bio Agri Mix to DW Partners.

**Notable practitioners**
- Paul M. Bennett (see p.319) has notable experience assisting clients with public M&A transactions in addition to private equity buyouts and fund formation. “Pat provides excellent advice and insights.” “He has a very calm demeanour and can absorb complicated files quickly.” “He has an ability to deal with people on all sides of a transaction in a manner that maximises respect and cooperation and results in efficient win-win outcomes.”

**Goodmans LLP**

What the team is known for Goodmans is a major player in the private equity space in Toronto. It represents institutional investors and large private equity firms in cross-border deals on both the buy and sell sides, with industry expertise covering IT, energy, and real estate. The firm advises on transactions in the private equity secondary market and is recognised for its representation of funds clients in corporate restructuring and recapitalisation mandates.

**Strengths** “Goodmans are very responsive. They’re good at thinking through new or difficult issues.”

**Work highlights** Goodmans represented Blackstone Real Estate Investment Trust in its acquisition of WPT Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust in a transaction valued at USD3.1 billion.

**Notable practitioners**
- John Connolly co-heads the firm’s private equity group and is a key client contact.

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault has a strong private equity platform for inbound transactions, fielding significant experience in relation to real assets, including infrastructure, energy and power assets, as well as a growing focus on sectors such as health and tech. The firm’s clients include pension funds, domestic and foreign private equity investors and investment banks across Canada and the USA. Its national private equity team further assists on leveraged buyouts and going-private transactions. It supplements its transactional expertise with further strengths in fund formation.

**Strengths** “They quickly turn around the documents and they took a very commercial approach to negotiations.”

**Work highlights** McCarthy Tétrault acted for ACON Investments on its acquisition of Raymond O’Neill & Son Fisheries and Suncoast Seafood for CAD180 million.

**Notable practitioners**
- Toronto-based Shevaun McGrath (see p.253) acts for a variety of clients, including private equity houses, institutional investors and target companies, on the full gamut of fund formation, investment management and buyout matters. She co-heads the firm’s private equity group nationally. “Shevaun McGrath is well linked and very solid.” “She’s commercial, practical and solution-oriented. Shevaun is highly responsive and is wonderful to work with.”
- Montréal-based Patrick Shea (see p.318) co-heads the firm’s private equity practice and routinely assists private equity sponsors with M&A transactions. “He works extremely hard to deliver and has a good business sense.” “He has excellent negotiation capacity and is good at proposing business solutions.”

**Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is noted for its frequent representation of Canadian pension plans in the private equity space, as well as its varied list of domestic and international deals. It assists clients with a range of buyout and private equity financing mandates, as well as PIPE transactions. The firm has noted strengths in the venture capital space across its offices and frequently advises private equity firms investing in tech.

**Work highlights** Osler represented New Mountain Capital in its acquisition of Profile Products from Incline Equity.

**Notable practitioners**
- Toronto-based John Groenewegen (see p.317) is a regular adviser to private equity houses and institutional investors.

**Band 4**

**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for Bennett Jones is consistently viewed as a leading law firm in Alberta, with deep expertise relating to buyouts in the energy and natural resources sector. The private equity group further benefits from the expertise of its growing offices in New York and Toronto. It is well versed in the representation of Canadian and US asset managers, along with funds and portfolio companies. The firm’s buyouts strength is bolstered by complementary financial services and regulatory expertise.

**Strengths** “They are always very helpful in solving complex issues.” “They offer the right mix of practical and theoretical. They don’t take any shortcuts and have a very good aptitude for working through complex issues.”

**Work highlights** Bennett Jones advised Trilantic Capital Partners, the majority shareholder of Velvet Energy, on Velvet’s CAD743 million sale to Spartan Delta Corp.

**Notable practitioners**
- Calgary-based private equity practice head John Mercury is highly regarded for his experienced advice on buyout transactions with cross-border ties. Calgary-based James McClary is an up-and-coming lawyer with a wealth of experience advising on management and leveraged buyouts. “He’s good at understanding what the business intent is. We really appreciate that about him.”

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken is a national law firm that is adept at handling a wide array of private equity mandates. The team’s buyouts expertise is complemented by an assured grasp of corporate restructuring and regulatory matters, including issues arising under the Investment Canada Act. It is particularly noted as a leading force for private equity in Québec, with highly experienced teams in both Montréal and Québec City.

**Work highlights** Fasken advised Novacap on the acquisition of a majority interest in Globe Electric Company.

**Notable practitioners**
- Montréal-based Michel Boisclair (see p.110)’s work has a strong emphasis on buyouts in the technology sector. He is valued by clients for his solution-focused approach. “The reliability and commitment are exceptional.” Caitlin Rose (see p.119) is a Montréal-based lawyer who co-heads the private equity team at Fasken. She regularly assists clients with investment management and buyout matters. “She’s certainly active in this market.”

**McMillan LLP**

What the team is known for McMillan advises on mid-market transactions, regularly acting on behalf of Canadian and US private equity houses. The firm often fulfils the role of Canadian counsel in US-Canada transactions, acting alongside major US law firms. Its private equity and venture capital industry lawyers have further experience acting
McGROTH, Shevaun
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+1 416 601 7970
shevaunmcgrath@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Investment Funds for profile.

LEADING INDIVIDUALS PRIVATE EQUITY

AKKAWI, Michael
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416.865.8122
makkawi@torys.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael Akkawi is a leading advisor with a deep understanding of business priorities and market practices in private equity, across transactions and fund matters. Michael is the head of the firm’s Private Equity practice, regularly advising private equity funds, pension funds and strategic investors in all aspects of their transactions and other investment activities, including leveraged buyouts, majority and minority equity investments, co-investments and restructurings.

In addition, Michael advises sponsors on structuring and negotiating their private market funds and their internal governance and economic arrangements. He has recently acted for sponsors on funds spanning a range of private market areas, including buy-out, venture capital, infrastructure, secondary and search funds, including most recently Maverix Private Equity, Amplitude Venture, overdraft Capital and Imperial Capital Funds. His work also includes a number of secondary transactions to buy or sell LP interests in a fund or a portfolio of funds.

BARRY, Patrick
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+1 416.367.6917
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Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Investment Funds (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Investment Funds for profile.

BERMAN, Guy
Torys LLP, Toronto
+1 416.865.8167
gberman@torys.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: With sophisticated deal acumen and deep industry experience, Guy advises some of Canada’s highest-profile private equity firms, pension funds and other institutional investors in all aspects of their investment activities. Guy’s practice focuses on corporate and commercial law, mergers and acquisitions and private equity investments. He regularly helps clients in executing their transactional and investment work, including management and leveraged buyouts, majority and minority equity investments, divestitures, joint ventures, co-investments, shareholder arrangements, and fund and transaction structuring. Guy also advises Canadian pension funds and financial institutions on complex and cross-border matters. Guy is fluent in Hebrew.

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BOISLARD, Michel
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CASTIEL, Peter
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Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
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COCKBURN, Matthew W
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(416) 865-7662
mcockburn@torys.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Matthew Cockburn is Torys’ managing partner and is responsible for the firm’s overall strategic direction and client focus, as well as for all professional and administrative matters. Matthew advises corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions and private equity. He acts for a wide variety of private equity firms and pension funds, advising on all aspects of their investment activities, as well as in public takeover bids, plans of arrangement, and private acquisitions and divestitures. His experience spans the full spectrum from advising on early-stage investments to multi-billion dollar acquisitions and dispositions. Matthew also has significant experience in corporate finance, advising issuers and underwriters on public and private offerings of debt and equity securities.

DUKE, Laurie
Torys LLP, Toronto
(416) 865-7348
l duke@torys.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: John is the Chair of the firm’s Private Equity Practice Group and practises in the areas of mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance. John’s clients include a range of domestic and international private equity funds as well as strategic investors. The transactions on which he advises encompass a broad range by transaction type, size and industry focus. John’s practice also includes advising clients who are structuring and investing in private equity funds, as well as advising both Canadian and international clients with general corporate and commercial advice.

LAMONDE, Sophie
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
(514) 397-2410
slamonde@stikeman.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Québec)

Practice Areas: Sophie Lamonde is a partner in the Montréal office’s Mergers & Acquisitions Group as well as a member of the firm’s Partnership Board. Her practice is directed primarily to the areas of mergers & acquisitions and private equity, with a particular focus on cross-border transactions. Sophie’s extensive corporate and divestiture law practice includes advising Canadian and international clients in acquisitions, divestitures, reorganizations and general commercial negotiations.

Leaders’ Profiles in Private Equity

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See under Investment Funds for profile.

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jp.bogden@blakes.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)
See under Corporate/M&A for profile.

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See under Corporate/M&A for profile.

COCKBURN, Matthew W
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(416) 865-7662
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Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Matthew Cockburn is Torys’ managing partner and is responsible for the firm’s overall strategic direction and client focus, as well as for all professional and administrative matters. Matthew advises corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions and private equity. He acts for a wide variety of private equity firms and pension funds, advising on all aspects of their investment activities, as well as in public takeover bids, plans of arrangement, and private acquisitions and divestitures. His experience spans the full spectrum from advising on early-stage investments to multi-billion dollar acquisitions and dispositions. Matthew also has significant experience in corporate finance, advising issuers and underwriters on public and private offerings of debt and equity securities.

DUKE, Laurie
Torys LLP, Toronto
(416) 865-7348
l duke@torys.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: John is the Chair of the firm’s Private Equity Practice Group and practises in the areas of mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance. John’s clients include a range of domestic and international private equity funds as well as strategic investors. The transactions on which he advises encompass a broad range by transaction type, size and industry focus. John’s practice also includes advising clients who are structuring and investing in private equity funds, as well as advising both Canadian and international clients with general corporate and commercial advice.

LAMONDE, Sophie
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slamonde@stikeman.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Québec)

Practice Areas: Sophie Lamonde is a partner in the Montréal office’s Mergers & Acquisitions Group as well as a member of the firm’s Partnership Board. Her practice is directed primarily to the areas of mergers & acquisitions and private equity, with a particular focus on cross-border transactions. Sophie’s extensive corporate and divestiture law practice includes advising Canadian and international clients in acquisitions, divestitures, reorganizations and general commercial negotiations.

Leaders’ Profiles in Private Equity

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See under Investment Funds for profile.
MENDA, Patrick
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Montréal
514-869-5567
pmenda@blakes.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Patrick co-leads the Firm’s Private Equity group and the Corporate & Commercial group in Montréal. Patrick’s practice focuses primarily on business acquisitions and divestitures, corporate finance, securities regulation and corporate and commercial law. He regularly advises clients in a variety of industries in connection with a broad range of matters, including the negotiation of commercial agreements, the preparation of continuous disclosure documents, corporate governance practices as well as securities regulatory compliance. He also frequently acts for financial sponsors in both platform and roll-up transactions.

PUKIER, Brian M
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
416 869-5567
bpukier@stikeman.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Brian Pukier is a partner in the Corporate Group, whose practice is focused primarily on cross-border M&A, private equity investments, corporate finance transactions, complex corporate reorganizations and public policy. He is also called upon by his clients to advise them on corporate governance and crisis management issues. Brian is widely recognized as one of the country’s leading corporate and M&A lawyers. He has extensive experience in counselling senior management and the boards of directors of prominent public and private corporations, including acting for many large and medium-sized private equity funds in Canada and internationally. Brian currently serves on the Management Committee in the Toronto office and is the former Head of the Securities and Mergers & Acquisitions Groups.

ROSE, Caitlin
Fasken, Montréal
crose@fasken.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
See under Corporate/M&A for profile.

SARNO, Kurt
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Kurt is the Co-Leader of the Firm’s Private Equity Group and the co-author of the Firm’s Canadian Private Equity Deal Study. Kurt specializes in mergers and acquisitions, private equity and joint ventures. He advises buyers, sellers and targets on domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions; private equity investors and sponsors on buy-outs, investments and exits; and businesses across various industries on complex joint ventures and strategic corporate and commercial matters. Kurt is the relationship partner for a number of the Firm’s most significant and sophisticated private equity clients. He regularly leads large, multi-jurisdictional and interdisciplinary teams in executing complex, noteworthy, and often cross-border transactions.

SHEA, Patrick M.
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
(514) 397-4246
pshea@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (Québec)
Practice Areas: Corporate/M&A/Private Equity partner. Patrick is co-head of the firm’s private equity group and he co-manages the firm’s relationships with U.S. law firms. His principal areas of expertise are mergers and acquisitions, private equity and corporate and commercial law. Patrick has acted for private equity, corporate and pension fund clients in Canadian, U.S. and international mergers and acquisitions across a wide range of industries and has represented numerous sponsors and investors in connection with the formation of and investments in private equity funds in Canada and abroad. He is the relationship partner for a number of Canadian clients and U.S. and international clients that operate in Canada, including public companies, small- and mid-sized businesses, private equity firms, hedge funds, investment banks and entrepreneurs. Patrick was an associate at a top New York City law firm for the first five years of his career.
Personal: Patrick is fluent in English and French. An ardent believer in giving back to the community, he serves on the boards of directors of numerous foundations, charities and not-for-profit organizations and has led and participated in numerous charitable fundraising campaigns. He is a graduate of Princeton University and McGill Law School.

SUTCLIFFE, Stewart
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
1 416 869 5511
ssutcliffe@stikeman.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Stewart Sutcliffe is a partner in and former Head of the Private Equity and Private Mergers & Acquisitions Groups and is a member of the Management Committee in the Toronto office. Stewart has a diversified corporate practice, focusing on domestic and cross border private and public mergers and acquisitions and private equity investments, including PIPE transactions.

TRAUB, Danielle
Torys LLP, Toronto
dtraub@torys.com
Featured in Private Equity (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Danielle’s practice focuses on corporate law, with an emphasis on private equity. She has acted for targets, acquirors and financial advisors. Her experience spans domestic and cross-border acquisitions and divestitures, joint ventures, and majority and minority investments. Danielle also advises private equity sponsor clients (including existing private equity funds and newly forming funds) on their structure, governance, and carry and other economic arrangements.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Product Liability
### How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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- **Litigation Product Liability Nationwide** p.320
- **Leading Individuals** p.322

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### Litigation Product Liability Nationwide

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<th>Band</th>
<th>Leading Firms</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Band 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Blake, Cassels &amp; Graydon LLP</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What the team is known for: Blake, Cassels &amp; Graydon operates a standout product liability practice providing seamless support to clients across Canada, as well as cross-border capabilities. The practice has an excellent track record in the pharmaceutical, medical devices, consumer technology, food and automotive fields. The team possesses a breadth of experience in product claims, from early product assessment and risk management to multi-jurisdictional class action defence. The firm is retained by clients for its deep knowledge of regulatory matters, including matters related to recall, marketing, consumer protection and quality control.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Strengths “Blake, Cassels &amp; Graydon have accomplished some very notable work in the medical device area.”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Work highlights Blakes defended a number of Philips entities in class proceedings and individual claims arising from the recall of CPAP devices.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Notable practitioners</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Toronto-based Gordon McKee (see p.323) has a wealth of product liability and class action experience, with particularly notable activity on cases in the medical device and pharmaceutical industries. “He is experienced, provides unparalleled legal advice and is a stellar advocate. He is truly a one-stop shop when it comes to Canadian products liability litigation.”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jill Lawrie (see p.323) is a highly regarded product liability and consumer protection litigator with a notable track record representing pharmaceutical multinationals, as well as medical device and automotive manufacturers. From her Toronto base, she offers complementary knowledge of the regulatory space. Robin Linley (see p.323) handles product liability litigation in the medical devices space including class actions, from the firm’s Toronto office. He has additional expertise acting for pharmaceutical, agricultural and consumer product manufacturers. “Robin is an experienced and active lawyer.”</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Alpine’s Sarah Heinrich (see p.323) is a highly regarded product liability and consumer protection litigator with a strong track record representing manufacturers’ liability class actions. “Michel is a good litigation lawyer who provides excellent service.”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Caroline Zayid (see p.324) is a sought-after litigator restructured for its product liability practice based out of Vancouver. Michel is often leading national cases for manufacturers as well as pharmaceutical and tobacco companies. “He displays the highest qualities of litigation counsel and is an excellent advocate.”</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Michel is a reliable and well-rounded sounding board who always provides good advice.”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Leading Individuals (see p.323)**

- David Zayid
- Caroline McMillan
- Michelle Woodin
- Jason Cooper
- Reza Luton
- Mark Zakaib
- Peter Bjorkquist
- Kevin Bell
- Jill Lawrie
- Michael Zayid
- William Lorimer
- Sonia Zayid
- Robert Zayid
- Brian Bjorkquist
- Christopher Cooper
- Caroline Lorimer
- Stuart Bjorkquist
- Kelly Lorimer
- Reza Ardeshir
- Amanda Zayid

**Leading Firms**

- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Fasken
- Bennett Jones LLP
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- McMillan LLP
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- McMillan LLP

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Band 2</th>
<th>Leading Firms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What the team is known for: McCarthy Tétrault is a national law firm with a significant product liability practice and a strong track record for experienced trial work. It draws upon its wider experience in healthcare and class action litigation and is particularly well known for its work concerning medical devices, pharmaceutical and tobacco products, as well as advising on matters involving auto parts and agricultural products. The lawyers also provide strategic advice on litigation avoidance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengths “They understand clients’ business and will do what is necessary to protect it.” “McCarthy Tétrault is a good firm with great lawyers involved in multi-party class action cases.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault represented Aurora Cannabis in the defence of a putative class action regarding alleged mislabelling and product liability claims.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Notable practitioners</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sought-after litigation lawyer Michel Gagné (see p.322) is based out of the firm’s Montréal office. He is regularly instructed by pharmaceutical and consumer product companies for his counsel on product and manufacturers’ liability class actions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Zayid (see p.324) leads the firm’s litigation department nationally from her Toronto base. She operates a broad contentious practice that sees her act on complex and high-value product liability cases in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries. “She is a great litigator and has a very good product liability class action practice.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She is a senior lawyer with good instincts.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They understand clients’ business and will do what is necessary to protect it.”</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Leading Individuals (see p.322)**

- Caroline Lorimer
- Jennifer Woodin
- Reza Ardeshir
- Robin Heinrich
- Reza Luton
- Mark Zakaib
- Peter Bjorkquist
- Kevin Bell
- Jill Lawrie
- Michael Zayid
- William Lorimer
- Sonia Zayid
- Robert Zayid
- Brian Bjorkquist
- Christopher Cooper
- Caroline Lorimer
- Stuart Bjorkquist
- Kelly Lorimer
- Reza Ardeshir
- Amanda Zayid

**Leading Firms**

- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Fasken
- Bennett Jones LLP
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- McMillan LLP
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- McMillan LLP

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**Notable practitioners**

- Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Fasken
- Bennett Jones LLP
- Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- McMillan LLP
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- McMillan LLP

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**How lawyers are ranked**

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### Band 1

**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

- What the team is known for: Blake, Cassels & Graydon operates a standout product liability practice providing seamless support to clients across Canada, as well as cross-border capabilities. The practice has an excellent track record in the pharmaceutical, medical devices, consumer technology, food and automotive fields. The team possesses a breadth of experience in product claims, from early product assessment and risk management to multi-jurisdictional class action defence. The firm is retained by clients for its deep knowledge of regulatory matters, including matters related to recall, marketing, consumer protection and quality control.

- Strengths “Blake, Cassels & Graydon have accomplished some very notable work in the medical device area.”

- Work highlights: Blakes defended a number of Philips entities in class proceedings and individual claims arising from the recall of CPAP devices.

- Notable practitioners:
  - Toronto-based Gordon McKee (see p.323) has a wealth of product liability and class action experience, with particularly notable activity on cases in the medical device and pharmaceutical industries. “He is experienced, provides unparalleled legal advice and is a stellar advocate. He is truly a one-stop shop when it comes to Canadian products liability litigation.”
  - Jill Lawrie (see p.323) is a highly regarded product liability and consumer protection litigator with a notable track record representing pharmaceutical multinationals, as well as medical device and automotive manufacturers. From her Toronto base, she offers complementary knowledge of the regulatory space. Robin Linley (see p.323) handles product liability litigation in the medical devices space including class actions, from the firm’s Toronto office. He has additional expertise acting for pharmaceutical, agricultural and consumer product manufacturers. “Robin is an experienced and active lawyer.”
  - Alpine’s Sarah Heinrich (see p.323) is a highly regarded product liability and consumer protection litigator with a strong track record representing manufacturers’ liability class actions. “Michel is a good litigation lawyer who provides excellent service.”
  - Caroline Zayid (see p.324) is a sought-after litigator restructured for its product liability practice based out of Vancouver. Michel is often leading national cases for manufacturers as well as pharmaceutical and tobacco companies. “He displays the highest qualities of litigation counsel and is an excellent advocate.”
  - Michel is a reliable and well-rounded sounding board who always provides good advice.”

### Band 2

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

- What the team is known for: McCarthy Tétrault is a national law firm with a significant product liability practice and a strong track record for experienced trial work. It draws upon its wider experience in healthcare and class action litigation and is particularly well known for its work concerning medical devices, pharmaceutical and tobacco products, as well as advising on matters involving auto parts and agricultural products. The lawyers also provide strategic advice on litigation avoidance.

- Strengths “They understand clients’ business and will do what is necessary to protect it.”

- Work highlights: McCarthy Tétrault represented Aurora Cannabis in the defence of a putative class action regarding alleged mislabelling and product liability claims.

- Notable practitioners:
  - Sought-after litigation lawyer Michel Gagné (see p.322) is based out of the firm’s Montréal office. He is regularly instructed by pharmaceutical and consumer product companies for his counsel on product and manufacturers’ liability class actions. “Michel is a good litigation lawyer who provides excellent service.”
  - Caroline Zayid (see p.324) leads the firm’s litigation department nationally from her Toronto base. She operates a broad contentious practice that sees her act on complex and high-value product liability cases in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries. “She is a great litigator and has a very good product liability class action practice.”
  - She is a senior lawyer with good instincts.”
  - Michael Feder KC (see p.287) is particularly noted for his product liability practice based out of Vancouver. He is often leading national cases for manufacturers as well as pharmaceutical and tobacco companies. “He displays the highest qualities of litigation counsel and is an excellent advocate.”
  - “Michel is a reliable and well-rounded sounding board who always provides good advice.”

**Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

- What the team is known for: Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt represents a number of industry players in the tobacco and life sciences industries in product liability litigation as well as advising on product design issues. The Toronto and Calgary-based team guides clients through the full life-cycle of products, from development, marketing and sale of new products to product recall and contentious disputes. The firm’s other areas of focus include medical device cases, as well as automotive, electrical and consumer products, and food and beverages.

- Strengths “They have been exceptional at shep-
getting the process to ensure a streamlined operation and a good result."

“Ozolins has a top-notch litigation team that is extremely well equipped to handle complex and sophisticated matters.”

Work highlights Deborah Glendinning led a multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary team of lawyers in defending Imperial Tobacco Canada in two product liability class actions.

Notable practitioners Toronto-based Deborah Glendinning (see p.323) had a wealth of experience in resolving complex product liability class actions, notably in the tobacco industry. "Deborah is a pre-eminent and client-focused litigator." Sonya Bjorkquist (see p.323) has a wide disputes practice based in Toronto, particularly with regard to product liability litigation. Her clients include manufacturers and medical device companies. Toronto-based Craig Lockwood (see p.323) is notably involved in cases in the tobacco and pharmaceutical industries. "He is very engaged in the file and has been exceptional at guiding us through the process of our defence."

Band 3

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for This firm has a solid product liability and regulation practice with a notable offering in the automotive, pharmaceutical and life sciences industries. It is regularly engaged in class action defence for prominent market players, drawing from a specialised knowledge base in providing support across each stage of potential product claims. Its lawyers are relied upon by clients for contract, regulatory and risk management with a view to a defence up to trial. Bennett Jones offers additional expertise in international trade and competition law.

Strengths "It is a very good firm with very good lawyers."

"Bennett Jones remains my preferred law firm – they help us achieve excellent results."


Notable practitioners Cheryl Woodin has a client roster featuring a number of notable automotive and pharmaceutical companies. She is based out of Toronto, from where she is regularly instructed on product liability class action suits. "Cheryl is an extremely sharp and client-focused lawyer who has wonderful instincts and a wealth of experience." Michael Eizenga is a distinguished practitioner who splits his time between Vancouver and Toronto, with a particularly prominent position in Canada’s class action field. He is regularly instructed for his counsel on high-profile and high-value medical product liability cases. “He is an absolute star and my go-to lawyer for product liability and class action disputes. I wish we had opportunities to work together more!” Ashley Paterson is based out of the firm’s Toronto office, where she is increasingly recognised for her product liability practice. “She is a super knowledgeable and responsive lawyer.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais regularly provides advice on product liability matters to manufacturers, distributors and insurers in the automotive sector. The firm also supports clients with early-stage counsel on recalls and claims prevention, as well as its offering expertise in matters relating to aviation, heavy equipment and machinery, electronics and consumer products. The team offers a national scope from its offices across Canada, as well as a dedicated litigation and dispute resolution team that regularly oversees both individual and class actions.

Strengths "Borden Ladner Gervais has a highly skilled team that is able to deliver excellent outcomes." Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais represented Nissan in class action and product liability matters concerning vehicle models equipped with a continuously variable transmission.

Notable practitioners Glenn Zakaib (see p.324) is a prominent Toronto litigator who is widely recognised as one of the market’s top product liability and class action lawyers. He garnered recognition for his work concerning medical devices. “Glenn is a highly skilled and diligent lawyer – his expertise and experience is valued.” Robert Love (see p.323) leads the firm’s national product liability practice from Toronto. He is particularly active in the automotive sector. "Robert is my go-to local counsel for anything products-related in Ontario and he has significant trial experience.” "Rob has a very strong way of influencing a plaintiff to drop a lawsuit based on the facts.”

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is a solid law firm with lawyers across Canada who are well placed to cover a range of product liability claims, spanning consumer products, electronics, recreational products, cars and aircraft equipment. The firm is also known for its medical device work. The team offers experience of individual and class action litigation across the country as well as advising on product recalls, regulatory compliance and risk management issues at the pre-litigation stage.

Strengths “Fasken is a very capable, full-service law firm with a strong focus on client service. My experience is that they also staff matters appropriately and effectively.”

Work highlights Fasken defended Allergan against several putative national class actions, filed in four provinces, relating to its Natrelle textured breast implants.

Notable practitioners Peter Pliszka, who is based in Toronto, has a strong track record for his handling of product liability matters in the pharmaceutical sector, including opioid-related cases. He offers further expertise in the automotive industry. "Peter understands the industry very well.”

McMillan LLP

What the team is known for This firm has a notable product liability group that is recognised for its litigation skill set, as well as its expertise in regulatory and risk management issues. McMillan is active in the automotive and pharmaceutical sectors, with additional expertise in relation to consumer products, food and drink, and technology. The team counsels trade associations and large corporations on regulatory matters and advises on interactions with government agencies and authorities. It is recognised for its ability to achieve early disposition in the pre-certification stage of class actions, as well as coordinating the successful defence of national litigation actions.

Strengths “They are very professional, knowledgeable and diligent lawyers, and have great bench strength.”

McMillan had a good understanding of our business and sensitivity regarding our business relationships with our major customers.”

Work highlights McMillan is regulatory counsel for a group of companies offering building products and energy products for industrial, municipal and commercial settings.

Notable practitioners Co-head of the class action group Scott Maitland (see p.323) is held in high regard for the strength of his product liability practice in Toronto. He possesses substantial class action experience, with notable activity in the pharmaceutical, electronics and automotive industries, as well as on novel and complex cases. “He is first on my list for recommendations and referrals.” Scott is an effective lawyer.

Lindsay Lorimer (see p.323) is recognised for her wide-ranging product liability experience. From her Toronto base, she handles automotive-related cases, as well as numerous other types of consumer products. “Lindsay is responsive and has an in-depth knowledge of the law. She has an excellent understanding of our business and tailors her advice towards practical outcomes.” Chief executive officer and managing partner Teresa Dufort (see p.324) has a notable litigation practice based out of the firm’s Toronto office. She is well regarded among peers for her product liability work, particularly with regard to the automotive industry. “Teresa provides strong legal support while always considering practical business realities. She works to ensure her clients feel like they are always her top priority.” Lisa Parliament (see p.324) continues to enhance her already notable reputation as a litigator, with her product liability experience extending to the automotive industry, among others. She advises on contentious matters from the firm’s Toronto office. “She is smart and a very capable lawyer. We have complete confidence in her.” Rachel Cooper (see p.322) is an experienced counsel at McMillan and regularly assists clients with complex product liability defence matters. She is noted for representing leading corporates and manufacturers in disputes across an array of sectors. “She is thoughtful, very responsive and provides strategic and valuable advice.”

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is a well-regarded firm with substantial experience defending clients in the life sciences sector. This includes defence of product liability claims for pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers, and consumer healthcare product manufacturers. The firm has notable strength in regulatory advice and reporting and claims arising from defective products.

Strengths "They are considerate, simplify matters and have a good approach across the board is practical.”

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright defended GlaxoSmithKline in seven class actions in Canada concerning allegations that the use of Zantac gives rise to an increased risk of cancer.

Notable practitioners Randy Sutton (see p.324) is an experienced litigator who splits his time between the firm’s Toronto and Vancouver offices. He handles product liability disputes in the pharmaceutical and medical sectors. "Randy has a very practical approach to handling com-
Torys LLP

What the team is known for Torys has a well-known product liability group that is acknowledged for its work advising and defending clients in the life sciences, automotive, pharmaceutical and consumer product industries. The team, which is supported by the firm’s well-respected class actions practice, litigates product liability matters across the country, with strong footprints in Toronto and Montréal.

Strengths “Torys has an excellent team with a wide array of expertise. They are smart, savvy and collegial.”

Work highlights A team led by Sylvie Rodrigue defended Eli Lilly in a number of product liability class actions concerning duloxetine, a prescription drug used to treat major depressive disorder.

Notable practitioners

William McNamara (see p.324) is a seasoned lawyer based at the firm’s Toronto and Montréal offices. He has substantial expertise in product liability litigation. “He is experienced and involved in major pharmaceutical cases.” “William is a top-level strategist who is highly responsive.” Sylvie Rodrigue (see p.69) possesses a broad commercial practice which features notable product liability class action experience. She divides her time between Toronto and Montréal, where she represents clients in the pharmaceutical and automotive sectors, among others. Grant Worden (see p.324) is based in Toronto, where he is gaining recognition for his handling of product liability claims, particularly in the life sciences sector. He has appeared before the courts across provinces, as well as the Court of Appeal. “Grant is an excellent lawyer who is collaborative, sharp and savvy. He also has a strong work ethic and desire to achieve the client’s objectives.” “Grant doesn’t get lost in the black letter of the law and can really help you figure things out.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jacqueline Armstrong-Gates handles product liability matters for insurers and manufacturers. She provides advice with respect to defending product liability claims. “Jacqueline is a fantastic advocate who has a thorough understanding of the law, the client and the product. She effectively evaluates risk and communicates the best advice to the client.” “She consistently has a firm grasp on both the small details of the matter in question and the legal implications of each of those details.”

Robert Bell is a seasoned commercial litigator based out of Toronto. He has a longstanding reputation for his product liability class action defence work.

Samanah Hosseini (see p.323) is an up-and-coming lawyer in Stikeman Elliott’s Toronto office, where she handles product liability claims. She is most notably active in the life sciences and automotive industries. “Sam is a sophisticated lawyer who provides a very good service.”

Vancouver-based David Neave is a well-known and well-respected litigator, particularly in the class action space. He regularly handles product liability disputes, featuring on mandates in the pharmaceutical, automotive and manufacturing industries.

Danielle Royal (see p.82) offers expertise in defending product liability litigation which involves defective medical devices and life science-related matters. “Danielle is an excellent litigator who is capable of handling complex, high-profile matters that have potential reputational risks.”

Leaders’ Profiles in Product Liability

BJORQUIST, Sonia

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto (416) 862-5876 sbjorquist@osler.com

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Sonia is a Chair of Osler’s National Litigation Department and Past President of the Advocates’ Society. Sonia has extensive experience defending companies in class actions, commercial arbitration and other complex litigation, and advises clients on managing risks and cross-border issues in multi-jurisdictional cases. She defends complex product liability claims across many industry sectors. She litigates business-critical issues related to commercial agreements, construction/infrastructure contracts, directors’ duties and shareholder remedies. Sonia is a key contact for Osler’s Class Action Defence Group.

Career: Prior to joining Osler as a lawyer, Sonia clerked for the Court of Appeal for Ontario.

Professional Memberships: The Advocates’ Society, Past President International Association of Defence Counsel (IADC), Member, 2019 Trial Academy Faculty Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDDC) Member Defence Research Institute (DRI) Member Toronto Commercial Arbitration Society (TCAS) Member, former Executive Committee member Member Canadian, American and International Bar Associations Toronto Lawyers Association Member


Personal: Queen’s University, L.L.B.

COOPER, Rachel

McMillan LLP, Toronto Rachel.cooper@mcmillan.ca

Featured in Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Rachel is described by clients as a bold advocate, who is practical, efficient, and a creative problem-solver. Her practice focuses on product liability defence and products-related regulatory issues in the automotive, industrial manufacturing and consumer products sectors. She has extensive experience defending manufacturers and distributors of consumer, commercial and industrial products. Rachel acts as national coordinating counsel for several manufacturing clients, managing their product liability litigation matters across Canada. She provides advice to clients in relation to the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act and routinely handles product recalls, working on global recall teams. She further provides proactive risk management advice and strategies, including warnings and manual reviews.

Rachel is the Chair of the Building Products Specialized Litigation Group for the Defence Research Institute (DRI) and is a member of the Federation of Defence and Corporate Counsel (FDCC), and the Canadian Bar Association (CBA).

DUFORT, Teresa

McMillan LLP, Toronto 416.865.7145
teresa.dufort@mcmillan.ca

Featured in Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Teresa is a partner in McMillan’s Advocacy & Litigation Group, and a senior practitioner in the firm’s Product Liability Defence and Regulatory and Class Action Groups. Teresa’s practice is heavily focused on product liability defence and products related regulatory issues. She acts as the prime Canadian counsel to numerous Canadian, American, European and Asian manufacturers and distributors of consumer, commercial and industrial products. She has extensive experience defending class actions and both individual and commercial product liability lawsuits involving a broad range of products including motor vehicles, fire and security products, medical devices, consumer products, recreational products, construction and industrial machinery and building materials. She is Canada’s leading authority on the requirements of the Motor Vehicle Safety Act and the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (vehicle emissions) and a leading authority on the Canada Consumer Product Safety Act and other safety-related regulatory regimes affecting consumer and commercial products.

FEDER, Michael A.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver 1.604.643.5983 mfeder@mccarthy.ca

Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Partner based in Montréal, Michel’s practice focuses on commercial and civil litigation, and more specifically on complex technical litigation. Michel specializes in defending class actions as well as in environmental litigation. More specifically, he defends manufacturers’ liability class actions related to pharmaceutical and consumer products, as well as medical devices. He has extensive lead counsel experience in personal injury cases and in cases involving toxicology and scientific issues. He regularly pleads before the civil courts. His experience includes numerous proceedings for damages, injunctive relief and judicial review. Michel also acts as lead appellate attorney. He has experience in statutory penal law and has pleaded before numerous administrative tribunals and arbitration boards.

MCNAMARA, William
Torys LLP, Toronto
416.865.7988
wmcnamara@torys.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: William (Bill) is an accomplished litigator with decades of leading product liability defence and commercial litigation experience, advising clients on their most significant disputes across Canada. Bill represents clients across a broad range of commercial litigation matters, with an emphasis on the defence of product liability class actions, anti-trust law (price fixing, bid-rigging, misleading advertising, illegal trade practices and deceptive marketing practices), infrastructure and construction claims, banking law, insolvency, restructuring and corporate disputes. He has appeared before the courts in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Alberta, the Federal Court of Canada and the Federal Court of Appeal, as well as before the Competition Tribunal and numerous private arbitral panels. He is fluent bilingual in English and French and conducts trials or appellate advocacy in either language.

PARLIAMENT, Lisa
McMillan LLP, Toronto
416.865.7801
lisa.parliament@mcmillan.ca
Practice Areas: Lisa is an experienced litigator recognized for her skilled and effective handling of high-stakes litigation. She is recognized nationally and internationally for her expertise in product liability and class action matters. She has been appointed national counsel for a number of leading companies, assisting them to manage their litigation and legal matters across Canada. She is regularly retained to represent leading companies as lead counsel in class actions, complex product liability litigation, and regulatory matters. Lisa has extensive expertise in defence of high-stakes, multi-jurisdictional class actions and has helped a number of clients to obtain early dismissal or discontinuance of putative class action proceedings in Canada. Lisa also provides proactive advice and representation on regulatory requirements and management and mitigation of litigation and class action risk. She has substantial expertise advising on multi-jurisdictional product compliance and in supporting manufacturer, importers, distributors, and retailers with investigations, multi-jurisdictional reporting, recalls and corrective actions, and related class actions.

REINERTSON, Robin
Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver
604-631-3323
robin.reinertson@blakes.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Robin has extensive litigation expertise in British Columbia and Ontario in the defence of class actions and product liability, consumer protection, competition/antitrust, privacy and regulatory compliance cases. She also regularly advises clients on risk management and litigation avoidance in these areas. Robin routinely represents Fortune 100 companies and has a proven record of defeating class actions prior to certification and experience defending class action and product liability cases through discovery and trial.

RODRIGUE, Sylvie
Fasken, Montreal
+1 416 865 8105
srodrigue@fasken.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Class Actions for profile.

ROYAL, Danielle
Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5254
droyal@blakes.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Competition/Antitrust for profile.

SUTTON, Randy
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
416 216 4046
randy.sutton@nortonrosefulbright.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Randy Sutton practices dispute resolution and regulatory law. Mr. Sutton has represented clients in the provincial and federal courts across Canada, in arbitrations (both domestic and international) and in a variety of administrative proceedings. He is a member of the British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Ontario bars. His litigation practice includes the representation of clients in commercial, class action, competition, environmental, product liability, product recall, insurance, defamation and franchise matters. He has particular experience in class action litigation matters and has acted in class actions throughout Canada. Mr. Sutton also provides ongoing regulatory advice in a variety of areas and has dealt with a number of federal and provincial regulatory authorities and represented clients in regulatory investigations. He has also conducted a number of internal investigations for clients concerning regulated conduct, and provides risk management advice. Mr. Sutton is the co-chair of our national class actions team, global co-head of our life sciences and healthcare industry group, and the partner responsible for professional liability matters in Ontario.

WORDEN, Grant
Torys LLP, Toronto
416.865.7698
grorden@torys.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Grant regularly acts as counsel in multi-jurisdictional class actions, individual actions and “mass tort” claims involving complex product liability claims. His practical advice distills complex issues into the key points that matter most to clients. Grant’s civil litigation practice is broad, with an emphasis on class actions, product liability, procurement disputes, administrative law and intellectual property disputes. He brings market awareness and pragmatic insight to players in the life sciences industry through his significant experience representing life sciences clients in complex product liability and commercial proceedings. Grant acts as both trial and appellate counsel and has appeared as counsel before the courts in Ontario, Quebec, Saskatchewan and British Columbia as well as the Federal Court of Canada and the Federal Court of Appeal. He also represents renewable energy developers in REA appeal hearings relating to large-scale wind projects before the Ontario Environmental Review Tribunal.

ZAKAIB, Glenn M
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
(416) 367-6664
gzakaib@blg.com
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
Practise Areas: Glenn practises in the area of class action defence, representing clients in disputes regarding class proceedings (life sciences, misrepresentation claims, Competition Act claims). Product liability (defects, advertising, automotive and aviation products, industrial and consumer products). Career: One of few practitioners in Canada with a practice mostly devoted to product liability and class actions. Currently the National Co-Chair of the firm’s Class Action Strategic Sector. Professional Memberships: Advocates’ Society, Canadian Defence Lawyers, Defense Research Institute (DRI), International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), Litigation Counsel of America (Fellow), Ontario Bar Association, Toronto Lawyers’ Association. Highly active with the DRI where he has held numerous positions and currently is a member of the DRI Law Institute.

ZAYID, Caroline
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 7768
czayid@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Canadian Leader of the Firm’s Litigation Practice Group. Practice focuses on product liability and class actions, at the trial and appellate levels. Has litigated many significant product liability cases including on behalf of manufacturer of pharmaceuticals, medical devices and consumer products. Has also acted on numerous cross-border class actions in relation to health care, financial services, securities, and automotive products. Extensive experience in administrative and public law for public and private sector clients. Represents clients at all levels of courts including the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal, and the courts of appeal of Ontario, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. Career: Ontario Bar, 1990. Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, The Advocates’ Society, Personal: Named as one of Canada’s 100 Most Powerful Women in 2017.
The leading lawyers
and law firms in Canada

Projects & Construction
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Construction

Nationwide

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Band 1

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for

Borden Ladner Gervais houses a market-leading construction practice with impressive bench strength. The firm maintains a fine track record in litigation arising in the industry, where it often acts for both contractors and subcontractors. The team is regularly called upon for its strengths in matters pertaining to project development. It acts for a range of distinguished regional, national and multi-national clients operating in both the public and private sectors across Canada. The group offers notable experience advising clients involved in the transportation, energy and natural resources and healthcare sectors.

Strengths

“The team has varying levels of expertise and deep bench strength.”

“The lawyers are skilled, experienced and creative.”

“BLG has a capable team of experienced leaders who are able to draw upon deep wells of expertise and knowledge.”

Work highlights

A Borden Ladner Gervais team successfully represented Tower-EBG in an ICC arbitration concerning the termination of an earthworks contract based on the international FIDIC model of contract.

Notable practitioners

Leading construction lawyer Richard Shaban (see p.339) is widely acclaimed for his work on behalf of surety providers as part of his diverse practice that covers large-scale energy and infrastructure developments. He operates out of the firm’s Toronto office. “Rick is exceptionally knowledgeable and is able to distill complex legal issues in a way that makes them easily understood.”

Calgary-based Jeffrey Vallis KC (see p.340) specialises in the handling of large-scale construction disputes. He is frequently sought after by engineering and architecture companies to advise on contentious mandates. Montréal-based Simon Grégoire (see p.337) is experienced in the handling of litigation and disputes, particularly those arising in the construction of infrastructure and energy projects in Québec. “Simon is always a pleasure to work with.”

Construction group leader Patricia Morrison (see p.338) ably handles front-end and contentious matters in the sector. She provides counsel to owners, contractors and sureties from the firm’s Calgary office. “Patricia provides strong counsel – she is smart and provides solutions to problems.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is a highly regarded law firm that is recommended for its extensive capabilities in front-end construction issues across Canada, particularly in the energy, transportation and social infrastructure arenas. Its construction and engineering practice offers further expertise in the construction of agriculture and manufacturing facilities. The team regularly acts for authorities, owners, contractors and subcontractors involved in the construction of key projects. It is also sought after for advice on construction disputes, including arbitration proceedings. Clients benefit from the group’s expertise and hands-on experience of lawyers also qualified as professional engineers.

Strengths

“Each member of the Osler team comes with exceptional skills for their level of seniority.”

“Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is able to give strategic and practical advice for very complicated matters. They are able to explain both legal & practical risks in an understandable way.”

Work highlights

An Osler team led by Richard Wong acted as construction counsel to Pattern Energy on the construction and development of the 150 MW Lanfle Wind Farm in Alberta.

Notable practitioners

Rocco Sebastiani (see p.174) is well regarded for his expertise in construction and is further renowned for his astute handling of technical matters relating to the construction of power projects. Based in the firm’s Toronto office, he is particularly reputed for his handling of contractual processes. “Rocco understands our business and industry thoroughly and pro-
A Bennett Jones team advised assists clients across a sizable Canadian construction sphere. The team is regarded as having substantial expertise in construction law, particularly in the areas of dispute resolution and contract development. Their attorneys are highly regarded for their extensive experience in handling complex construction matters, including disputes and arbitrations.

Singleton Urquhart Reynolds Vogel LLP

What the team is known for

Singleton Urquhart Reynolds Vogel is a premier construction boutique offering excellent bench strength with expertise pertaining to project development, claims and disputes, and construction arbitration. The group represents an enviable roster of municipalities, public authorities and international clients across public and private developments. The practice is frequently called upon as counsel across a range of sectors including energy, transport and public infrastructure. The firm is further distinguished for its work on the development of federal legislation. It has offices in Vancouver and Toronto.

Strengths “Singleton Urquhart Reynolds Vogel is well versed in our industry and very thorough.”

“The team has the resources, capabilities and knowledge to handle complex, interdisciplinary issues.”

“They have an excellent understanding of the nuances of construction-related law and contracts.”

Work highlights A Singleton Urquhart Reynolds Vogel team represented BC Hydro in a major claim for CAD380 million in losses against the course of construction insurers on the BC Hydro Site C project.

Notable practitioners Benefiting from his technical background as an engineer, Helmut Johannsen is highly respected for his counsel on complex construction disputes, as well as an array of front-end matters. “Helmut has always been a key figure in the Canadian construction field.”

A Toronto-based firm co-managing partner Bruce Reynolds is renowned for his significant role in the development of federal legislation in the construction space. He frequently assists a number of public authorities and private entities across the energy, natural resources and infrastructure spaces. “Bruce is extremely knowledgeable of our industry.”

Band 2

Glaholt Bowles LLP

What the team is known for

Glaholt Bowles is a widely acclaimed Toronto-based boutique that is highlighted for its construction dispute resolution practice. Reputed for its litigation expertise, the firm offers further capabilities in domestic and cross-border arbitration and mediation. The team enjoys a particularly strong reputation for its work in relation to disputes concerning infrastructure development and is routinely sought after by clients in the transportation sector. It possesses additional expertise in construction matters associated with energy developments. The firm also offers representation in relation to insurance disputes and public and private procurement issues.

Notable practitioners Based in Toronto, Duncan Glaholt earns widespread recognition as one of the leading lawyers in Canada for construction dispute resolution. He possesses long-standing experience in contentious mandates in the energy, natural resources and infrastructure spaces. Brendan Bowles assists clients across a range of disputes and contractual matters in the construction sector. Based in Toronto, he is sought out by public and private clients involved in infrastructure and energy developments.

Andrea Lee is a well-respected lawyer with growing experience acting as construction counsel for Canada-wide projects. She is based in Toronto.

Band 3

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for

Bennett Jones is a Calgary-headquartered law firm with a strong Western Canadian construction practice, specialising in the provision of front-end construction counsel. The firm's capital projects department handles construction agreements and contract development, drawing upon the firm's recognised strength assisting clients in the power, oil and gas sectors. The team also advises on litigation and arbitration.

Strengths “Bennett Jones has a very experienced team and a solid firm that provides good guidance.”

“The team is not afraid to put the work in to meet the clients’ requirements.”

Work highlights A Bennett Jones team advised Woodfibre LNG with matters related to the engineer, procurement and construction of facilities for the LNG project.

Notable practitioners Calgary-based John Craig KC is well respected for his abilities in construction litigation and arbitration, offering a wealth of experience in contract drafting, insurance, and tender documentation. “John provides top counsel in sophisticated commercial matters.”

He is based in Vancouver.

Goodmans LLP

What the team is known for

Goodmans is a Toronto law firm with a reputable construction team that is well regarded for its excellent construction litigation attorney. “He gives great guidance.” Calgary-based Jason Roth leads the firm’s construction law group and is frequently sought out by clients in the power and gas sectors to assist with the negotiation and development of EPC and other contracts relating to project construction. “Jason has many years of experience and is extremely thorough in his efforts.”

He is proactive and brings good ideas to the table. “Geoffrey Stenger is an up-and-coming lawyer who is adept at assisting clients with their construction needs in relation to major energy, healthcare and residential development projects. “Geoff is extremely knowledgeable and excellent at navigating difficult situations. He provides excellent customer service and always makes himself available for time-sensitive matters.”

Vancouver-based Karan Martin KC has impressive expertise in construction matters concerning infrastructure projects. Managing a broad portfolio of matters including dispute resolution, contract development and risk mitigation, she offers skilled counsel in arbitration and litigation. “Karan has won some incredibly complex cases – she is an awesome lawyer.”

“Karan is a wonderful lawyer who can rely on decades of experience and commitment to help her clients get a good result.”

Front-end construction lawyer John Haythorne holds a wealth of experience on behalf of municipal bodies and clients in the mining space. He is based in Vancouver.

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Notable practitioners

Matthew Alter (see p.335) possesses a high degree of expertise in front-end construction matters. "Mr Alter has demonstrated a high level of commitment to us as a client. He is always available to discuss matters and he goes to great lengths to ensure we are doing everything we can to properly position ourselves." Mark St. Cyr (see p.339) is a Toronto-based lawyer with fast-developing, non-contentious construction practice. He has noteworthy expertise providing legal guidance to municipalities and educational providers on a host of construction projects. "Mark is outstanding to work with – he is prompt, professional, knowledgeable and efficient." "His advice is practical and well thought out." "Mark provides excellent service in a very timely manner. He gives us practical legal advice that works within our corporation."

Notable practitioners

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Marzban Logan LLP specialises in the handling of contentious matters in the construction space. Based in Vancouver, he is particularly well known for his representation of contractors engaged in disputes. “John is an excellent lawyer in the construction space.” Construction team leader Donald Lucky of Reynolds Mith Richards & Farmer advises owners and contractors throughout the Calgary market on the construction of numerous projects, particularly in the energy and infrastructure sector. “Donald is the real deal and is very knowledgeable.” Andy McLauchlin of McLauchlin & Associates has considerable expertise in alternative dispute resolution, earning recognition for his experience handling mediation and arbitration. He is based in Toronto. Mick Ryan KC of Stewart McKeVey capably advises on contentious matters in the construction sector. Based in Halifax and operating throughout Nova Scotia, he is well respected for his navigating of interests through complex disputes.

### Projects

#### Projects: PPP & Infrastructure Nationwide

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### Band 1

**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

What the team is known for: Blake, Cassels & Graydon has an outstanding team of lawyers who are heavily involved in significant infrastructure projects across Canada. The practice continues to be active on secondary market transactions involving PPPs, assisting with auctions and private negotiations. The group remains a leader in developing PPP structured agreements and related contracts by mobilising its depth of knowledge in asset classes ranging from energy, building construction and water to transportation and transit.

**Strengths** “Blakes is a leader in the field and is among the few firms that can handle the largest and most complex deals in the market.” “The team is always client-focused and willing to put in the effort to get the job done.” “They have a strong team that can rally to meet extreme peaks and also sustain significant effort consistently.”

**Work highlights** Marianne Smith led the Blakes team that advised the City of Toronto on the rehabilitation of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway.

**Notable practitioners** Catherine Doyle (see p.336) is renowned in the Canadian PPP and infrastructure space for her representation across project finance and development over a suite of sectors. Based in Toronto, she handles major projects on behalf of proponents, investors and consortiums. “Catherine is a very solid lawyer who can get complicated projects across the line.” “She is an excellent project finance lawyer.” “Catherine is smart, practical and a pleasure to work with.” Montréal partner Sébastien Vilder (see p.340) frequently acts as lenders’ counsel in relation to power projects, exemplifying particular expertise covering wind farm developments. “He is very responsive and has the right connections to help get the right results.” “Sébastien is practical, smart and flexible.” Alain Massicotte (see p.338) leads the firm’s Montréal infrastructure group, frequently acting for public authorities, sponsors and lenders on a range of project developments. “It is a privilege to work with Alain and benefit from his broad experience.” Marianne Smith (see p.339) assists a range of provincial and municipal authorities with the procurement aspects of public infrastructure projects. Operating out of the firm’s Toronto office, she is experienced across a range of sectors including civil infrastructure, transportation and healthcare. “Marianne Smith is outstanding.” Judy Wilson (see p.340) operates out of the firm’s Toronto office and frequently assists a range of provincial and municipal authorities with the procurement aspects of public infrastructure projects. Toronto-based Mark Johnson (see p.337) is sought out for his handling of major developments in social and commercial infrastructure, where he represents the interests of proponent consortiums, investors and Crown corporations. “Mark really knows the commercial side of deals.” “He is a wonderful lawyer who has both knowledge and a depth of experience.”

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

What the team is known for: Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg maintains a market-leading profile in the projects and infrastructure space in Canada. The firm frequently advises on municipal and provincial developments across the country, in addition to offering expertise in significant PPP projects in the USA. The team acts for lenders, sponsors and developers, and is frequently singled out for its project finance expertise. It has established a significant base of experience overseeing major LRT projects and advising municipal authorities on water projects.

**Strengths** “The team is commercial, execution-driven and has the client’s best interest in mind.” “They are commercially minded and able to distil complex legal matters in a way that is easy to understand.” “Davies has a tremendous depth of talent and provides high levels of service.”
Work highlights A Davies team led by Gregory Southam acted for West End Connectors in its successful CAD729.2 million contract to design, build and finance the Advance Tunnel phase of the Eglington Crosstown West Extension project.

Notable practitioners Robert Bauer (see p.335) continues to advise on significant infrastructure developments, drawing upon a wealth of experience and expertise handling market-leading projects in the transportation, healthcare and real estate sectors. Based in Toronto, he is a prominent part of the infrastructure landscape in Canada and further afield. Toronto-based Carol Penney (see p.338) acts for both borrowers and lenders on both domestic and multi-jurisdictional financing transactions, “Carol is very good with clients and well respected in the industry.” “She has presence, experience and is always among the smartest people in the room.” Gregory Southam (see p.339) is regarded as a pre-eminent lawyer within the projects space throughout North America, regularly advising on the gamut of PPP models across the transportation, public infrastructure and alternative energy sectors. He is based in Toronto. Gregory is highly commercial and gets the big picture.” “He understands his clients’ business needs and marries the right legal advice with those needs.” Based in Toronto, Nicholas Williams (see p.340) is respected for his experienced counsel on project financing mandates. He is noted for representing institutional investors, insurance companies and developers in both Canadian and US projects. “Nicholas is a very experienced lawyer who is able to draw on his decades of experience to support clients on complex legal issues.” Operating out of the firm’s Toronto office, William Buchner (see p.336) is particularly noted for his handling of matters in the healthcare, power and infrastructure sectors and is active across a suite of mandates including project development and financing. “He is a very strong lawyer and negotiator.” William works aggressively to pursue his clients’ aims but can also be practical.” Anthony Spadaro (see p.339) acts out of the firm’s Toronto office and enjoys a growing reputation for his handling of financing mandates across the power and infrastructure sectors. “Anthony has strong industry and sector-specific knowledge.” “Anthony is a very strong lawyer who is able to balance legal risks with commercial understanding. Anthony excels at communicating complex legal issues clearly to clients and providing clear recommendations and mitigation strategies.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is widely regarded as a prominent law firm in the Canadian infrastructure space, with an impressive reputation for its work on behalf of lenders. The practice brings strong expertise to bear in relation to project finance, energy infrastructure and M&A transactions, as well as secondary market transactions involving PPs. The team represents underwriters, investors, suppliers, utilities, and domestic and international banks, as well as project sponsors and developers.

Strengths “The lawyers at McCarthy Tétrault are very practical and they facilitate deals.” “They have strong knowledge in project financing and are creative in finding solutions to complex problems.” “Due to their experience, they are very aware of commercial issues and can provide additional colour on issues versus just a legal opinion.” Work highlights A McCarthy Tétrault team led by Lynn Parsons acted for Canada Infrastructure Bank in relation to the project financing for the Manitoba Fiber Project.

Notable practitioners Operating out of the firm’s Vancouver office, Linda Brown (see p.335) continues to be synonymous with the Canadian infrastructure project finance space, frequently representing proponent and lenders in navigating the bidding, procurement and financing processes related to infrastructure projects. “Linda is a senior partner that you can rely on all the time – she puts your interests first.” Based in Vancouver, Samantha Cunliffe (see p.336) advises both lenders and consortia across the transportation, healthcare and energy spaces. “Samantha has an excellent and prompt communication style. She provides a great balance of attention to detail and commercial awareness with a focus on material issues.” “Samantha has always provided a high level of service and has a strong awareness for commercial issues.” Based in Toronto, Stephen Furlan (see p.337) leverages a wealth of experience in the representation of lenders and borrowers engaged in project financing operations, offering particular expertise in relation to power and infrastructure projects. “Stephen is an excellent communicator and team manager.” Lynn Parsons (see p.338) is a highly adept project finance lawyer based out of the firm’s Toronto office. She advises a number of high-profile lenders on the financing of energy and infrastructure projects across Canada. Lynn is totally focused on finding solutions that work for her clients. “She is very client-focused.” Vancover-based Morgan Troke (see p.339) acts for lenders, borrowers and proponents on both project finance and project development mandates. “Morgan has always provided a high level of service and has a strong awareness for commercial issues.” “He is personable, responsive and gives excellent client service.” “He remains calm under pressure and is at ease both understanding and communicating complex issues.” Jody Aldcorn draws upon her past experience as director of legal services at the Vancouver Airport Authority in the provision of advice relating to aviation projects. “Jody coordinates with lawyers across the firm for cross-border matters and provides the right solutions.” “She is extremely knowledgeable about the sector and understands the commercial dynamics within it.” Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt is regarded as a premier law firm with a strong projects practice offering and a notable reputation for representing lenders, developers and equity sponsors in infrastructure developments. The team also acts for issuing authorities and design-build joint ventures on a variety of projects, and is increasingly involved in civil and social infrastructure projects. It offers notable expertise across a range of industry sectors including energy, education, healthcare and transportation.

Strengths “They are very good at providing practical and commercially minded advice.” “Their skill is top-notch and the service is exceptional.” “The Osler team is very capable and willing to take on complex issues.” Work highlights Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt advised EllisDon Capital on its successful bid for the Burnaby Hospital Redevelopment Phase One P3 project in Vancouver.

Notable practitioners Premier PPP and infrastructure practitioner Chris Bennett (see p.335) offers a wealth of experience out of the firm’s Toronto office, representing an enviable client list consisting of lenders, proponents and sponsors active across an array of industry sectors. “Chris is solid across the board and has the ability to get things done.” “He is an excellent lawyer who is very practical and commercial.” “It is a pleasure to work with Chris. He is knowledgeable and responsive to our needs.” Toronto-based Tobor Emakpor (see p.336) represents a roster of public and private bodies active on PPP and AEP projects across North America, the UK and West Africa, offering particular experience across the healthcare, education and transportation sectors. “Tobor has a depth of understanding which allows him to be an effective advocate for his clients.” Based in Toronto, Danna Donald (see p.336) is proficient in the handling of both lender and borrower mandates, holding particular expertise in the renewable energy space. “Danna is highly experienced, practical and commercial.” Marta Rochkin (see p.339) is an associate in Toronto and a member of the firm’s banking and financial services group. She has amassed impressive industry experience assisting clients with PPP projects in the healthcare and transportation sector.

Band 2

Torys LLP

What the team is known for Torys offers significant experience of municipal and provincial project development, advising on major mandates from coast to coast, as well as in the USA. From its base in Toronto and with the support of specialised partners based in New York, the firm has been involved in a significant number of major projects in Western and Northern Canada. The firm’s recent deal sheet includes a number of notable engagements on behalf of public authorities; it is also noted for its representation of lenders and sponsors, with broad industry expertise.
encompassing water and waste water, fibre optics, transit and renewable energy, among other areas.

Strengths “Torys has strong knowledge in project financing and is creative in finding solutions to complex problems.”

“The team’s knowledge of market developments has impressed us.”

“Torys is able to expertly communicate complex matters in a straightforward manner and present sound advice that is tailored to our risk tolerance levels.”

Work highlights A Torys team advised Infrastructure Ontario and Metrolinx on five active PPP projects in Ontario, all of which are central to the first phase of Metrolinx’s CAD16 billion Regional Express Rail programme.

Notable practitioners
Based in Toronto, Mark Bain (see p.335) has a wealth of experience in the representation of public authority interests, and is frequently sought after for assistance in the development of power, road and rail projects. “Mark has a well-rounded knowledge of the issues from all perspectives.” “Mark is solution-oriented and capable of the impossible.”

Scott Kraag (see p.337) acts predominantly across the energy, PPP and mining spaces in the provision of project finance counsel out of the firm’s Toronto office. “Scott is a very solution-oriented and commercial lawyer who manages large mandates well.” “He has a very broad practice and is pretty practical in his approach.”

Josh Van Deurzen (see p.340) is often instructed by project proponents, lenders and public authorities engaged in PPP transactions, further assisting with mandates across the wider infrastructure space out of the firm’s Toronto office. “Josh was able to deliver a high level of expert service and orient himself to our organisation’s needs very quickly.” “He is very efficient and effective in negotiation and we are very pleased with his work.”

Band 3

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for DLA Piper is an international law firm that enjoys a well-established reputation as a go-to player for key projects in Canada. The group is particularly well known for its sponsor-side work, and is highlighted for its experience within the transportation sector, including rapid transit and bridge projects. The team also stands out for its international experience and work for project companies on post-closing issues. It possesses a broad base of experience covering PPP, PFI and infrastructure financing transactions across a range of sectors including thermal and renewable power, oil and gas, transportation and healthcare developments.

Strengths “DLA Piper has deep knowledge of the industry, and their assistance in projects is very valuable.”

“The team’s commercial acumen is high. They ask good questions that go beyond a narrow legal remit.”

“The firm has a way of simplifying complex issues and appropriately structuring projects in the best way.”

Work highlights A DLA Piper team led by Ian Bendell acted for the Joint Project Office of Canada Infrastructure Bank and VIA Rail Canada in relation to the High Frequency Rail Project in the Quebec City-to-Toronto rail corridor.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Ian Bendell is chair of the firm’s infrastructure and projects group. He offers a wealth of experience representing authorities, project companies and financiers across a range of international jurisdictions. “Ian’s tireless commitment to his files, combined with his having successfully closed multiple landmark transactions in this market, positions him as one of the premier lawyers in Canada for P3 and infrastructure financing matters.” Operating between the firm’s Vancouver and Toronto offices, Andrew Burton frequently represents clients from the infrastructure, finance and construction spaces across all aspects of PPP development, and is often instructed on matters including project bids and development. “Andrew is a very solid lawyer who is involved in a lot of big projects.” “Andrew has a lot of market experience which adds a lot of value to all his files.” “He understands the market, gives good advice and is good in negotiations.”

Strengths “Fasken has an incredibly strong, consistent and talented team.”

What the team is known for Fasken operates a skilled team that is distinguished for its expertise in infrastructure project development, where it frequently acts for lenders, in addition to representing sponsors and consortiums in Canada and the USA. The firm is highlighted for its representation of authorities in municipal and provincial projects. The group’s expertise spans the energy, education, transport and healthcare sectors, among others.

Strengths “Fasken has great expertise drawn from the firm’s depth of experience in the area.”

“Fasken has an incredibly strong, consistent and talented team.”

Work highlights A Fasken team advised Plenary Americas and Kiewit Construction on its successful bid for the contract for the retrofit of the Washington, DC Streetlighting Project.

Notable practitioners
Based in Toronto, Brian Kelsall (see p.337) advises clients across a suite of industry sectors including infrastructure, energy and natural resources, and is respected for his handling of infrastructure development and project finance mandates. “Brian is a well-regarded lawyer who is very solution-oriented and experienced.” “He is technically very proficient and a good project finance lawyer.” “Brian provides astute perspectives on issues.” Leading the firm’s infrastructure and projects group out of Toronto, Ella Plotkin (see p.338) covers a breadth of project finance matters pertaining to infrastructure and project development. She is sought after for her handling of mandates covering sectors including transportation and energy. “Ella is an excellent lawyer who has a strong client base and a great practice.” “She is good at keeping things on track and managing issues.”

McMillan LLP
What the team is known for McMillan offers comprehensive knowledge of project development throughout Canada. The firm has a substantial consortium-side practice, as well as assisting lenders, underwriters, contractors and developers with the financing and refinancing of PPP and infrastructure projects. The team’s expertise encompasses health-care, transport and water treatment matters. The practice is also active on the lender and underwriter sides, assisting both domestic and international banks, bond underwriters and private placement investors.

Strengths “The team has outstanding expertise that enables them to skilfully navigate complex project issues.”

“McMillan offer consistent high-quality advice and are practical, commercial and pragmatic.”

“The team has a very strong technical expertise and provide excellent service.”

Work highlights A McMillan team led by Ahsan Mirza and Julie Han acted as lenders counsel to The Bank of Nova Scotia in relation to the design and build by EllisDon Infrastructure of the phase I redevelopment of the Burnaby Hospital.

Notable practitioners
Timothy John Murphy (see p.338) is CEO and managing partner of McMillan and is frequently instructed by developers, lenders and subcontractors. He leverages his public sector background to advise on matters relating to project bidding as well as project finance. “Mr Murphy provides a top-notch, client-oriented and professional service without fail.” “Tim rolls up his sleeves and gets involved – he is so experienced.”

Vancouver-based Candy Saga (see p.339) represents clients across a panoply of matters pertaining to infrastructure development, including PPPs and project financing. “Candy gives outstanding service.” “She is a very safe pair of hands and a lawyer that our organisation trusts with complex matters.”

Ahsan Mirza (see p.338) represents a portfolio of lenders and borrowers active across infrastructure and project finance developments. He is based in Toronto. “He is thorough, technical and solution-oriented.”

“McMillan offers excellent service and strong technical knowledge.”

Toronto-based Julie Han (see p.337) operates a financial services practice of growing repute that includes experience advising financiers with interests in PPP infrastructure projects. She has experience advising on projects involving an array of asset classes, including transportation and healthcare developments. “Julie offers exceptional service and possesses strong technical knowledge.” “I was highly impressed by her high level of expertise and general commitment to client service.”

“Julie Han is very effective and highly regarded.”

Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright wins recognition for its representation of public authorities in municipal and provincial projects, as well as major federal PPP projects. The practice is experienced advising on infrastructure and energy projects across Canada, with notable strength in Western Canada and Quebec. The firm covers all major infrastructure asset classes, with particular proficiency in the transportation sector. The team is regularly engaged by multinational corporates, infrastructure funds, lenders and banks.

Strengths “The team has demonstrated the ability to draw upon subject matter experts from different jurisdictions as required.”

“Norton Rose Fulbright customise their legal teams to effectively manage any project based on scope and complexity.”

“The firm has been excellent at responding to our needs and timelines.”

Work highlights A Norton Rose Fulbright team acted as lead counsel for Strabag, one of the proponents
seeking to be the successful bidder to design, build and finance the tunnel for the Scarborough Subway Extension in Ontario.

**Notable practitioners**

Based in Vancouver, head of the firm’s infrastructure practice James LeMoine (see p.338) regularly advises on the commercial aspects of infrastructure projects. He is noted for his involvement in the negotiation of commercial contracts and PPP agreements.

“James takes a common-sense approach and delivers solid advice.”

Vancouver partner Matt Mulligan (see p.338) is respected for his handling of procurement and contractual matters pertaining to the infrastructure and construction spaces. He frequently assists clients throughout tender and RFP processes, including contract drafting and negotiation.

“Matt provides solid commercial advice with regard to construction projects.”

Based in Toronto, Sandra Nissanc (see p.338) has significant experience advising on design-build-finance contracts for PPP projects in sectors such as healthcare and transportation.

“Sandra has provided strong advice on complex matters.”

Jenya Hammondd (see p.337) is an up-and-coming lawyer with particular experience advising on the procurement of infrastructure projects. She is based in Vancouver. “I was extremely satisfied with Jenya’s leadership and advice.”

“Jenya is an excellent asset to our organisation and the project. She has an excellent attitude and has been able to successfully navigate a very challenging mandate.”

**Band 4**

**Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

What the team is known for

Borden Ladner Gervais is a well-known law firm with a significant authority-side infrastructure practice. The team is well versed in energy, rapid transit and healthcare matters, as well as advising on road, bridge and tunnel projects. The practice is frequently identified for its prowess in the construction space, where it is sought after by design-build contractors and subcontractors.

**Strengths**

“Borden Ladner Gervais has consistently shown their exceptional ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters.”

**Work highlights**

Bruce Fowler led the BLG team which acted for Polaris Infrastructure on the refinancing of three development financial institutions for a senior debt facility for the company’s geothermal project subsidiary in Nicaragua.

**Notable practitioners**

Douglass Sanders (see p.339) provides clients with a technical understanding born out of his training as an engineer. Based in Vancouver, he acts across the PPP and construction spaces, with noted representation of proponent consortiums as well as provincial bodies. “Douglass has a great depth of knowledge.”

**Farris LLP**

What the team is known for

Farris is a well-established regional law firm that is well known for its representation of lenders to proponents and consortia on projects across the country. The practice also acts for authorities on the issuance of high-profile projects. The team regularly advises on key projects in the transportation sector, and demonstrates additional expertise in social infrastructure developments. With offices throughout BC, the group also advises on the procurement, financing and implementation of PPPs.

**Strengths**

“Matters that require specific expertise are quickly managed.”

**Work highlights**

Farris acted for the Province of British Columbia in relation to the procurement of the Steveston Interchange Project.

**Notable practitioners**

Longstanding corporate finance lawyer Michael Allen advises on a broad portfolio of project finance mandates out of the firm’s Vancouver office. He frequently represents both lenders and borrowers in developments in the energy, mining, forestry and telecommunications spaces. “Michael is pretty practical in resolving issues in a way that works for both the borrower side and lender side.”

Maria McKenzie is a Vancouver-based lawyer who regularly advises on projects in provinces across Canada. She ably represents public authorities, lenders and private corporations throughout PPP processes and transactions.

“Maria has a lot of experience in the marketplace and has a solid reputation.”

“Her new credit work ethic and is both very intelligent and practical.”

**Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP**

What the team is known for

Gowling WLG is highlighted for its representation of subcontractors and facilities service providers in infrastructure projects throughout Canada. With notable experience in relation to operation and maintenance matters, the practice often acts for project sponsors and lenders. It has a particular focus on social infrastructure projects, including hospital developments and redevelopments. Also gaining in traction on the contentious side, the firm acts on major PPP and infrastructure disputes across a variety of jurisdictions.

**Strengths**

“The partners were supported by an efficient team in which every individual was well coordinated and brought their expertise to bear.”

“The team is always super-responsive to our business needs and very aware of what is going on in the market.”

“Gowling’s attention to client satisfaction is very strong. They are available day and night and make their schedules fit to the needs of the task at hand.”

**Work highlights**

A Gowlings team acted for Infrastructure Ontario and Hamilton Health Sciences in connection with the design, build and finance project for the redevelopment of West Lincoln Memorial Hospital.

**Notable practitioners**

Nicolas Cayouette is based in Montréal and utilises his engineering background to provide valuable insights to clients on major infrastructure projects. “Mr Cayouette has demonstrated that he possesses highly impressive technical and legal knowledge. He is often able to explain complex technical issues to us as well as their legal ramifications.”

“Mr Cayouette, with his engineering background, has proven an invaluable asset to the team, working tirelessly to advise, support and devise solutions pertaining to contractual issues during negotiations.”

Natasha Rana is an associate based in Gowling WLG’s Vancouver office. She regularly advises clients on PPP projects in Canada and the United States.

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for

Stikeman Elliott offers notable expertise in infrastructure transactions and frequently represents lenders in project financings and refinancings, as well as advising on the acquisition and divestiture of projects. The practice represents sponsors and issuing authorities and often advises on transportation, energy and social infrastructure matters. The firm is well placed to assist international clients with their investments in Canadian projects.

**Strengths**

“The team has experienced and efficient lawyers with strong project management skills and the ability to close out complex matters in short timelines.”

“Stikeman Elliott has a very strong ability to handle complex files.”

**Work highlights**

A Stikeman Elliott team led by Jamie Templeton acted as lender’s counsel to Dragados Canada and Aecon Group in relation to the Advanced Tunnel Extension Project in Ontario.

**Notable practitioners**

Vancouver partner Jamie Templeton (see p.339) is noted for his deep expertise in the representation of lenders in the project development process and is frequently instructed on financing and investment mandates across sectors including energy and public infrastructure. “Jamie is an excellent lawyer who is efficient and time-oriented.”

“Jamie is an extremely talented and efficient counsel.”

Toronto-based Aaron Fransen (see p.337) enjoys increasing acclaim for his work on energy infrastructure projects. He is additionally praised by market participants for his knowledge of projects involving indigenous communities. “Aaron is excellent and has done a lot of high-profile First Nation projects. He is practical and commercial.”

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Ilan Dunsky acts as co-chair of Dentons’ infrastructure and PPP group from his base in Montréal. He acts for clients across North and South America on a range of infrastructure projects, and is particularly visible in the areas of rail and transportation.

Based in Bennett Jones’ Vancouver office, David Little is well regarded for his significant handling of project and infrastructure developments in British Columbia. He is often mandated by public authorities to advise on social infrastructure projects. “David has strong experience and provides recommendations in a timely manner.”

“David is extremely knowledgeable and has lots of expertise.”

Chair of Aird & Berlis’ infrastructure practice, Douglas Younger of Aird & Berlis LLP works on a range of transportation, civil and social infrastructure PPP projects. His clients include public authorities, subcontractors and equity sponsors. He is based in Toronto. “Douglas was excellent to work with in all respects – highly collegial, responsive and extremely knowledgeable.”
Public Procurement
Nationwide

Public Procurement

Leading Firms

Band 1
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
Cassidy Levy Kent LLP
Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Band 2
Deloitte LLP
Manulife Financial Corporation
Norton Rose Goldstream LLP

Band 3
Conlin Bedard LLP
Dentons Canada LLP
Fasken


Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople

Tereposky & DeRose LLP
Fasken
Dentons Canada LLP
Conlin Bedard LLP
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Fasken


Band 1
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon houses a distinguished national team that is widely recognised for its leading infrastructure practice and skillful handling of public procurement matters. The firm’s procurement lawyers assist both public authorities and large private sector clients with contract preparation, negotiation and compliance issues, as well as advising on related litigation. The team benefits from the firm’s strength in complementary areas such as real estate, project finance and environmental law, and is especially active advising on municipal mandates. The group also advises on provincial and federal procurement matters and offers expertise across a broad spectrum of industry sectors, including energy, mining, transportation, water and wastewater, and healthcare. It is regularly engaged by a broad array of public and private sector clientele to assist in reviewing and updating procurement regimes.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Judy Wilson (see p.340) is widely considered to be a pre-eminent representative of municipal and provincial authorities, frequently assisting with significant procurement processes and contractual drafting. She is a leading practitioner in this space and has experience in multiple Canadian provinces. “Judy is simply the best procurement lawyer in Canada in my opinion.” Marianne Smith (see p.339) is reputed for her handling of significant matters in relation to procurement law. She is based out of the firm’s Toronto office but has significant experience advising municipal clients from provinces across Canada.

Band 2
Cassidy Levy Kent LLP
What the team is known for
Cassidy Levy Kent is a well-regarded Ottawa-based law firm that leverages its strength in international trade to handle public procurement disputes before the Canadian International Trade Tribunal (CITT). Its public procurement practice group represents companies in their bid challenges before the tribunal and assists government bodies with the development of procurement processes, with significant expertise at a federal level.

Strengths “Each of the attorneys were well prepared for discussions and the development of both factual and legal arguments.” “They were very knowledgeable about the issues and were very pragmatic with their advice. Their ability to listen and understand the complexity of the situation was uncanny.” “The firm has a wealth of knowledge and is up to any challenge.”

Work highlights Marc McLaren-Caux led a Cassidy Levy Kent team in acting as counsel for Rampart International regarding a CITT challenge. The challenge concerned procurement by the Department of National Defence of new pistols for the Canadian Armed Forces.

Notable practitioners

Based in Ottawa, Gerry Stobo is admired across the procurement law space for his handling of significant transactions and disputes. He has a significant depth of experience in representations before the CITT. “Gerry is extremely knowledgeable in commercial and procurement law.” “He is very dedicated and thorough in his work.” Marc McLaren-Caux represents a growing portfolio of corporate clients in both contract bids and dispute mandates out of the firm’s Ottawa office. “Marc is an outstanding lawyer.” “He invested himself in the case, learning as much as possible. Because of that, Marc understood our position and was able to offer very sound advice.” “I always look forward to his straight-to-the-point answers.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for
Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP operates a well-respected team that ably assists municipal and private companies throughout the procurement process, from the RFP phase to handling disputes arising in the space, for which the group is particularly well reputed. The firm frequently acts for clients before all levels of court and the CITT, as well as assisting clients with public procurement review and strategy issues. The group is engaged by an impressive cross-section of provincial and federal governments, Crown corporations and private sector clients.

Strengths “The team was able to handle complex situations with shifting priorities with promptness, a high degree of professionalism and tact.” “Gowlings has taken the time to understand our business and has tailored their advice to support our needs.” “They are responsive, attentive, flexible and truly dedicated to the success of the project. Their commitment to supporting the public sector is unmatched and they are always available to support and push forward through difficult issues and challenges.”

Work highlights Gowlings WLG acted for the Société québécoise des infrastructures and Ministère de la Santé et des Services Sociaux in all legal aspects regarding the public procurement of a new greenfield hospital in Vaudreuil-Soulanges.

Notable practitioners

Phuong Ngo leads the firm’s procurement group out of Ottawa and is sought out for her handling of a suite of services, including template development, process design and disputes. She comes recommended for her ability to handle multilingual matters. “Phuong has provided very helpful and insightful advice on government procurement and competition issues.”

Band 3
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais offers experience advising government agencies and private sector organisations on the issuance of procurements, as well as advising on bid disputes. The team stands out for its representation of clients in the healthcare sector and often advises on procurement for the construction of projects at a provincial and municipal level. The practice acts on an impressive volume of IT-related procurement mandates, notably for hospital consortia and networks.

Strengths “The team is reliable and adapts their advice to the reality of our business operations. We value their practicality and promptness, and they have a broad range of resources to draw upon.”

Work highlights A BLG team led by Mark Fecenko assisted Mohawk Medbury with the development of a Vendor of Record methodology for the procurement of healthcare related goods for hospitals under new CFTA/CEPA procurement rules.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Mark Fecenko (see p.336) frequently assists hospital groups with the development of procurement frameworks. He is sought out for his specialisation in the provision of IT service procurement, particularly in relation to the healthcare industry. “Mark is deeply knowledgeable and excellent at communicating to ensure expectations are clear and met.”

Conlin Bedard LLP
What the team is known for
Conlin Bedard is a prominent Ottawa-based boutique law firm that is heavily involved in public procurement and international trade. The practice is sought after for its experience representing clients in bid challenges before the CITT, as well as offering strong procurement advisory capabilities in strategy, negotiations and policy.
frameworks. The group has substantial expertise in the defence, IT and construction sectors, with a focus on public procurement at a federal level.

**Strengths** "Conlin Bedard has a high level of expertise in federal government procurement."

**Notable practitioners**

Benjamin Mills operates out of the firm’s Ottawa office. His practice encompasses expertise in public sector procurement and related disputes, including advising on contract negotiation, bid preparation and challenges at the federal, provincial and municipal level. International trade specialist Paul Conlin is noted for the application of his abilities in the space of government procurement processes. Based in Ottawa, he offers a wealth of experience in the handling of matters before the CITT.

**Dentons Canada LLP**

What the team is known for Dentons Canada is a well-resourced international law firm frequently engaged by multinational companies for advice on procurement processes, RFP procedures and documentation review, along with other government contracting queries and disputes. The practice also has noteworthy expertise in international trade, with notable knowledge of compliance matters. The team has significant experience advising on municipal infrastructure revitalisation and redevelopment.

**Strengths** "Dentons has a resourceful team that takes a very structured and logical approach."

**Work highlights** Paul Lalonde led the Dentons team that advised Waterfront Toronto on its revised RFQ and subsequent RFP for the development of the Quayside project.

**Notable practitioners**

Paul Lalonde is highly respected across both the public procurement and international trade arenas, offering extensive expertise. He is the national lead of Dentons public procurement group.

**Fasken**

What the team is known for Fasken is a well-recognised law firm with a solid reputation and track record in a range of procurement issues, with significant expertise in disputes and objections to government contracts. The team hosts a notable procurement offering in Ontario and BC, from where it advises on mandates relating to infrastructure projects, renewable energy ventures and developments to healthcare facilities at provincial and municipal levels.

**Strengths** "The team has strong legal skills and assists us in making commercial decisions."

"They provided exceptional support, based upon a thorough understanding of the issues and case law in public procurement."

**Work highlights** Fasken acted for Thales DIS in relation to an application for a judicial review in the Ontario Divisional Court in respect of a procurement decision of the Ontario government for the manufacturing, printing and production of various government-issued photo identification cards.

**Notable practitioners**

Practice group leader Peter Mantas (see p.338) leverages his expertise in litigation to provide expert counsel on procurement disputes. Based in Ottawa, he additionally advises on white-collar criminal matters. "Peter is a good technical lawyer."

**Tereposky & DeRose LLP**

What the team is known for Tereposky & DeRose is a well-regarded international trade and investment law boutique servicing clients out of its Ottawa base. Its public procurement team frequently acts on the instruction of clients ranging from IT and real estate companies to shipbuilders and provincial governments. The practice is well versed in public procurement and international trade matters, advising on procurement strategy and RFP proposals at the federal and provincial level. The team further assists with procurement objections and complaints on behalf of organisations before the CITT.

**Strengths** "The extent of the experience brought to discussions by the team simplifies and clarifies complex situations."

**Work highlights** A Tereposky & DeRose team led by Vincent DeRose acted as counsel to Marine Recycling Corporation in three challenges of major federal government procurements, including one complaint before the CITT.

**Notable practitioners**

Acting at the intersection of international trade and procurement law, Ottawa-based Vincent DeRose offers particular expertise in the representation of defence and security sector clients in the development of procurement strategies, proposals and documentation. "I appreciate Vince’s client service and commercial awareness."

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Brenda Swick (see p.339) of Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP represents a range of national and international clients in respect of their procurement processes. Based in Cassels’ Toronto office, she is also noted for her complementary expertise in international trade. “Brenda is quick to engage, delightful to work with and always able to provide practical insights and actionable advice.”
ACKERLEY, Glenn
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Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Glenn Ackerley represents clients from across the construction industry, Glenn is a “project lawyer”, providing advice throughout the life of a project. Clients include public and private owners, developers, project managers, contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, and consultants. He is consulted regarding project structures, contracts, procurement, and risk avoidance strategies, and acts for clients from the ICI and residential sectors in construction lien and trust claims, bond claims, and delay and disruption claims.
Career: Ontario Bar, 1989
Professional Memberships: OBA Construction & Infrastructure Section, Canadian College of Construction Lawyers, Canadian Construction Association, Toronto Construction Association

ALTER, Matthew
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto (416) 860 6764 malter@cassels.com
Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Based in Toronto and recognized internationally as a top construction and procurement lawyer, Matthew is known as a problem solver of complex disputes in the construction industry. Clients range from owners, including government bodies, mining companies, universities, hospitals and private developers, to general contractors and specialty subcontractors. In addition to representing clients at the front end of domestic and international projects, where he drafts and negotiates a variety of contracts, Matthew is counsel on all types of disputes for commercial, industrial, civil, and residential projects, including bids, contractor defaults, delays, liens, trust and bond claims.
Career: Matthew is consistently ranked and included in the leading domestic and international lawyer listings and directories including Chambers: Who’s Who Legal (Thought Leaders); Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert's Leading Infrastructure Lawyers in Canada; Expert Guides’ Leaders’ Profiles in Projects & Construction

BROWN, Linda G
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Linda’s practice focuses on public-private partnerships, project financing and joint venture work—in Canada, the United States, Europe and Asia. Clients trust Bob to advise on transformative and landmark projects. He is instrumental in the successful development of large projects in diverse sectors, ranging from hospitals to commercial casinos to cross-border rail tunnels, toll roads and airport developments. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada’s Toronto Public Finance Law Lawyer of the Year 2017 and Toronto Real Estate Law Lawyer of the Year 2016; IFLR1000; The Legal 500 Canada; Who's Who Legal: Government Contracts; Who's Who Legal: Real Estate; and ranked among the world’s top 30 real estate counsel by Expert Guides’ The Best of the Best.

BENNETT, Chris
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto +1 416 862 5992 cbennett@osler.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Chris Bennett is Chair of the National Banking and Financial Services practice group at Osler. He also leads the firm’s Project Finance team in Toronto.Chris’ practice focuses on financial services with an emphasis on public and private partnerships, project finance, infrastructure and structured finance. Chris has extensive experience acting for domestic and international lenders, developers, equity sponsors and other participants in connection with complex P3 and infrastructure transactions and project financing across Canada. He has led major transactions in a variety of industry sectors and asset classes, including social infrastructure, transportation, electricity and renewable energy. Chris has closed more than 50 P3 projects over his career, and his experience includes a number of transformative, first-of-type public private partnerships, including the first major healthcare P3 transaction in Canada to reach financial close, the first Canadian domestic monoline wrapped bank financings and the first major education P3 transportation project. He has represented all major categories of project finance lenders in the Canadian market, including domestic and foreign banks, private and public-private partnerships, including the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, where he was an adjunct faculty member since 2007.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association, Ontario Bar Association, Canadian Construction Association’s Construction Law in Canadian Infrastructure Law Forum, 2016 Steering Committee
Personal: Ontario, 2001 University of Toronto, LLB, Queen’s University, B.A. (Hons.)

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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)

BANFAI, Geza
McMillan LLP, Toronto 416.865.7806 geza.banfai@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Geza Banhai practices in McMillan’s Infrastructure and Construction Groups, counselling a variety of clients, from small concerns to national/multinational giants. He has represented every participant in the construction pyramid, from construction lenders/owners to general contractors, subcontractors and material suppliers, as well as design professionals, in a wide ranging practice from front-end project delivery advice and the negotiation of contracts of many types, to claims and disputes. Geza’s long involvement with the industry and the profession is deep and extensive, and includes service in the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers, sitting as the ex-officio legal representative on the Canadian Construction Documents Committee, and participation in the Advisory Group which assisted the implementation of Ontario’s new Construction Act. He is also prominent in legal education, spearheading a number of industry and professional programs including the highly successful Osgoode Certificate Course in Construction Law, National Edition. His awards and recognitions include the Toronto Construction Association’s 2011 Donald R. Gibson Construction Achievement Award, the 2016 OBA Award of Excellence in Construction and Infrastructure Law, and being named 2017 Toronto Construction Law Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers in Canada.

BAUER, Robert T.
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto +1 416 865 7349 rbauer@dwpv.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Robert T. Bauer to advise on transformative and landmark projects. He is instrumental in the successful development of large projects in diverse sectors, ranging from hospitals to commercial casinos to cross-border rail tunnels, toll roads and airport developments. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada’s Toronto Public Finance Law Lawyer of the Year 2017 and Toronto Real Estate Law Lawyer of the Year 2016; IFLR1000; The Legal 500 Canada; Who's Who Legal: Government Contracts; Who's Who Legal: Real Estate; and ranked among the world’s top 30 real estate counsel by Expert Guides’ The Best of the Best.

BROOKS, Linda G
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
COSENTINO, Joseph
Chambers Canada; IFLR1000; The Lexpert/ACATEX; South African Law Society of America.
Personal: President and Chair of the Board of Ballet BC, an internationally ac-
claimed collaborative and creation-based contemporary dance company that is a leader and resource in the creation, production and education of contemporary
dance in Canada.
BUCHNER, William
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
Call to the Bar in Ontario
Danna has led Osler's commercial team in providing advisory services on a number of infrastructure and energy transactions, including the debt and equity financings of some of Canada’s largest wind and solar projects.
Career: Danna is a Founding Member and the Past Chair (2014-2016) of the Toronto Women's Infrastructure Network and is currently a member of the Steering Committee.
Professional Memberships: Law Society of Ontario; Canadian Bar Association; Ontario Bar Association
Personal: Called to the Bar in Ontario (2004) Osgoode Hall Law School, LLB
DOYLE, Catherine
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 4160
catherine.doyle@blakes.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Catherine advises project proponents in the transportation, infrastructure, alternative energy, power and health-care sectors and Canadian and, in a growing number of cases, global infrastructure projects. A former banker, Catherine brings a rare combination of skills to an infrastructure deal — a thorough understanding of the public-private partnerships and infrastructure landscape, combined with top-tier project financing capabilities, which clients value deeply as they look to access capital for their projects. She also represents a variety of financial institutions in the financing of infrastructure assets, including bond underwriters, institutional investors, and both Canadian and international banks. She has extensive experience in operating and term credit facilities, asset-based financings, lease financings and structured financial products, and in structuring, negotiating and documenting domestic and cross-border financing transactions in the bank, private placement and public markets.
EMAKPOR, Tobor
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Tobor is a partner in Osler’s Construction and Infrastructure Specialty Group. He has several years of experience in advising and leading P3/AF projects in Canada, the United Kingdom and West Africa with particular emphasis on the health care, education, and transportation sectors. Tobor also has extensive experience in M&A and private equity transactions, as well as joint-venture and partnering arrangements. Tobor has led teams advising on a variety of P3/AF projects. Tobor led the team advising the successful proponent in closing the $253 million Alberta Schools Alternative Procurement II Project in Alberta and the $432 million Kelowna/Vernon Hospital Project in British Columbia. Tobor is currently advising shortlisted proponents and lenders on a number of projects in Ontario. He also advised shortlisted bidders on the Prince George Caroways and lenders including developers, equity sponsors, contractors, domestic and foreign banks, bond underwriters and other investors on the negotiation of credit facilities, indentures and infrastructure documents.
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www.chambers.com

Practice Areas: Focus on projects, project finance and infrastructure. Regularly advises project proponents on all aspects of the development of projects across Canada and internationally. Advises on construction contracts, public and private projects, and development agreements, including social development and procurement agreements. Extensive experience in advising on complex construction contracts and on various high profile, high value infrastructure and other large capital projects throughout Ontario. Has also worked with owners, contractors and developers on projects in the United Kingdom; Canada; the United States; the United Arab Emirates, and other international locations.
DOYAL, Melanie
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Melanie Doyal is a Group Head of BLG’s IT Industry Focus Group. A Corporate-Commercial lawyer with a comprehensive technology law and procurement practice. Extensive experience providing counsel on competitive and innovation procurement, IT and business process outsourcing and technology matters, including in the IT, biotechnology and life sciences practice sectors. Also has extensive experience acting for clients in the broader public sector, including healthcare, municipal, educational and electrical utility sectors.
Professional Memberships: CBA, Digital Health Canada
Publications: Books on e-commerce, IT and biotechnology law
FORRISTAL, Annik
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Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Annik is a Group Head of McMillan LLP’s National Infrastructure and Construction Group whose practice is dedicated to the construction, infrastructure and development industries. A practising lawyer who also has the title of Eng., Annik provides advice and representation on project delivery, contractual allocation and management of risk, municipal land use planning and related approvals, project administration, claims management and dispute resolution. Annik has broad experience negotiating, drafting and advising on complex construction contracts and development agreements, including custom-drafted and standard form construction contracts (such as CDDC, CCA, OAA and ACEC). Her extensive project experience includes condominiums, university and hospital development, entertainment facilities, industrial facilities, and solar and wind energy installations. Annik is also fully versed in the front-end approvals and permitting necessary for development and construction projects. She helps her clients obtain official plan amendments, rezonings, severances and minor variances, as well as authorizations from heritage and conservation authorities. Annik also fervently supports her clients through dispute resolution processes, employing a results-oriented, creative and cost-effective approach in mediation and arbitration proceedings.
FRANSEN, Aaron
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
(416) 869-5231
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Aaron Franzen is a partner in the Mergers & Acquisitions, Banking & Finance, and Projects & Infrastructure Groups. His practice focuses on M&A and the project finance of infrastructure and energy projects in the bond and bank market. Aaron’s diverse clientele includes banks, securities dealers, technology companies, resource companies, media and telecom companies, government entities and private equity firms. Aaron is recognized as a leading lawyer by national and international directories, including Chambers Canada, Chambers Global, IFLR1000, Lex spect and The Best Lawyers in Canada.
FURLAN, Stephen
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Practice focuses on project finance and secured lending. Regularly advises Canadian and foreign lenders with respect to the structuring and negotiation of some of the most complex project financings in the Canadian marketplace. Has acted for both lenders, borrowers and governments with respect to project financing, public private partnership infrastructure financings and loan work-outs in the project finance area.
GAGNON, Nicolas
Lavery, de Billy, Montréal
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Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: - Construction - Transpor tation Infrastructure - Procurement - Commercial Litigation - Corporate and Business Integrity
Career: Nicolas Gagnon specializes in construction law and surety law. He counsels public and private sector clients, professional services firms and contractors as well as surety companies at every stage of construction projects. He advises clients with respect to the public bidding and procurement process, and is involved in the drafting of contract documents and the management of the work and any claims resulting therefrom.
Professional Memberships: - Canadian Bar Association - Fellow of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers
GILLOTT, Roger
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Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Roger has practiced exclusively construction law, arbitration and dispute resolution for twenty years. Roger has extensive advocacy experience in trial, appellate and arbitration proceedings, and also advises on the avoidance and management of risk in the construction and infrastructure sectors. He has represented clients in a wide variety of disputes involving construction liens and trusts, mortgage priorities, contract interpretation, bidding and tendering, delay and extra claims, professional negligence and claims under performance and payment bonds.
Career: In 2018 Roger was made a Fellow of the Construction Lawyers Society of America. An invitation-only international honorary association composed of preeminent lawyers specializing in construction law and related fields, the CLSA is dedicated to promoting advocacy and ethical standards in construction law. In 2018 Roger was listed as one of the “Top 500 Lawyers in Canada” by Thomson/Reu ters-AmeriLawyer.
Professional Memberships: Fellow, Construction Lawyers Society of America
Practice Areas: Roger's practice focuses on project finance transactions with particular emphasis on public-private partnership (PPP) projects. As a respected and trusted advisor to some of the largest and most established contractors, investors and financiers of public infrastructure assets in Canada, Julie has extensive experience in structuring project financing transactions across all asset classes, including rail, highways, bridges, water and waste water, hospitals and universities. Julie has been lead counsel on a number of significant PPP projects, including some of the largest to have reached financial close in Canada.
IVANOFF, Paul
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Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Paul is a partner in Osler’s Litigation Department and is a key contact for the firm’s Construction and Infrastructure practice group. Paul’s practice involves the litigation, arbitration and mediation of disputes arising out of construction and infrastructure projects. He also provides contract administration advice during the course of completion of projects. Paul represents project participants on disputes related to a broad range of construction and infrastructure projects including subways, airport facilities, power plants (nuclear, solar, wind and coal), highways, industrial facilities, commercial buildings and civil works facilities. Paul is certified as a Specialist in Construction Law by the Law Society of Ontario.
Professional Memberships: - Past Chair of the Ontario Bar Association’s Construction Law Section - Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb); Member, International Bar Association, International Chamber of Commerce
JOHNSON, Mark
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416-863-3318
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Mark’s practice focuses primarily on major power, infrastructure and public-private partnership projects, and related joint ventures, investments, acquisitions and dispositions. He advises clients on all aspects of design, build, finance and operate/maintain projects through all stages of procurement, construction, operations, secondary market transactions and refinancing. He has lead significant matters in a variety of industry sectors and asset classes, including social and defence infrastructure, transportation, nuclear, clean hydrogen, renewables, battery storage, manufacturing and telecommunications.
Mark has extensive experience acting for domestic and international clients on a full range of commercial matters, including procurement processes, take-or-pay agreements, employment issues, construction agreements, major equipment supply agreements, and operations and maintenance agreements. Mark has also worked as in-house counsel on long-term securitization with a Canadian resource company and an international infrastructure developer. Prior to joining Blakes, Mark was law clerk to The Honourable Madam Justice Rosalie Silberman Abella of the Supreme Court of Canada.
Professional Memberships: Mark was formerly a member of the Adjunct Faculty at Osgoode Hall Law School, where he taught an upper-year course in contract remedies.
Personal: Mark speaks regularly on topics related to the development, construction and financing of major projects in Canada.
KELSALL, Brian C
Fasken, Toronto
+1 416 865 5493
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Brian Kelsall’s practice is focused on project finance and infrastructure development, banking and corporate finance and public-private partnerships in Canada, the United States and emerging markets. Regularly advising lenders, developers, contractors and procuring authorities, Brian has acted for clients across the infrastructure, telecom, energy, oil and gas, and mining sectors.
He has advised on numerous projects, including the US 36 Express Lanes/Bus Rapid Transit Project, the Pennsylvania Bridges Project, the State Street Redevelopment Project (Indiana) and Merced Campus (UC) Project (California). He also advised the Federal Government of Canada, the City of Toronto, the Province of New Brunswick, the Province of Nova Scotia, the Province of Ontario, the Province of British Columbia, the Province of Alberta, and the City of Toronto on the Toronto City Centre (TCC) Project.
KRAAG, Scott A
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: One of Canada’s leading project finance lawyers, Scott gives clients rigorous and solution-focused counsel to help them advance their objectives in lending matters of all levels of complexity. Head of Torys’ Project Finance practice and co-head of the Banking and Debt Finance practice, Scott has broad experience representing all of the principal parties on projects, including lenders, sponsors, equity investors, arrangers and underwriters, contractors, service-providers, developers, and contractors. Scott has broad experience advising on all aspects of project finance, including secured lending, project finance and corporate matters, as well as general corporate law and related matters. Scott has represented lenders in the structuring of project finance transactions, with a focus on arranging and negotiating of all types of commercial contracts.
HAN, Julie
McMillan LLP, Toronto
+1 416 865 7199
julie.han@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Julie’s practice focuses on project financing transactions with particular emphasis on public-private partnership (PPP) projects. As a respected and trusted advisor to some of the largest and most established contractors, investors and financiers of public infrastructure assets in Canada, Julie has extensive experience in structuring project financing transactions across all asset classes, including rail, highways, bridges, water and waste water, hospitals and universities. Julie has been lead counsel on a number of significant PPP projects, including some of the largest to have reached financial close in Canada.

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MULLIGAN, Matt
Norton Rose Fullbright, Vancouver
+1.604.641.4918
matt.mulligan@nortonrosefulbright.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Matt Mulligan's practice is focused on infrastructure and construction projects. Areas in which he has extensive experience include: procurement, drafting of procurement documents and advising owners and bidders on all aspects of tender and RFP processes, including the structuring of procurements, drafting of procurement documents, evaluation of bids or proposals and negotiation of commercial agreements. - engineering and construction contracts - drafting and negotiating all types of engineering and construction contracts across the full range of project delivery models, including public-private partnerships, design-build, construction management and traditional design-build and for all types of projects including transmission, transportation, healthcare, accommodation, commercial and industrial projects. Also advises clients in the marine industry on ship building, refit and repair contracts.

MURPHY, Timothy John
McMillan LLP, Toronto
+1.416.729.8908
tim.murphy@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Projects (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Tim Murphy, former Chief of Staff to Canada’s Prime Minister, assists consortia, lenders and government in project financing major infrastructure assets across Canada. He has extensive experience in construction, energy and public procurement. He is currently chair of the public authority building the Gordie Howe Bridge through a P3 model. He is the author of the leading text “Public-Private Partnerships in Canada: Law, Policy and Value for Money” and is the author/editor of the textbook “Construction Law in Canada”. He has a Master of Laws from Osgoode Hall Law School and is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He is the CEO and Managing Partner at McMillan LLP and a Managing Director of McMillan Vantage Policy Group, a public policy advisory firm. He served on the Board of Director of Morguard REIT, one of Canada's leading real estate companies and is Chair of the Board of the Toronto Community Housing Corporation, the City's housing agency with more than 111,000 tenants. He has previously served as a Member of Provincial Parliament in the Ontario Legislature.

NISSAN, Sandra
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
+1 416 216 3965
sandra.nissan@nortonrosefulbright.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Sandra Nissan is a member of our debt finance team and focuses primarily on project finance, secured and unsecured lending, structured finance, public-private partnerships and infrastructure development. She has extensive experience advising public authorities, private sector participants and consortia and lenders in implementing public infrastructure projects. She also has experience in many aspects of syndicated secured and unsecured lending, acting on behalf of both lenders and borrowers. Ms. Nissan has provided advice concerning a variety of other matters, including mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings and corporate reorganizations.

PARSONS, Lynn
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
001 416 600 1518
lpars@mt律师事务所
Featured in Projects (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Lynn Parsons is a partner in McCarthy Tétrault’s Financial Services Group in Toronto. Her practice focuses on project finance and secured lending and she regularly advises banks and other financial institutions as well as governments and consortia on structuring of projects in the energy, infrastructure and mining sectors.

Career: Ontario Bar, 2002

Professional Memberships: Ontario Bar Association Law Society of Ontario

PENNYCOOK, Carol D
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
Toronto
+1.416 865 5546
cpennycook@dwpv.com
Featured in Banking & Finance (Nationwide - Canada), Projects (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Recognized as one of Canada’s top finance lawyers, Carol advisers on a wide range of transactions - syndicated loan transactions, corporate finance, structured finance, project finance, debt capital market offerings, private equity, private M&A, corporate reorganizations and derivatives. A significant portion of her practice is devoted to financing transactions, acting for both borrowers and lenders. She also acts as a key player in complex transactions involving joint ventures, corporate and acquisition credit facilities, and capital markets bonds, debenture and note offerings, both Canadian and cross-border. Carol acts in many of the highest profile public-private partnership projects in Canada and the United States and has achieved great success for borrower and lender clients in complex infrastructure financings. She is currently a director of Infrastructure Ontario and is a former director of PPP Canada. Select Recognition: Named one of Canada’s 100 Most Powerful Women by WXN; Chambers Global; IFLR1000; The Lexicenter American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; The Legal 500 Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada's Toronto Banking and Finance Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; The Legal 500 Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada's Toronto Banking and Finance Law Firm of the Year 2020; Expert Guides’ Women in Business Law and Best of the Best.

PLOTKIN, Ella
Fasken, Toronto
+1 416 865 4489
eplotkin@fasken.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Ella Plotkin is the Leader of the firm’s Global Infrastructure & Projects Group. Her practice focuses on project finance and development, banking, corporate finance and public-private partnerships. With considerable experience in infrastructure development and finance, Ella’s expertise spans Canada and the U.S. as well as emerging markets. Regularly advising clients, developers, and contractors, Ella assists clients with all aspects of projects and project finance in the infrastructure, energy, telecom and...
natural resource sectors. Ella has advised the winning consortium on P3 projects including the US36 Express Lanes/Bus Rapid Transit Project, the Pennsylvania Bridges Project, the State Street Redevelopment Project (Indiana) and Merced Campus (UC) Project (CA). She also advised the lenders to the winning consortium on the Waterloo Light Rail Project, and the Eglinton Crosstown LRT Project as well as other numerous civil infrastructure and social infrastructure projects across Canada and the U.S.

ROCHKIN, Marta
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Marta is a senior associ-
ate in Oslers Banking & Financial Services
practice group. Marta regularly represents
political and financial sponsors of project
transactions, construction contracts (industrial,
interpretation, public-private partnership con-
ducts, Doug negotiates, drafts, reviews and
interprets public-private partnership con-
tracts, construction contracts (industrial,
commercial, residential) and generally
contracts to design or construct any infra-
structure.
Career: University of Saskatchewan; Law

Professional Memberships:
Law
Societies of BC, Saskatchewan, Yukon.
Association of Professional Engineers of
BC and Saskatchewan. Canadian College
of Construction Lawyers
Publications: Frequent author and
presenter on infrastructure and construc-
tion-related topics. Co-Author of “Practical
Law of Architecture, Engineering and
Geoscience.”
Personal: Avid traveler.

SEBASTIANO, Rocco
Oslers, Hoskins & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 5859
rssebastiano@osler.com
Featured in Construction (Nationwide –
Canada).
Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide –
Canada)
See under Energy & Natural Resources for
profile.

SHABAN, Richard
Bond, Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 567 6202
rshaban@blg.com
Featured in Construction (Nationwide –
Canada).
Practice Areas: Rick is a Senior Partner
in the Construction Group with 30+ years’
experience bringing practical legal and
industry-specific expertise to clients.
He is actively involved in a large number of
infrastructure projects – successfully
leading transaction teams and closing a
number of P3 deals as well as crafting
complex project agreements using most
project delivery methods. Rick has
extensive experience in domestic and
international dispute resolution having
resolved countless project disputes
including appearances at every level of
court including the Supreme Court of
Canada. He is a founding Fellow and a
past president of the Canadian College of
Construction Lawyers, a former member
of the Finance Committee of the Canadian
Construction Association, a member of
International Bar Association, the American
Bar Association Tort Trial and Insurance
Practice Section, Fidelity & Surety Law
Committee and Forum on the Construc-
tion Industry. He is also a member of the
Canadian Counsil for P3s and involved
in the Surety Association of Canada and
was also a past Co-Director, Osgoode Hall
Certificate Program in P3s.
Career: Ontario Bar, 1985, LLB, University
of Windsor, 1983. Bachelor of Human
Kinetics, University of Windsor, 1980.
Publications: FREQUENTLY WRITES
AND DELIVERS SEMINARS ON
PROCUREMENT MODELS,
CONSTRUCTION LAW AND
SURETY BOND ISSUES.

SMITH, Marianne
Blake, Cassels & Greydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 3156
mariannesmith@blakes.com
Featured in Public Procurement (Nationwide –
Canada), Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Marianne has extensive
experience in the areas of public procure-
ment, public infrastructure, construction
and public-private partnerships. She
advises clients on the development,
preparation and ongoing administration of
public tenders and procurement pro-
cesses, and the development and negotia-
tion of commercial agreements for the
design, construction, financing and mainte-
nance of infrastructure. Marianne is a leading
expert on the procurement chapters of the
trade agreements which to Canada is a
party and is routinely called upon by
clients to conduct in-house training on
best practices in managing procurement
processes in Canada. Marianne acts for
domestic and international clients in a
wide range of sectors, including transit
and transportation, civil infrastructure,
routes and bridges, water and wastewater,
health-care services, information technol-
gy, gaming, energy and mining. She also
regularly acts for both procuring entities
and bidders with respect to conducting a
successful procurement process, fairness
issues, mitigating procurement risk and
avoiding compliance issues. In particular,
Marianne has expertise in the procure-
ment of mega infrastructure development
projects. She regularly advises clients
including municipalities in P3 procurements
for projects across multiple jurisdic-
tions, including municipal, provincial,
federal and international and has been
at the forefront of many municipal P3
projects.

SOUTHAM, Gregory G
Sears, Brightlips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
+1 416 587 6986
gs@searsbrightlips.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Greg is the head of
Sears’ North American Infrastructure
practice. Focussed on his incisive legal
advice, he has taken a lead role in a number
of the largest and most significant pub-
lic-private partnership and infrastructure
projects in Canada and the United States
over the last 20 years, including in all
transportation and trans-I-related com-
munity, social/urban renewal, healthcare,
water and waste water and alternative
energy asset classes. Greg is a member of
Sears’ Management Committee. Select
Recognition: Chambers Global; IFLR1000;
Legal 500 Canada; Lexexpert Special Edi-
tion: Infrastructure; The Canadian Legal
Lexexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in
Canada.

SPADARO, Anthony
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP,
Toronto
+1 416 367 7494
aspadarow@dpvlp.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A partner with a broad
practice across a range of sectors, An-
thony regularly advises clients – including
institutional lenders, project sponsors and
private equity groups – on financing
transactions, mergers & acquisitions and
public-private partnerships. Clients
particularly value Anthony’s expertise in
the renewable energy industry, in which
he acts for lenders in connection with the
financing of solar, wind and hydroelectric
projects and for acquirers and sellers of
equipment and other energy assets. He also
has significant experience in lending and
capital markets transactions, advising both
lenders and borrowers on a variety of debt fi-
ancing transactions. Select Recognition:
IFLR1000; The Legal 500 Canada; Lexexpert
Special Edition: Energy and Infrastructure;
The Canadian Legal Lexexpert Directory;
The Best Lawyers in Canada.

ST. CYR, Mark
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
mst Cyr@cassels.com
Featured in Construction (Nationwide –
Canada).
Practice Areas: Provides strategic and
practical legal advice to clients at any
stage of a construction project. Advises
clients on how to navigate and redistribute
project risks from the initial concept, through
design, procurement, and construction.
Counsels clients on how to navigate and
redistribute project risks. Broad drafting,
negotiating, and solution-driven experi-
ence. Represents clients on a wide variety
of projects across nearly every industry,
throughout Ontario, the rest of Canada,
and several other parts of the world.
Practice includes both “front-end” project
strategy and “back-end” dispute resolution.
Recognized as a leader in his field by Best Lawyers
and Lexpert.

SWICK, Brenda
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
+1 416 869 5345
bswick@casselsbrook.com
Featured in International Trade (Nationwide –
Canada), Public Procurement (Nationwide –
Canada)
Practice Areas: Leader in internation-
ally trade and government contracting
including defence procurement. Focuses
on economic sanctions, export, import
and technical transfer controls, defense
trade controls including Controlled
Goods, negotiation and disputes of
government contracts, blocking measures
(Cuba), antidumping, countervail, and
safeguard duties, customs and tariffs,
and anti-corruption enforcement and
compliance.
Career: Appointed by Government of
Canada to the office of the advocate
appointed to hear trade remedy disputes under
the CUSMA, formerly legal counsel to Canada’s
International Trade Tribunal. Former legal counsel
with Livingston International Inc. Professional
Memberships: CBA (International Law
Section; Public Procure-
ment; Anti-Corruption Committees); ABA
(International Procurement Committee);
IBA (International Sales Committee).

TEMPLETON, Jamie
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 1441
jtempleton@stikeman.com
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Jamie Templeton is
Co-Head of the Projects & Infrastructure
Group at Stikeman Elliott and his practice
includes all aspects of infrastructure
investment, project finance and banking.
Since 2001 he has advised on major
infrastructure projects in Europe, Aus-
tralia and Canada. His recent experience
includes advising on many P3s throughout
Canada and advising on complex project
financings in renewable energy, renewables
and resources sectors.

TROKE, Morgan
McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 772 7727
mtroke@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Partner in McCarthy
Tetrault’s Business Law Group in
Vancouver. Practice focused mainly in the

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Projects & Construction

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areas of project finance and corporate commercial law, with an emphasis on public-private partnerships, infrastructure and renewable energy projects. Regularly advises domestic and international developers, equity sponsors, lenders and other participants in connection with complex project financings across North America. Recent transactions include advising the successful bidder for the GO Rail Expansion – On Corridor Works Project, the successful bidder for the Edmonton Valley Line West LRT Project, the lenders to a bidder for the Ontario Line RSSOM Project, the lenders to a bidder for the Ontario Line Southern Civil, Stations and Tunnel Project, the lenders to the successful bidder for the Grandview Children's Hospital Project, a bidder for the Broadway Subway Project, and the lenders to the successful bidder for the QEI Bayers Lake Hospital Project.


VALLIS, Jeffrey
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP; Calgary

Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada), Dispute Resolution (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in BLG's Construction Group and International Construction Projects Focus Group. His practice focuses on large-scale construction disputes, principally arising out of industrial, commercial and infrastructure projects. He acts as counsel in litigation and domestic and international arbitrations, and is an experienced mediator and arbitrator.


Professional Memberships: Fellow, Canadian College of Construction Lawyers; Fellow, American College of Construction Lawyers; Fellow, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators; Member, Western Canada Commercial Arbitration Society.

VAN DEURZEN, Josh
Torys LLP; Toronto

Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: With a background in business and a history of working with clients on transformative and award-winning major infrastructure projects, Josh provides comprehensive, commercial-minded counsel to clients on their large-scale and high-profile projects across Canada and the United States. With a dual call in Ontario and New York, Josh advises clients on commercial agreements for the design, construction, financing, operation and maintenance of major infrastructure and public-private partnership (PPP) projects on both sides of the Canada / U.S. border. Josh works with project participants spanning the infrastructure ecosystem — representing government authorities, developers, construction contractors, service providers, lenders and underwriters — on all aspects of development and financing transactions across the spectrum of social and economic infrastructure, including healthcare, broadband, transit and transportation, water and wastewater, education and power.

VILDER, Sébastien
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Montréal
1 (514) 982-5080
sebastien.vilder@blakes.com

Featured in Projects (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sébastien is the Managing Partner for the Montréal Office and regional practice group leader of the financial services group. He specializes in project financing and bank financing. He has been involved in numerous project financings in Canada, Europe, Africa and Asia for renewable energy and infrastructure projects. Sébastien's list of clients include financial institutions, development banks, governments and sponsors. He is retained to assist for project financing in Québec and across in Canada and also often in other jurisdictions. Sébastien has advised clients on a wide range of complex projects including recently on a portfolio of over 500MW of wind projects in Alberta (insured by the German export credit agency and the Danish export credit agency).

Career: Sébastien has taught at McGill University on project financing and is frequently asked to participate as moderator or speaker at conferences on project financing.

WILLIAMS, Nicholas C
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
1 +1(416) 865.4559
nwiliams@dwpv.com

Featured in Energy & Natural Resources (Nationwide – Canada), Projects (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Nick's practice focuses on finance, private M&A and energy, with a particular emphasis on project finance, public-private partnerships, infrastructure and energy development/acquisitions and secured lending. He has participated in numerous project finance, public-private partnership, infrastructure, private M&A and private equity transactions across multiple sectors, including energy, infrastructure, and mining. He also has significant expertise in syndicated lending, having acted for lenders and borrowers on syndicated domestic and multijurisdictional financing transactions. Clients of various types — including banks, life insurance companies, infrastructure funds, investors, developers and government agencies — rely on Nick for his insightful advice. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; IFLR1000; The Legal 500: Canada; The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the 500 Leading Lawyers in Canada; Best Lawyers in Canada's Toronto Public Finance Law Lawyer of the Year 2019 and Project Finance Law Lawyer of the Year 2018; Lexpert Special Edition: Energy, Finance and M&A and Infrastructure; Who's Who: Project Finance; Who's Who: Government Contracts.

WILSON, Judy L
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
1 +1 (416) 863 5820
judy.wilson@blakes.com

Featured in Public Procurement (Nationwide – Canada), Projects (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Judy has over 30 years of experience practicing extensively in procurement and drafting commercial agreements with a sub-specialty in infrastructure contracts of various types. She is a leading practitioner in the field of alternative finance and procurement projects and infrastructure development projects in sectors such as health care, transit and transportation, nuclear energy, and information technology systems. Judy has developed and implemented procurement and contract documentation to support a wide range of public-private partnerships (P3s), and has provided advice and legal opinions relating to procurement processes and evaluation, project risk management and mitigation strategies, project structuring, and agreements.

WISE, Howard
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
1 +1 (416) 597 4281
hwise@goodmans.ca

Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner. Specializes in construction law and commercial litigation. Acts for owners, general contractors, subcontractors, material suppliers, and lenders in large construction disputes, including construction liens, contract, and negligence claims. Practice includes trial and appellate work, as well as mediation and arbitration of construction disputes. Also acted for owners and contractors in negotiating complex construction contracts including design build agreements and EPC contracts. Regularly retained to act in large multi-partied disputes, including acting for owners, general contractors, subcontractors, financiers and design professionals.


Personal: Frequent lecturer on construction law, including design build contracts, bidding and tendering, and construction liens.

WONG, Richard G C
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 6467
rwong@osler.com

Featured in Construction (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Richard is Chair of Osler’s National Construction and Infrastructure Group, and shapes the successful procurement and development of energy transition projects, major infrastructure works, and commercial and industrial capital projects. Keynote projects include the long-term development of Pattern Energy’s Canadian renewable energy portfolio, the Union Station Revitalization Project for the City of Toronto, hydrogen and pharmaceutical manufacturing facilities, as well as the general updating of contracts to incorporate and shape new prompt payment and adjudication legisla-
tion. Richard is the immediate-past Chair of the International Construction Division of the American Bar Association’s Forum on Construction Law, an active presenter at construction industry conferences, and is engaged by Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) to evaluate PEng Professional Practice Examinations.

Publications: 2021 “Dispute Resolution Series – Collaborative & Adversarial Approaches” for the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) and the Royal Insti-

The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Real Estate
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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- Real Estate Nationwide p.342
- Real Estate British Columbia p.344
- Real Estate Alberta p.347
- Real Estate Ontario p.350
- Real Estate Québec p.357
- Leading Individuals p.360

Real Estate Nationwide

| Band 1 | Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP |
| Band 1 | McCarthy Tétrault LLP |
| Band 2 | Stikeman Elliott LLP |
| Band 2 | Bennett Jones LLP |
| Band 3 | Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP |
| Band 3 | Goodmans LLP |
| Band 3 | Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP |
| Band 3 | Torys LLP |

Senior Statespeople

- Costin Abraham: McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Howard Gregory: Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
- John Morrow: Goodmans LLP
- Tom Plater: Stikeman Elliott LLP
- Juli Grandilli: McCarthy Tétrault LLP
- Silvana D’Alimonte: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
- Danny von Hahn: Bower Ohayon, Osler & Grayson LLP
- Tom Stichting: Stikeman Elliott LLP

Leading Individuals

| Band 1 | Currie John C: McCarthy Tétrault LLP
| Band 1 | Chris Blake: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
| Band 2 | Simon Crawford: Bennett Jones LLP
| Band 2 | Silvana D’Alimonte: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
| Band 2 | David A D’Alimonte: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
| Band 2 | Abraham Goh: McCarthy Tétrault LLP
| Band 2 | Danny Grandilli: McCarthy Tétrault LLP
| Band 2 | Manji S Paul: Bennett Jones LLP
| Band 2 | Gregory Thomas Stichting: Stikeman Elliott LLP
| Band 2 | Blake Thomas: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
| Band 3 | Eric M Abraham: Stikeman Elliott LLP
| Band 3 | Silvana D’Alimonte: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
| Band 3 | Willie Carmona: Goodmans LLP
| Band 3 | Rod Davidge: Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
| Band 3 | Michael Pauro: Stikeman Elliott LLP

Up-and-coming individuals

- David Reiner: Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for

McCarthy Tétrault is widely recognised for its consummate ability to deliver leading real estate expertise from its well-placed regional bases throughout Canada. The firm advises REITs, private investors, financial institutions and pension plans on a diverse range of real estate issues, with notable expertise of financing and traditional commercial transactions, including portfolio deals. The team also offers specialist knowledge of development, co-ownerships and fund formation matters.

Strengths

“McCarthy Tétrault is known for delivering quality legal advice in a wide range of real estate matters. The team is highly regarded for its deep understanding of Canadian real estate law and its ability to provide practical solutions to complex problems.”

Work highlights

McCarthy Tétrault acted for a major developer on a large-scale commercial real estate transaction in Ontario. The team provided comprehensive legal advice and support throughout the transaction, including drafting and negotiating key documentation. The firm’s expertise in real estate finance and development was instrumental in securing a successful outcome for the client.”

Blakes acted for BentallGreenOak on the acquisition and sale of a major office building in Toronto. The team provided a high level of expertise in real estate finance, including advising on financing and due diligence issues. The transaction was completed on time and within budget, demonstrating the team’s ability to deliver exceptional client service.”

Notable practitioners

- Abraham Costin (see p.363) is a distinguished lawyer with extensive experience in real estate matters of national scope. He is based in Toronto and is valued by investors and developers for his deep understanding of Canada’s real estate market and his ability to provide practical solutions to complex problems.”

- Chris Huband (see p.366) is a top Toronto lawyer who earns recognition for being at the top of his field, with deep-seated expertise in all manner of real estate transactions in Ontario. He is also often retained on real estate matters of national scope. His expertise includes advising on insolvency matters relating to real property. “Abraham is the consummate legal adviser. He has a deep knowledge of the law tempered with a healthy dose of commercial practicality and reality.”

- John Currie (see p.363) is sought after for his market-leading expertise in commercial real estate and his skill set that covers the entire development process, including financing and leasing. Currie advising on the acquisition and sale of a major commercial property in Toronto. He is based in Toronto and is highly regarded in the real estate community. “John is one of the most respected real estate lawyers across Canada. He combines technical skill with unparalleled experience and a relationship-oriented approach to serving his clients.”

- Tzen-Yi Goh (see p.365) is an esteemed real estate lawyer who is often consulted on commercial real estate matters concerning development both in Ontario and nationwide. He offers additional expertise in project finance and secured lending deals. “Tzen is a very experienced real estate lawyer who has the ability to problem solve in complex transactions.”

- Danny Grandilli (see p.365) is valued by investors and developers for his diverse commercial expertise in relation to real estate matters. He is based in Toronto. “Danny has a very strong and broad practice.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for

Stikeman Elliott operates a well-established pan-Canadian real estate practice valued for its ability to offer the full spectrum of real estate services to an impressive client roster. The team advises REITs, public and private investors, financial institutions, pension funds and major developers on significant mixed-use projects.
and master-planned communities, as well as related rezoning matters. The team is equally well equipped to handle large asset transactions and M&A. It is experienced at working on complex cross-border mandates, including those involving portfolio deals.

**Strengths**

“Stikeman Elliott are very good at identifying the issues and providing appropriate solutions.”

“The team is very thorough, responsive and practical.”

“The team is very helpful when it comes to identifying issues and finding solutions which work.”

**Work highlights** Stikeman Elliott acted as counsel to Northland Properties in its CAD74 million acquisition of the newly constructed King Blue Hotel Toronto from a subsidiary of Greenland Canada.

**Notable practitioners**

**Gregory Plater** (see p.369) is active across Western Canada, dividing his time between the firm’s Calgary and Vancouver offices. Plater’s expertise includes assisting with development and transactional matters, in addition to capably advising pension funds on their investments. **Strengths:** “He is a very commercial, practical and results-oriented lawyer.”

**Eric Carmona** (see p.362) is an accomplished real estate lawyer whose remit covers a variety of commercial transactions across Ontario, including acquisitions and dispositions. He capably assists with mandates involving residential, commercial, industrial, hospitality and senior living developments. **Strengths:** “Eric’s expertise and ability to negotiate and get things done is remarkable.”

Mario Paura (see p.368) heads the real estate group in Toronto and is particularly highly regarded for his expertise in retail leasing. He is a skilled commercial real estate practitioner who often acts for developers and lenders on transactions in the space. His client roster also features major asset managers. **Strengths:** “Mario has a great commercial background – his experience and relationships make him a strong, deal-minded lawyer that gets the job done.” “Mario is committed to providing exceptional service to his clients.”

**Band 2**

**Bennett Jones LLP**

**What the team is known for** This law firm is a real estate powerhouse in Alberta that continues to solidify its position in the Ontario and BC markets. It is highly respected for its experience representing clients from the energy, mining and natural resources sector, with notable expertise in zoning and land use matters. Bennett Jones wins praise for its proficiency in commercial real estate mandates, including property acquisitions, dispositions and financings. The team additionally offers experience in joint venture work and portfolio transactions. Its impressive client roster includes institutional investors, portfolio managers, developers and REITs.

**Strengths**

“His team is very skilled lawyers, are easy to work with and are very creative.”

“Bennett Jones provide exceptional client service and work extremely well together across practice areas.”

“The lawyers at Bennett Jones have a great commercial mindset and are always available.”

**Work highlights** Bennett Jones acted for Premier Gold Mines on the real estate aspects of the sale of a 50% interest in the Greenstone Gold Mines Partnership to Orion Mine Finance.

**Notable practitioners**

**Toronto-based Simon Crawford** is acknowledged for his prevalence in large-scale real estate transactions. His wide-ranging practice comprises expertise in various ownership structures, acquisitions, dispositions and financings. He capably assists clients with matters in Ontario and across the country. **Strengths:** “Simon is thorough and gets to the point quickly.”

Paul Mantini continues to be a big draw for clients in the real estate industry in Ontario. Mantini’s lengthy experience covers a range of transactions, including financings and refinancings, with a focus on work undertaken for developers, pension funds and other investors on commercial matters in Ontario and nationally. **Strengths:** “Paul made a very good impression – he has good ideas and makes recommendations on what is doable and the associated risk.”

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

**What the team is known for** Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg has a formidable real estate presence in Ontario and Quebec with the ability to deliver leading expertise across the country. The firm offers extensive experience assisting major REITs, pension funds and financial institutions with complex development mandates, joint ventures and a wide range of high-value transactions. The team acts on a number of high-profile mixed-use office and master-planned community projects across Eastern and Western Canada. It is further recognised for cross-border capability between Canada and the USA. **Strengths** “Davies were able to take very complex matters and simplify them down so we could understand the business points. They were able to protect our interests and structure the transaction such that we never needed to worry about whether we were protected.”

“The team is very aware of what is happening in the market and able to use that knowledge to execute on new transactions.”

“Davies excels at advising on complex legal matters. They have a depth of experience across several disciplines and effectively manage the resources on files to ensure subject matter experts are involved where required.”

**Work highlights** A Davies team led by David Reiner acted for Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust on the acquisition and financing of a portfolio of 13 senior housing residences across Quebec.

**Notable practitioners**

**Gregory Plater** (see p.369) is regarded as a leader in the field, with a long-standing reputation for her commercial real estate expertise. Plater advises on capital markets transactions, acquisitions and dispositions, as well as financings, and is regarded by her peers as a top choice for ‘bet the firm’ deals. “She is a outstanding lawyer and a staple in real estate.”

**Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

**What the team is known for** Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt has an established national team singled out for its prowess in a broad array of real estate matters, including acquisitions, dispositions, mortgage, debt financing transactions and restructuring. The group regularly advises major REITs, portfolio managers, and residential and retail companies. It is also well equipped to handle large commercial leasing. The firm regularly advises on matters arising in Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and BC, as well as interprovincial projects.

**Strengths**

“Osler has a team of lawyers that work well together to provide guidance on complex matters.”

“They are prompt, responsive and take the time to understand our business objectives and needs.”

“The Osler team is able to tailor their excellent advice as they understand our business and how we work.”

**Work highlights** An Osler team led by Rod Davidge assisted Chartwell Retirement Residences with the refinancing of a property located in Aurora, Ontario containing 125 residential units.

**Notable practitioners**

**Toronto-based Rod Davidge** (see p.363) is especially prominent in real estate financings, where he often acts for lenders. His practice also comprises expertise in property purchases and sales. **Strengths:** “He is a responsive and thorough lawyer.”

**Torys LLP**

**What the team is known for** This respected law firm has a strong presence in the Toronto real estate market. The team acts for an enviable client roster that includes pension funds, government bodies, financial institutions and a variety of national infrastructure companies. It is well regarded for its involvement in commercial transactions, including...
leasing, financing and structuring, and is also well equipped to handle significant portfolio transactions. The firm frequently assists energy and infrastructure clients with complex projects and related real estate matters.

**Strengths** “They bent over backwards to accommodate us – we could not have done the deal without them.”

“The team was responsive, commercial and practical in its approach.”

**Work highlights** Torys acted for George Weston on the real estate aspects of its proposed CA$370 million sale of Weston Foods ambient bakery business to affiliated entities of Hearthside Food Solutions.

**Real Estate**

**Real Estate: British Columbia**

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<td>Julian Patrick J. Koffman Kalet LLP</td>
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**Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use**

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**Notable practitioners**

**David Dell** (see p.363) impresses with his transactional real estate expertise. Based in Toronto, he is recognised for his strength in purchase and sale deals, with broader knowledge across development matters, including leasing. “David has been extremely practical and represents all our interests well.”

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott is highly regarded for the breadth of its real estate experience in BC. It represents public sector authorities and high-profile private developers in infrastructure development, financing and transactional mandates. The real estate group is particularly esteemed for its experience advising on major mixed-use projects and high-profile private developers in infrastructure development, financing and transactional mandates.

**Notable practitioners**

**Keith Burrell KC** (see p.362) possesses an impressive track record acting for developers and investors on large-scale developments in British Columbia. Burrell offers notable experience advising on mixed-use and residential projects in Vancouver. “The legend of our marketplace – he is well respected and knows everything.” **Scott Smythe** (see p.370) enjoys a position at the very forefront of the real estate market thanks to his extensive experience handling commercial transactions in British Columbia. He regularly assists developers and investors with real estate developments, as well as advising landlords and tenants on commercial leases. “Scott is a very knowledgeable and experienced commercial real estate lawyer who provides a high level of customer service.” “His work ethic is second to none – he keeps standards so high and advocates well for our positions.”

**Craig Shirreff** (see p.370) is active on acquisitions and dispositions in real estate, with notable expertise in hospitality and master-planned development work. “He is extremely responsive and has a highly sophisticated understanding of the legal issues at play, together with strong client management skills.” **Craig Shirreff** has consistently demonstrated his ability in breaking down complex and sophisticated matters. He’s also very resourceful with providing options to resolve issues.”

**Conrad Rego** (see p.369) concentrates his British Columbia-based practice on the financing of developments, with broader transactional expertise rounding out his commercial real estate practice. He regularly advises big local companies as well as large institutional players in the market. “He is responsive, clever and a pleasure to work with.” “Conrad is very knowledgeable – he provides sound advice and is very responsive.” **Cameron Whyte** (see p.371) is adept at handling numerous aspects of real estate developments, including the acquisitions, dispositions and financing of property assets. He regularly represents developers and sponsors in transactions concerning residential, office and mixed-use developments. “Cameron is always reliable – he has good insights and never lets me down.” “He knows his stuff and is very hard-working.”
www.chambers.com

British Columbia

Real Estate

requiring First Nations expertise.

**Strengths** “Stikeman Elliott is quick to respond and able to handle everything we need – they do a fantastic job.”

“The diversity of knowledge and experience in the firm is very helpful on complex transactions.”

“They are very good at identifying the issues and providing appropriate solutions.”

**Work highlights** Stikeman Elliott acted for Vanprop Investments in the transformative redevelopment of London City Centrum and received a 4.5 million sq ft mixed-use community project in Richmond, BC.

**Notable practitioners**

Ross MacDonald KC (see p.367) is highly regarded as a leader in the BC real estate market, thanks to his long-standing involvement with landmark developments in the province, particularly in Vancouver. MacDonald has a diverse breadth of expertise, spanning the full gamut of real estate issues from commercial real estate matters to land use issues arising in the course of developments. “Ross has a breadth of experience and wisdom that is extremely useful in difficult situations. He is way ahead of the curve, anticipates issues and proactively addresses them.”

Gregory Plater (see p.368) is active across Western Canada, dividing his time between the firm’s Calgary and Vancouver offices. Plater’s expertise includes assisting with development and transactional matters, in addition to capably advising pension funds on their real estate investments. “Gregory is a thoughtful and respectful communicator who is detail-oriented and strategic in his thinking.”

**Richard Jackson** (see p.366) offers expertise across the whole spectrum of commercial real estate, including purchase and sale matters, as well as leasing and ownership structuring. He also has experience with master-planned communities, including rezoning and development matters. “Richard is a highly rated legal counsel who we rely on for complex transactions.” “He is a very helpful legal and strategic adviser who provides an excellent service.”

**Band 2**

**Bennett Jones LLP**

What the team is known for This well-regarded national law firm has a strong presence in the BC real estate market. Blakes represents pension funds, banks and institutional investors in construction financing and real estate development transactions, as well as advising on related regulatory and zoning matters. It is also acknowledged for its handling of co-ownership, purchase and sale agreements. The commercial real estate group often acts on transactions relating to retail and office space, as well as senior housing and resort operations. Its notable client base also includes infrastructure developers and renewable energy companies.

**Strengths** “When we have a large complex file that we need to get right, it is an instant reflex to go to Blakes. We know they will do a good job.”

Their subject matter experts are always available for clients.”

“The Blake, Cassels & Graydon team has good breadth and an understanding of how to approach complex issues.”

**Work highlights** A Blake, Cassels & Greydon team acted on the real estate aspects of the sale of a 75% interest in their client, Reigning Champs, to Aritzia.

**Notable practitioners**

Jeffrey Merrick (see p.367) is a first-rate real estate lawyer with an impressive stable of clients, including pension and private equity funds. Based in Vancouver, he displays comprehensive knowledge of real estate matters concerning infrastructure development. His market-leading practice also comprises transactions, financings and leasing of all manner of real estate projects. “He has done amazing work and is a key lawyer in British Columbia.” Jeffrey is a very able and experienced lawyer for real estate matters.” “Clients definitely value his opinion – he sees how to get a deal done.” Greg Umbach (see p.371) capably assists with transactions across residential, commercial, industrial and hospitality developments in BC. His client roster comprises lenders, borrowers and developers. He also has knowledge of subdivisions and municipal approval processes. “He handles all issues very well and gives thoughtful responses.”

**Band 3**

**Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais is an established real estate practice, valued for its long-standing track record representing institutional investors and local developers in a wide range of real estate matters in BC. The firm’s Vancouver office is recognised for its development practice, in addition to advising on acquisitions, dispositions and financing transactions, as well as land assembly matters. It is equally adept in the handling of commercial lease negotiations and air space and strata issues.

**Strengths** “The breadth of expertise across the firm is very good. They take time to understand their clients and provide well on the transaction.”

“The Borden Ladner Gervais team has been able to manage complex transactions and has made sure our team felt well supported.”

“There is always someone within the regional or national framework who has the experience and can get us the advice we need.”

**Work highlights** A Borden Ladner Gervais team acted for QuadReal Property Group, in their role as asset manager for ICBC, on the sale of four retail properties in Ontario and a multi-family property in relation to mixed-use portfolios and infrastructure projects. The group is increasingly recognised for its China initiative, focusing on supporting Chinese clients in their BC transactions. The team in Vancouver draws on expertise in the firm’s office in Calgary to advise real estate clients across Western Canada.

**Strengths** “Lawson Lundell had a deep knowledge of commercial real estate law and also had the breadth to get quick answers on peripheral matters that came up.”

“They are very strong on complex transactions.”

The Lawson Lundell team has great depth of knowledge and market understanding.”

**Notable practitioners**

Edward Wilson (see p.371) has a strong track record in BC real estate development, with noted expertise in strata wind-ups. In addition to advising on industrial, commercial and condo developments, he also has experience handling air space parcels. “Edward Wilson is well regarded for development work.”

**Peter Tolonsky** (see p.370) offers clients deep knowledge of corporate transactions and structures, in addition to his experience handling lease negotiations for landlords and tenants in industrial and commercial properties. “Peter makes sure that he understands the clients’ needs before making suggestions. He is also very experienced, so can add value to any situation.”

“Peter has a depth of experience and uses it to help push his client’s goals across the finish line.”

**Jack Yong** (see p.371) has particular strength in representing Asia-Pacific clients and is strongly aided by his ability to provide legal services in Chinese. His practice focuses on the sale and acquisition of real estate properties. “Jack has excellent knowledge, responsiveness and ability to handle complex real estate transactions.”

“Jack Yong is highly experienced and always attentive to client needs.”

Maxwell Carroll (see p.362) is a Vancouver-based real estate lawyer with a burgeoning practice. He is particularly adept at advising clients on the acquisition and sale of development sites and mixed-use projects, as well as permitting matters. “He is a strong and trusted legal partner who works with the client to strategise.”
Koffman Kalef LLP
What the team is known for Koffman Kalef LLP is a Vancouver-based law firm that is valued for its experience and specialised expertise in the real estate sector in BC. The group is highly regarded for its leasing and financing expertise, as well as advising on real estate acquisitions and dispositions, and strata development matters. Koffman Kalef also handles subdivision and land assembly work.

Strengths “It is a strong real estate group that has some excellent lawyers.”

Notable practitioners
Patrick Julian is an eminent figure in the BC real estate market, with long-standing commercial expertise in the space. Julian’s client base includes tenants and landlords, as well as developers, whom he capably advises on transactions, financings and leasing. His diverse expertise spans residential, commercial, industrial and leisure developments. “Patrick is a star in Vancouver – he is smart and understands business.”

Richards Buell Sutton LLP
What the team is known for Richards Buell Sutton is a solid law firm that assists with commercial real estate matters from its Surrey and Vancouver offices. The team is often retained by banking clients on financing transactions, as well as advising developers on the purchase and sale of real estate across British Columbia. It also counsels clients on corporate structuring in the sector.

Strengths “Richards Buell Sutton has expertise across many facets of the industry and is up to date with the latest issues and trends.”

“ Their counsel is excellent and provides accurate feedback on complicated transactions.”

“The team is extremely knowledgeable, with depth in many other fields that overlap with commercial real estate financing.”

Work highlights Richards Buell Sutton acted for Manulife on the financing of a 50% interest acquisition of rentable retail space, totalling 1.2 million square feet.

Notable practitioners
Mark Baron is noted for his commercial real estate practice, including his experience in financings and acquisitions. His clients include notable life insurance companies and banks. “Mark Baron is detailed, prompt and a pleasure to deal with.”

“Mark always provides sound advice and can explain the legal issues and pros or cons of different choices in layman’s terms.”

Sharon White KC is co-founder of the firm’s real estate group and has a reputable real estate development practice. Her clients include crown corporations and property developers, and she has a particular strength with regard to transactions concerning mixed-use developments. “Sharon White has a wealth of knowledge.”

Sampson Davie Fane Volpiana LLP
What the team is known for Sampson Davie Fane Volpiana LLP is a respected boutique real estate firm based in Vancouver. The team consists of experienced practitioners who capably advise on a host of real estate issues, including development, leasing and financing transactions involving all major asset classes.

Notable practitioners
John Sampson is skilled at handling all facets of real estate, and financing of various real estate assets. She is particularly well known for providing guidance to clients on master-planned communities in BC. “She is practical and helps get complex deals done.”

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for Dentons is an international law firm with a strong track record of sophisticated real estate matters in BC. The Vancouver real estate group advises local developers and high-profile investors on a range of land acquisition and development matters, with strength in both the residential and commercial arenas. It is further adept in mixed-use and master-planned developments and handles transactions involving downtown properties and assets across the province.

Strengths “The team is very diligent, responsive and efficient.”

“Dentons has a high level of business acumen. They are definitely subject matter experts.”

Work highlights Dentons acted for Central Walk in connection with the purchase of two regional shopping centres on Vancouver Island from Ivanhoe Cambridge.

Notable practitioners
Scott Wilson is a respected lawyer with a growing reputation for handling commercial real estate acquisitions. He is also skilled at assisting clients with rezoning issues and lease negotiations. “Scott has been very valuable counselling our real estate needs in British Columbia.” “He is impressive at drafting strong agreements on complicated transactions and is quick to turn around documents.” “Scott Wilson is very methodical in his approach and has been excellent at distilling complex matters down and articulating them in such a way that they are more understandable.”

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken advises a wide range of clients, including major public institutions and utilities, on all manner of real estate concerns in British Columbia. The Vancouver group is recognised for its work on First Nations land development and traditional transactional mandates, as well as property management and commercial leasing. It is also equipped to handle portfolio acquisitions, joint ventures and land use matters, as well as financings. The firm’s real estate expertise extends to industry sectors such as railway, pipeline, telecoms and energy.

Strengths “The team has a very strong knowledge base which supported our successful negotiations.”

Work highlights Fasken assisted Keltic Canada with its acquisition of Brighouse West Business Park for CAD300 million.

Notable practitioners
Sarah Batut (see p.360) is a noteworthy lawyer with a strong practice advising clients on the acquisitions,
estate development, such as purchases and sales, financings and leasing. He established Sampson Davie Fane Volpiana in October 2021. “John is good to work with and knows his stuff.” Neil Davie has a diverse Vancouver-based practice which encompasses the full range of commercial real estate mandates, from financings to sales. He is notably active on leasing matters for industrial and commercial properties, acting for both landlords and tenants. He established Sampson Davie Fane Volpiana in October 2021. “Neil is a lawyer who can work together to get things done.”

Terra Law Corporation
What the team is known for Terra Law is a well-respected boutique real estate law firm based in Vancouver, handling all aspects of residential and mixed-use development work in BC. The team acts for regional developers, financial institutions, REITs and private investors on a range of real estate mandates, including financing, leasing, partnerships and joint ventures. It also offers expertise in relation to hotel and resort acquisitions, dispositions and financings.

Strengths “Terra Law is very active in the real estate sector and has a very strong group.”

Notable practitioners
Russell Benson is the founding partner of the firm and is a well-respected figure in the provincial real estate market, with a robust development practice. He advises on acquisitions and dispositions, with further knowledge of airspace subdivisions and the various ownership structures. He often assists with residential, mixed-use and resort developments. “Russell Benson is a well-respected lawyer in town.”

Band I

Lidstone & Company
What the team is known for Lidstone & Company’s Vancouver-based team has unparalleled expertise in relation to zoning and land use issues in British Columbia. The firm regularly acts for municipalities in relation to drafting and reviewing bylaws, contract preparation and governance matters.

Notable practitioners
Don Lidstone KC is knowledgeable on municipal law issues and, further to his active practice, he also often speaks and writes on local government matters. He offers expertise in land use and the drafting of bylaws, among other matters. Michael McAllister has long-standing experience handling municipal matters in BC and often counsels local governments on land use issues.

Other Ranked Lawyers
Bavia Bisetty (see p.361) of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP is head of the firm’s British Columbia real estate group. She acts on transactions across Western Canada, representing REITs, institutional investors and pension funds in acquisitions and leasehold transactions. “She is approachable, knowledgeable and decisive.”

Bill Buholzer of Young Anderson Barristers & Solicitors has experience working in planning across Alberta and BC, bolstering his land use and zoning practice. He also contributes academically to the space, often writing and teaching on the subject.

Max Collett (see p.363) of Norton Rose Fullbright has strong experience assisting clients with the development of master-planned communities and multi-building projects. His clients include healthcare providers and public administrative bodies. “Max Collett is a very good real estate lawyer with an eye for detail.” “Max is a fabulous leader who can navigate complex processes while providing sound and practical advice that is implementable, not just theoretical.”

Pam Jefcoat of Civic Legal offers clients in-depth knowledge of municipal law matters, where she has experience acting for developers and public entities in BC.

Neil Kornfeld KC of Kornfeld, Shapray & Partners frequently handles transactions for developers of commercial and residential real estate, with over 25 years of experience in the field of real estate law in Vancouver. He wins particular recognition for his involvement in complex urban developments. “Neil understands how to get complicated things done – he is a very strong lawyer.”

Real Estate Alberta

Real Estate

Leading Firms

Band 1

Bennett Jones LLP
Stikeman Elliott LLP

Band 2

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Norton Rose Fullbright

Band 3

Dentons Canada LLP
Miller Thomson LLP
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
Witten LLP

Indicates individual with profile. * Indicates individual with profile. ** Indicates individual with profile. Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for Bennett Jones is a Calgary-based powerhouse providing comprehensive real estate advice to a nationwide client base of high-profile REITs, developers and portfolio managers. The firm’s commercial real estate group frequently advises on major acquisitions, dispositions and leaseings, as well as financings and partnership agreements. It demonstrates notable expertise in large regional developments, including office, retail and residential projects. The team is also well equipped to handle land use and zoning matters, including the obtaining of development permits and municipal approvals, as well as related appeals.

Strengths “The team offers exceptional client service and works extremely well together across practice areas.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones assisted West Campus Development Trust with retail leasing matters related to its planned development of a 200-acre mixed-use “University District”.

Notable practitioners
Wayne Whitlock KC is a highly reputed lawyer in the Alberta real estate market, with longstanding experience in the sector. “Wayne has great contacts with the industry and works practically.” Ronald Barron leads Bennett Jones’ Calgary real estate practice. He acts for public bodies in Alberta and private investors on
commercial real estate transactions, spanning resi-
dential, commercial and hospitality developments. "Michael Chow continues to grow his presence in the Alberta market, advising on commercial trans-
actions and financings in the real estate sector. He also assists with development and leasing matters. "Michael Chow has a remarkable ability to focus on
offering good solid advice." Alike Cameron is devel-
opring a strong reputation for her varied real estate
practice. She has experience in cross-provincial real
estate work and regularly assists clients with acqui-
sitions and lease negotiations in relation to retail,
industrial and infrastructure developments. "Alike
Cameron is an amazing real estate lawyer who under-
stands where to push and where to hold the line."

She was very responsive and her guidance was
clear and concise." Riley Whitlock (see p.371) possesses expe-
rience across real estate transactions and financ-
ings in addition to leasing matters. Whitlock is active assis-
ting with landmark commercial and mixed-use developments in Calgary. "Riley understands us as a client very well and is extremely responsive." "He has a
strong understanding of the legal work and is able to
integrate his knowledge into supporting major building
initiatives.”

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a highly regarded law firm that wins recognition for its representation of clients in the full spectrum of commercial real estate matters in Alberta. The group acts for a significant portfolio of institutional clients and pension funds on redevelop-
ments, dispositions, refinancings and purchases. It is also sought out for its leasing expertise and is well equipped to advise on ownership structures including joint ventures and partnerships. In addi-
tion to traditional real estate matters, the firm also
advises on the real estate aspects of energy and
infrastructure projects.

Strengths "Blake, Cassels & Graydon has experience-
ning attorneys with the expertise and experience necessary to handle complex matters."
"The firm came up with creative solutions in order for
the deal to close."
"They are commercially aware, which is advantageous
when devising a practical solution to a problem.”

Work highlights Blake, Cassels & Graydon acted for
Capstone Infrastructure on real estate aspects of its
acquisition of all issued and outstanding shares of
three NatuReNew companies.

Notable practitioners
Garrd Anderson (see p.360) is the leader of the Cal-
gary real estate group and is often involved in major
transactions in the province. He acts for big-name
national and regional clients, including RETIs and
institutional investors.
"He is a top-tier lawyer who has a good understanding of all aspects of real estate
which allows him to provide sound legal advice on busi-
ness decisions." "Garth is a very capable and experi-
enced attorney. He is a trusted adviser and is great
to work with.” Jay Geers (see p.365) has a developing reputation from peers and clients alike for providing
effective counsel on a variety of real estate issues.
His work includes assisting with the purchase and
sale of office, residential and industrial premises.
"He provides sound advice that looks at all angles of an
issue." "Jay Geers is fantastic – he digs into the details
and understands the business and our challenges.”

Brownlee LLP
What the team is known for
Brownlee is a well-regarded law firm known for its representation of municipalities in zoning and land use matters. The
team is noted for its experience in relation to devel-
opment approvals, municipal plans and land use
bylaws, often assisting clients with related hear-
ings and appeals. It draws on strength from both its
Edmonton and Calgary offices.

Notable practitioners
Kelley Fiske-Nielsen is a Calgary-based partner
who utilises her prior experience as a municipal
subdivision and development officer and planner to
assist clients with their land use needs. "Kelley Fiske-
Nielsen is very knowledgeable and always on the ball.”

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for
Dentons has a long-
standing reputation for high-level advice on land
use planning and development. The firm’s expen-
sis includes land use redesignation, subdivisions,
development permit applications and expropriation.
Its Calgary and Edmonton-based real estate law-
yers represent local and national developers in their
Alberta-based projects, including retail, industrial,
healthcare and infrastructure developments.
The group is well placed to advise clients on hearings
before the province's various boards and commis-
sions.

Strengths “The team is very aware of the issues
facing the development industry in relation to market
demands and regulatory considerations.”

Work highlights A Dentons team advised Hangang
Asset in relation to its joint venture with two Cana-
dian investment managers to acquire an undivided
90.1% interest in a newly constructed Amazon fulfil-
ment centre in Ontario.

Notable practitioners
Timothy Bardsley is an experienced lawyer in the
zoning and land use space in Alberta. He has a wealth
of expertise in planning and municipal law matters,
including expropriation and development approvals.
Bardsley also possesses considerable experience
representing clients before boards, councils and
various levels of court. John Merrett KC heads the
firm’s planning and development group in Calgary,
with long-standing experience in the sector. He has
extensive experience acting for developers on land
use, subdivision, expropriation and planning matters
concerning significant developments across Cal-
gary, Calgary-based Bonnie Anderson offers a broad
range of expertise in zoning and land use matters in
the province. She ably draws upon her experience in
urban planning and architecture when assisting cli-
teals with municipal matters arising in the course of
developments. "Bonnie is able to take very complex
matters relating to municipal and landowner rights
and very effectively with a wide range of require-
ments that is easy for the layman to understand.” "She
is one of the leading practitioners in Calgary." Jeff
Coope-Arnold is a well-regarded real estate lawyer
who regularly represents investors and developers.
He is particularly adept at assisting clients with
issues arising out of the acquisition of retail, residen-
tial and mixed-use developments. "Jeff's key high-
lights are that he is very organised and very efficient –
he spends time and effort to find practical solutions.”

Clark Kassian is the national practice group leader
for Dentons' real estate group. He operates out of the
firm's Alberta office and has particular experi-
ence in the acquisition of industrial assets. "Clark is
a very skilled and knowledgeable lawyer who provides
excellent legal services.” Jon Ryder is a respected
lawyer with a burgeoning reputation for his experi-
ence in municipal planning and land use matters. He
is based in Calgary. "Jon provides advice on business
decisions with a deep breadth of knowledge behind
him.” "Jon was a huge asset to our team and helped
manage a difficult and complex situation for us.”

Lyle Zulak co-leads the firm's real estate, development
and planning group in Calgary. He regularly advises
local Alberta-based clients as well as large national
corporations on various commercial real estate mat-
ters from land acquisitions to development financ-
ings. "His level of comprehension is strong and he has
a good ability to get deals done.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault advises significant national and international cli-
ents on high-value real estate transactions. The real
property and planning department in Calgary is well
regarded for its track record advising on acquisi-
tions, dispositions and leasing matters, with further
capabilities in real estate financing and develop-
ment. It acts on mandates across industry sectors,
including industrial, retail and residential, demon-
strating further expertise in real estate funds. The
firm also handles related litigation and M&A deals
involving multiple provinces.

Strengths "McCarthy Tétrault consistently delivers
on tight timelines and demonstrates that they have a
deep and diverse talent pool that is able to manage our
varied requirements.”

Work highlights A McCarthy Tétrault team, led by
Tina Peters, assisted Lithia Motors in leasing man-
dates in relation to its acquisition of a luxury car
dealership chain.

Notable practitioners
Stephen Livegant (see p.367) is a pre-eminent
figure in the real estate market in Alberta. He pos-
sesses exceptional experience acting for the full
range of stakeholders on transactions, as well as
assisting with various ownership structures. "Ste-
phen consistently delivers excellent service and
assists us effectively with a wide range of require-
ments.” "He has a wealth of experience throughout the
real estate space.” Olivia Colic (see p.363) impresses
Miller Thomson LLP
What the team is known for
Miller Thomson possesses a notable real estate team in Alberta, advising on the acquisition, sale and development of real estate projects. The team’s expertise extends to leasing and financing work for its clients.
Strengths “Miller Thomson has knowledgeable lawyers and provides both prompt responses and a good service.”
Work highlights A Miller Thomson team led by Kevin Keyes advised StoreSmart Self-Storage on the sale of its self-storage operations in Canmore, Cochrane, Red Deer, Edmonton, and Sherwood Park.

Notable practitioners
Calgary-based Kevin Keyes is well versed in matters concerning real estate development, including financing and leasing. He is also experienced in handling transactions in the sector. “Kevin is a very experienced lawyer who is both practical and technically quite strong.” Joshua Selby is a Calgary-based real estate lawyer who is held in high regard for his expertise in the condominium space. He primarily acts for developers and real estate management companies. “Joshua is a very responsive, knowledgeable and helpful lawyer.”

Norton Rose Fulbright
What the team is known for
Norton Rose Fulbright has a distinguished Calgary practice that features notable experience representing regional and national clients in a range of real estate transactions. The firm is recognised for its knowledge of acquisitions, leasing and financing matters, with additional experience of development, joint venture and co-ownership agreements. It is frequently sought out to advise on all aspects of development projects, including land acquisition, construction contracts and planning approvals. The team is equally well positioned to handle the real estate components of significant infrastructure projects and offers further expertise in real estate insolvency.
Strengths “We rely on them to provide support for in-the-box as well as outside-of-the-box real estate transactions. They have the clear capability to provide such support.”
Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright advised TransAlta on a secured green bond offering for the Windrise wind facility in Alberta.

Notable practitioners
Stephen Raby KC (see p.369) is a highly respected practitioner at the forefront of the market, offering clients a wealth of experience in commercial real estate mandates. He acts for all manner of developers, landlords and tenants on real estate matters in Alberta. “He is always right on top of his files and does great work for his clients.” Michael Bolitho (see p.361) is active on a wide array of real estate development matters, from purchases and sales to commercial leasing, where he acts for both landlords and tenants. “Michael is thorough and delivers on schedule.”

Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP
What the team is known for
Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt’s real estate team in Calgary has notable capacity to advise on all aspects of development work, including zoning and land use. It provides expertise in development permits and agreements, strata subdivisions and municipal approvals. The team is equally sought after to act on acquisitions, financing and dispositions, including multi-province portfolio deals. Its expertise spans industrial, residential and office properties, as well as complex mixed-use developments.
Strengths “To enable us to be successful, Oslers is responsive and supportive. More than just that, they are forward-thinking about upcoming issues that need to be removed for us to be ahead of the strategic plan.”
Work highlights An Oslers, Hoskin & Harcourt team acted for H&R REIT on the sale, lease and refinancing of the Bow Office Tower in Calgary.

Notable practitioners
Bryce Kustra in Calgary is a key contact for Oslers, real estate team in Alberta.

Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer
What the team is known for
Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer is an Edmonton-based law firm that is well known for its work in northern Alberta. The firm often assists municipalities and municipal entities with a range of planning matters, including appearing in hearings and assisting with reviews of bylaws. It also advises on expropriation matters.
Notable practitioners
Edmonton-based Victor Lirette is a key member of the firm’s commercial real estate team. He ably assists his clients with the full range of complex real estate transactions.

Shores Jardine LLP
What the team is known for
Shores Jardine LLP is a respected law firm based in Edmonton which advises numerous Alberta municipalities on land use issues. The team has significant experience representing clients in both judicial reviews and appeals.
Notable practitioners
Gwendolyn Stewart-Palmer is an experienced lawyer who is particularly well respected for her work with municipal clients. “Gwendolyn is a fantastic lawyer and excellent mentor.” “She is very knowledgeable and someone I would go to for advice.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for
Stikeman Elliott operates a leading practice valued for its longstanding experience of commercial real estate in Calgary. The firm garners widespread recognition for its involvement in major developments and master-planned communities and is highly regarded for its handling of large transactional mandates, including acquisitions, leasing and financings. It capably advises on joint venture and project structuring in the industry, and acts for a number of eminent clients from the financial services, industrial and retail sectors. The firm is well placed to assist clients requiring legal representation beyond the city of Calgary, including in Edmonton and Banff.
Strengths “The team takes a practical view while still identifying risks for us to take and avoid.” “Stikeman Elliott have an exceptional understanding of the real estate market and offer phenomenal depth and breadth.”
Work highlights Stikeman Elliott acted as counsel for University of Calgary Properties Group on numerous aspects of the University District Project, including establishing the ground lease structure for the project and acting on a series of joint development transactions.

Notable practitioners
Michael Dyck (see p.364) is a prominent lawyer in the Calgary market, with corporate real estate expertise spanning residential, commercial and industrial developments. He is particularly highly regarded for his knowledge of ownership structures. “He is very collaborative and identifies key issues.” Michael Dyck is an expert in his discipline and is easy to work with.” Michael Witt (see p.371) continues to develop his reputation in the Calgary market, with experience acting for developers, lenders, landlords and tenants on the full range of commercial real estate matters. “He is very detail-oriented and leaves no stone unturned.” “Michael Witt provides business and legal advice from a technical point of view – his drafting is great and we know we are always protected.”

Witten LLP
What the team is known for
Witten LLP is an Edmonton-based firm with a well-regarded real estate practice. The team is frequently involved in substantial property transactions involving First Nation communities, including residential and energy projects.
Strengths “The team is very thorough and incredibly well organised.”
Notable practitioners
Catherine Farnell is the managing partner of Witten LLP and has a notable practice advising on the sale and financing of a broad array of real estate assets. “Catherine is smart, practical and has good contacts.”

Other Ranked Lawyers
Devin Itterman (see p.366) of Lawson Lundell LLP is a respected Calgary-based lawyer with a broad real estate practice. He regularly advises on acquisition, sale and financing of various property classes, including energy assets, senior care facilities and mixed-use developments. “Devin is easy to work with and commercially focused.”
Paul Logan (see p.367) of Fasken’s Calgary office possesses experience that includes financings, sales, and leasing. His work covers transactions involving property across a variety of sectors, including senior living and industrial premises. “The best thing about Paul is he understands the commercial realities of what you are trying to do on a transaction, and from the client’s perspective too.”
Shaun Partridge KC (see p.368) of Lawson Lundell LLP frequently represents clients in refinancings, sales and leasing matters. He leads the Calgary office’s real estate department. “We go to Shaun because of his strong work ethic, attention to detail and knowledge.”

Jennifer Sykes of Calgary-based Caron & Partners
is a zoning and land use practitioner who possesses experience advising municipalities and developers on developments in the province. Her expertise includes expropriation, subdivision and development approvals, along with the full gamut of municipal law. “Jennifer is very knowledgeable in relation to municipal law.”
Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for Bennett Jones has a prominent Toronto-based commercial real estate team that is widely acknowledged for its expertise advising on complex financing mandates, as well as offering significant capacity in relation to acquisitions, dispositions and joint venture agreements. Its clients also benefit from the team's multi-jurisdictional capabilities and further expertise in condominium development, as well as its ability to handle significant REIT deals. The firm's client roster includes a number of institutional investors, banks and property management companies.

Strengths “Bennett Jones has seasoned lawyers who help their clients achieve the goals they want to achieve.”

“They are well versed in industry norms and provide creative solutions.”

“Bennett Jones has a great team that works well together and provides advice on all aspects of the transaction.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones acted as Canadian counsel to Stone Canyon Industries and Kissner Group on the real estate aspects of its USD3.2 billion agreement to acquire K+S Aktiengesellschaft’s North and South American salt business.

Notable practitioners Simon Crawford’s wide-reaching practice includes expertise in various ownership structures, acquisitions, dispositions and financings. Crawford capably assists clients with matters in Ontario and across the country. “Simon is thorough and gets to the point quickly.” Paul Mantini continues to be a big draw for clients in the real estate industry in Ontario. His lengthy experience covers a range of transactions, including financings and refinancings, with work undertaken for developers, pension funds and other investors on commercial matters in Ontario and nationally. “Paul made a very good impression - he has good ideas and makes recommendations on what is doable and the associated risk.”

Leonard Gangbar is particularly well recognised for his expertise in condominium mandates. His broader commercial practice consists of transactions spanning residential, commercial and industrial developments. “He is very knowledgeable and an expert in the area of condominium developments.” “He is a very good lawyer who is smart and practical.”

Jane Helmstadter is the practice group co-head and is experienced at advising on tax matters arising in the real estate space, as well as advising on a wider selection of commercial real estate matters. “Jane’s depth of experience makes her our go to when drafting complex legal documents.”

John van Gent is frequently engaged by developers on commercial transactions in Ontario. He is also active in real estate financings. “John is incredibly detail-oriented and an amazing draft of documents.”

Andrew Jeanie is a recognised lawyer in the market with expertise in municipal and local planning matters. He regularly appears before the OLT on a range of contentious matters and acts for private clients. “Andrew is a thorough and detail-oriented lawyer with strong analytic and relationship-building skills.” “Andrew provides excellent strategic advice to us.”

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon is highly regarded for its ability to handle an array of real estate mandates for an impressive portfolio of clients in Ontario. The firm is particularly well known for its representation of pension funds and other major domestic and international investors in high-end commercial real estate transactions. It regularly handles acquisitions, dispositions and complex financings and is well placed to assist with energy-related construction and land use matters. The Toronto team also demonstrates significant experience in joint ventures and other partnership structures, as well as large commercial leases.

Strengths “Every time it is needed, Blake, Cassels & Graydon has been able to provide us with an expert in the matter at hand.”

“Blakes’ real estate group is very skilled and involved in every asset class - they have a lot of technical expertise.”

“The staff at Blakes has always maintained a strong customer service focus, both in terms of their demeanour and timeliness of their responses.”

Work highlights A Blake, Cassels & Graydon team, led by John Hutmacher, advised Oak Street on its acquisition of Bell Creekbank Campus, Mississauga and concurrent acquisition of The Bow Tower in Calgary.

Notable practitioners Silvana D’Alimonte (see p.363) frequently advises on corporate transactions and real estate financings. Her client base includes a host of significant investment companies, along with developers and public sector bodies. “Silvana is smart and practical as well.” “Silvana D’Alimonte is an extremely capable lawyer.”

Chris Huband (see p.366) earns recognition for being at the top of his field, with deep-seated expertise in all manner of real estate transactions in Ontario. Huband is also often retained on real estate matters of national scope. “I am impressed by the experience and deep thoughts provided by Chris. He is the first person I will go to for any property transactions.” “Chris is a very skilled practitioner who has a great practice.”

Thomas von Hahn (see p.371) possesses expertise in a wide range of real estate transactions, acting on behalf of funds and institutional investors. “Thomas is an effective and practical negotiator.” “He helps figure out the most complex issues and is very collaborative.”

Joseph Grignano (see p.365) is highly regarded Toronto-based practice has a strong focus on commercial leasing. He regularly acts for private equity firms and other investors.

www.chambers.com
Shawn Wolfson led the Blaney McMurtry real estate practice. He possesses notable expertise in land use planning matters. The firm's municipal, planning and environmental group is based in Vaughan, Ontario. Shawn is very efficient and effective lawyer who is a pleasure to work with. “Shawn has an additional layer of business acumen that is atypical in lawyers.” “Shawn is very efficient and effective lawyer who is a pleasure to work with.”

Bogart Robertson & Chu LLP

The team is known for its highly skilled and detail-oriented real estate practice. The team regularly acts for REITs, financial institutions and asset managers. They are noted for their expertise in lending and mortgage financings.

Strengths “The lawyers at Bogart Robertson & Chu are very good and practical to work with.”

Notable practitioners
Brian Chu assists clients with commercial real estate matters, including acquisitions and dispositions, as well as financing matters. He is highlighted in particular for his strong relationships with institutional lenders. “Brian is one of the smartest lawyers I have ever met - he really knows his stuff!”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais has a national real estate department with a significant footprint in Ontario. The team is especially well regarded for its prowess in municipal and land use planning, frequently assisting large municipalities with expropriations, OLT hearings and approvals. It is equally well versed in matters relating to infrastructure project development, as well as handling office, condominium and industrial mandates. The commercial real estate group serves major institutional clients and has notable expertise of complex financing, M&A mandates and leasings. The firm's notable clients also include funds, developers, portfolio managers and healthcare companies.

Strengths “The team understands client needs and is practical in its provision of legal advice.” “BLG has been engaged in providing legal opinions and advice on various complicated and politically sensitive files and has provided practical solutions to resolve matters.” “The team is consistently able to help us understand complex matters in a way that is easily understood and relayed internally, supporting our decision-making processes.”

Work highlights Borden Ladner Gervais acted for Ivanhoé Cambridge in developing CIBC Square in Toronto into an integrated multi-tower office complex and public transit hub.

Isaac Tang led the BLG team that represented the St. George and Scarborough campuses. The team is extremely knowledgeable and can always find solutions to complicated issues in a timely manner. “My staff and I trust him immensely and value his opinion and advice.” Shawn Wolfsen has earned recognition for his expertise in real estate financing matters as well as his adept handling of complex sales and commercial leasing. “Shawn has an additional layer of business acumen that is atypical in lawyers.” “Shawn is very efficient and effective lawyer who is a pleasure to work with.”

Notable practitioners
Pitman Patterson (see p.366) leads the firm’s environmental, municipal expropriation and regulatory practice. He possesses notable expertise in land use and planning matters, with broad experience appearing before tribunals. His knowledge also includes expropriation issues. “Pitman is great to work with. He is very practical in his approach and provides sound legal advice that takes into consideration the specifics of the situation at hand.” He ably handles our most complex land use planning matters, providing practical advice that is always based on a current knowledge of the industry and our own objectives.”

Frank Amone (see p.365) is well regarded for work on high-profile real estate deals. He is consulted by investors and developers for his expertise in acquisitions and dispositions, financings and leasing, as well as advising on the implementation of various ownership structures. His experience includes acting on mixed-use and residential development projects. Brennan Carroll earns recognition for his diverse commercial real estate practice, where he assists with property and infrastructure developments. “Brennan has a good roster of clients and advocates for them very well.”

Brett Tkatch is an up-and-coming member of the firm's real estate team. He frequently represents LPTs and pension funds with their real estate needs. “Dan is a tremendous leader – he is someone who everyone wants to work with.” “He understood where we needed to negotiate harder but always took a balanced approach.”

Notable practitioners
Isaac Tang is well regarded for representing the University of Toronto in establishing new secondary plans and comprehensive zoning by-laws, to guide future development at both the St. George and Scarborough campuses.

Signe Leisk (see p.367) is an up-and-coming member of the firm’s real estate team. She frequently represents LPTs and pension funds with their real estate needs. “Dan is a tremendous leader – he is someone who everyone wants to work with.” “He understood where we needed to negotiate harder but always took a balanced approach.”

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Notable practitioners
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members of the team. "She is very responsive and leads a dynamic team that understands the municipal approval process and overall government regulations."  
David Redmond (see p.359) earns recognition for his involvement in land use and zoning issues, as well as his expertise in municipal matters. He is particularly adept at handling complicated projects, offering clients a wide range of legal expertise.

Davies Howe Partners LLP
What the team is known for Davies Howe Partners LLP is a highly regarded firm in the area of commercial lease matters. The firm is well known for its expertise in all areas of commercial lease law, including representation of landlords and tenants in the leasing of retail, office and industrial property. The firm is particularly strong in matters related to commercial lease disputes, including lease terminations, renewals and extensions. The firm is also highly regarded for its expertise in matters relating to land use and zoning, including representation of clients in municipal and court proceedings.

What the team is known for The firm is particularly well known for its expertise in the areas of commercial lease law, land use and zoning, and real estate development. The firm is recognized for its ability to provide clients with a comprehensive and efficient service, and for its ability to deliver successful outcomes in even the most complex and challenging cases.

What the team is known for "The team is very responsive, able to identify potential issues, and address said issues with proactive solutions in a timely manner." "Davies did much more than provide legal advice – they played a key role in negotiations to ensure the road map for the transaction was thorough, anticipating all of the risks through multiple interconnected agreements and milestones." Work highlights Davies Reiner led a Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg team in acting for TPG Real Estate Partners in its acquisition and financing of Cinespace Film Studios.

Notable practitioners
Robert Bauer (see p.335) is highly regarded for his impressive track record on key transactions in Ontario. He has longstanding experience assisting with real estate development matters. "Robert provided vital experience and input relating to public-private transactions." Gregory Howard (see p.365) is sought after for his expertise advising on large-scale real estate transactions both provincially and nationally. His formidable track record includes representing both the government and private sector parties involved in major development projects, including major master-planned communities. His knowledge of deal structures such as joint ventures, acting as both the developer and the investor, provides him with a unique perspective on the development process.

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for The firm is a global firm with a strong presence in Canada. It is particularly well known for its expertise in the areas of commercial lease law, land use and zoning, and real estate development. The firm is recognized for its ability to provide clients with a comprehensive and efficient service, and for its ability to deliver successful outcomes in even the most complex and challenging cases.

What the team is known for "Dentons handle complex and sophisticated matters exceptionally well. They have a strong and experienced team." "The team is extremely broad and strong in a variety of facets, from lead partner to associate." Work highlights A Dentons team led by Jules Mikelsberg acted for Menkes Developments on the development of the Sugar Wharf Project, comprising five high-rise residential towers, a new office tower and a city park.

Notable practitioners
Jules Mikelsberg (see p.371) is routinely engaged in contentious disputes and tribunals. The firm is particularly well known for its expertise in the areas of commercial lease law, land use and zoning, and real estate development. The firm is recognized for its ability to provide clients with a comprehensive and efficient service, and for its ability to deliver successful outcomes in even the most complex and challenging cases.

What the team is known for "Jules is an effective lawyer who is very knowledgeable on condominium developments." "Jillian is a very experienced lawyer who is very knowledgeable on condominium law." "Pawel is very smart and experienced." "He is incredibly smart and has a great business acumen." "Pawel is smart, detail-oriented and has a strong business acumen." Davies Reiner (see p.369) is an up-and-coming real estate lawyer who has particular expertise in commercial real estate acquisitions, financing and dispositions for large national developers. He is also well known for his expertise in joint venture structures and lending.

Devine Park
What the team is known for Devine Park is a well-regarded firm that is particularly well known for its expertise in the areas of commercial lease law, land use and zoning, and real estate development. The firm is recognized for its ability to provide clients with a comprehensive and efficient service, and for its ability to deliver successful outcomes in even the most complex and challenging cases.
act on heritage matters, development charges and expropriations.

Notable practitioners
Patrick Devine is an eminent municipal law expert who enjoys a stellar reputation for his knowledge of the space. Devine has a wealth of experience helping developers to get planning approvals, in addition to his nuanced representation of clients before the OLT. Jason Park benefits from his previous experience in the public sector when providing guidance to both developers, owners and municipal councils on developments in Ontario. In addition to land use and zoning matters, he is also adept at handling subdivision issues. “Jason is a very good lawyer who is well respected and professional.”

Fasken
What the team is known for
Fasken is acknowledged for its ability to provide an integrated service to its client base in the real estate sector in Ontario. The team draws praise for its experience of planning, development and transactional matters, with notable expertise in complicated dispositions and joint venture agreements. The group is equally well equipped to advise on financing mandates and the real estate aspects of infrastructure projects. It regularly acts for clients in the retail, office and industrial sectors.

Strengths “I’ve always been impressed with Fasken’s ability to think a step ahead on commercial issues that may present themselves down the line.”

“The Fasken team is adept at handling complex transaction structures for major land and building acquisitions and sales.”

“Fasken have been able to work through the various complexities inherent in deals without any issues and have always been available whenever we call them.”

Work highlights
Andrea Centa led a Fasken team in representing TD Asset Management in relation to the development of a variety of real estate asset classes, including office, industrial, hotel and leisure properties.

Notable practitioners
Martin Emmons (see p.364)’s clients include investors and developers. The remit of his commercial practice covers real estate transactions and deal structuring matters, including joint ventures. Andrea Centa (see p.362) leads the firm’s Ontario real estate practice and earns recognition for her activity in the space. Clients point to her responsive and personable approach. She is an accomplished commercial real estate lawyer who capably advises on purchases, sales and financings in the sector. “Andrea’s drafting and attention to detail are fantastic and she is just a pleasure to work with.”

“Andrea Centa is always prepared and available.” “She provides exceptional support and client service.”

Goodmans LLP
What the team is known for
Goodmans has a widely revered Ontario real estate practice, acclaimed for the breadth of its experience and prestigious client base. The firm assists public and private companies with significant transactions, including leasing and construction mandates, as well as large portfolio acquisitions and complex financings. It is frequently mandated on major hotel deals and represents an impressive roster of pension funds, asset managers, REITs and other institutional players. The group is also very well respected for its land use and municipal law expertise, regularly assisting developers with approvals and other land development matters in the City of Toronto and Greater Golden Horseshoe. Its clients in this area include government bodies, municipalities, major developers and advocacy groups.

Strengths “Goodmans are very professional, strategic and proactive in counselling us on our land use requirements.”

“Goodmans have been able to respond to complex issues in order to put forward articulate presentations on our behalf within very short time frames. They have shown excellent judgement on the key issues on which to focus.”

“The team provides excellent client service and is practical in giving options.”

Work highlights
A Goodmans team led by Bram Green represented InnVest Hotels in its acquisition of The St. Regis Toronto hotel from JCF Capital ULC. A Goodmans team led by David Bronskill assisted Madison Properties with development approvals for sites across Toronto with mixed-use buildings.

Notable practitioners
Roslyn Houser (see p.365) enjoys an excellent reputation at the forefront of the market for her knowledge of planning and land use regulations. She is often engaged on matters in southern Ontario, including large-scale developments in Toronto. “Roslyn Houser is an experienced and very strong advocate for her clients who is also very articulate. She is a particularly good strategist for helping clients get the best results.” Juli Morrow (see p.368) is regarded as a leader in the field, with a longstanding reputation for her commercial real estate expertise. She advises on capital markets transactions, acquisitions and dispossession, as well as financings, and is regarded by her peers as a top choice for ‘bet the farm’ deals. “She is an outstanding lawyer and a staple in real estate.”

David Bronskill (see p.361) assists authorities and corporations with municipal law issues. He has significant experience appearing before councils and tribunals throughout Ontario. “David is a very well-respected lawyer who does very good work.”

Bram Green (see p.207) is particularly well known for his representation of investors, including REITs and pension funds. “Bram has a great legal business mind, is extremely client-focused and wants to ensure clients get the outcome that they want.”

“His attention to detail is phenomenal and he does a very good job of making sure people understand the business side of things.”

“Bram is an excellent technical and practical lawyer.”

Andrew Wiseman (see p.371) leads Goodmans’ real estate group at the firm and possesses a sterling track record of handling real estate transactions, including financings. He also has experience in leasing matters. “On top of being a fantastic lawyer, Andrew has an incredible wealth of knowledge.”

“He is a very good technical lawyer and a sensible negotiator.”

“Andrew is a very seasoned professional - he will put the client first and approach legal advice through that lens.”

Robert Howe (see p.365) is a talented lawyer with experience representing both public and private sector entities in infrastructure and property mandates, particularly those concerning the GTA. “He really deeply understands this area in a way relatively few others do.”

Fred Rubinoff (see p.370) has a broad transactional practice operating out of Goodmans’ Toronto office. His experience extends to real estate financing, purchases and sales, as well as joint venture transactions. Ian Andres (see p.360) is head of the firm’s municipal, planning and property tax group, and his municipal expertise spans by-laws and planning applications, as well as advising on tax assessments. He also acts on behalf of clients before councils, committees and tribunals. “Ian Andres is an absolutely outstanding lawyer when it comes to assisting a client in putting forward their case. He presents in an articulate, clear, logical and persuasive manner that is not ‘heavy-handed’ or seemingly too aggressive.”

Ira Berg (see p.361) is an excellent lawyer who is well placed to advise on commercial real estate and infrastructure development matters. “Ira is a very good lawyer who is smart and practical.”

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for
Gowling WLG is a well-regarded real estate group with a strong track record in commercial leasing, as well as advising on acquisitions, developments and financings. The group is well equipped to handle broader real estate mandates, such as fund formation and advice on defaulted loans. The firm represents a number of international brands with regard to office and industrial real estate matters in Canada. The group has further capabilities with clients at the Ontario Court of Appeal and the OLT.

Strengths “The Gowling team is very effective at the OLT.”

“They were very experienced, extremely knowledgeable and understood the dynamics of the parties involved. They provided calmness to what was a stressful situation.”

“The lawyers at Gowling are professional, approachable and respond to my inquiries promptly. They work hard for their clients and leave no stone unturned.”

Work highlights
Gowling WLG acted for RGF (Mississauga) Developments on the acquisition from YMCA of the north-east corner of Burnhamthorpe Road West and Confederation Parkway in Mississauga, for CAD90 million.

Michael Polowin led the Gowling WLG team that represented clients in filing an application in the Superior Court to interpret part of the Planning Act and quasi provisions of the City of Ottawa’s official plan.

Notable practitioners
Michael Polowin leads the firm’s municipal law group from its Ottawa office. Polowin’s experience includes advising companies in emerging industries such as cannabis on land use issues. He is regularly involved in representing clients at the OLT.

Harris Sheaffer LLP
What the team is known for
Harris Sheaffer LLP is a boutique commercial real estate firm based in Toronto. The firm’s core expertise is centred on the condominium space, where the team acts for developers, builders and financial institutions.

Strengths “The team is very practical and understands how to get a deal done.”

Notable practitioners
Michael Baum and Robert Sheaffer are key contacts.

Kagan Shastri LLP
What the team is known for
Kagan Shastri possesses an excellent reputation for municipal and land use planning work, servicing both public and private clients in official plan, growth plan and Planning Act matters. The firm is highly adept in OLT hearings, representing municipalities in official plan defence and developers in land use appeals.

Notable practitioners
Ira Kagan has considerable experience handling municipal matters in Toronto, regularly appearing...
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is universally recognised as a real estate powerhouse in Toronto, offering the full suite of services to financial institutions, REITS and large-scale commercial real estate developers. The team is well known for its expertise in leaseback transactions, substantial acquisitions and real estate fund formation work. It is also well regarded for its experience in construction and bond financing agreements, as well as large commercial developments. The group is frequently mandated on highly sophisticated transactions, assisting clients with portfolio acquisitions, infrastructure developments and co-ownership. The firm additionally represents clients in obtaining rezoning and site plan approvals, including appearing before the OLT.

Strengths “McCarthy Tétrault is able to cut through the noise to provide us with practical and actionable advice.”

“McCarthy Tétrault diligently address concerns and provide timely guidance. They are our go-to firm for challenging transactions.”

“It is certainly an excellent group that does terrifically complex work.”

Work highlights John Currie led the McCarthy Tétrault team in advising Slate Asset Management on its provision of a CAD75 million non-revolving credit facility to InnVest Hotels. McCarthy Tétrault assisted Minto Properties with its CAD480 million acquisition of Western Canadian Properties, as part of which it advised on obtaining planning and development approvals. He also possesses notable experience representing clients before the OLT and other tribunals, as well as appearing before municipal councils and the courts. “Chris Barnett offers good and practical advice by thinking several steps ahead.”

Notable practitioners

Abraham Costin (see p.363) is a distinguished lawyer with an impressive track record of handling large-scale commercial real estate transactions in Ontario. Over the course of his long career he has advised a range of big-name developers as well as major corporations and financial institutions on high-profile projects. His experience also includes advising on insolvency matters relating to real property. “He is my go-to for anything that is complex – he knows how to get a deal done and gives great legal and business advice.” John Currie (see p.363) is the national practice group leader at McCarthy Tétrault. He is sought after for his market-leading expertise in commercial real estate, and his skill sets covers the entire development process, including financing and leasing. He acts for REITs, investors and lenders on their real estate interests in Ontario and throughout the country. “John is one of the most respected real estate lawyers on the street. He combines technical skill with unparalleled experience and a relationship-oriented approach to serving his clients.” Paul is a fantastic lawyer and great partner. He is well known and respected in the industry and gives us well-reasoned guidance.” Tzen-Yi Goh (see p.365) is an esteemed lawyer who is often consulted on commercial real estate matters concerning developments both in Ontario and nationwide. He offers additional expertise in project finance and secured lending deals. “Tzen-Yi is a pragmatic and approachable lawyer who looks for solutions.” “He is a very capable lawyer with a good roster of clients.” The market-leading Danny Grandilli (see p.365) is valued by investors and developers for his diverse commercial expertise in relation to mandates across the country. “Danny has a very strong and broad practice.”

Minden Gross LLP

What the team is known for Minden Gross is recognised for its strong reputation in mid-market real estate transactions. The firm advises developers, owners and tenants on matters ranging from land acquisition to joint ventures, construction and lending. It equally demonstrates capability in development agreements, as well as land use and property management.

Notable practitioners

Commercial real estate group chair Reuben Rosenblatt and David Kutsner are key contacts.

Overland LLP

What the team is known for Toronto-based Overland is a noted boutique that offers public and private clients the full gamut of zoning and land use advice. The firm assists with development applications and acts for clients before tribunals and committees. It is also experienced representing municipalities in development matters.

Notable practitioners

Daniel Artemisi is a founding partner of Overland and is an effective advocate for clients in land use matters across the Greater Toronto Area. “Daniel is strategic and a very capable advocate with a good knowledge of planning law.” Christopher Tanzola is a
Real Estate
Ontario

founding partner of Overland with a growing reputation in the municipal, zoning and land use market of Toronto. "He is a smart lawyer who works very hard and has built a very strong practice."

**Soloway Wright**

What the team is known for

Soloway Wright is a well-regarded municipal and land use planning law firm recognised for its strong reputation in the Ottawa area. The group advises municipalities, developers and landowners on matters including expropriation, zoning, subdivision, official plan amendments and development charges. It represents clients before the OLT and municipal and regional councils, as well as the Ontario Superior Court.

**Notable practitioners**

Douglas Kelly is a key contact at the firm.

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

What the team is known for

Stikeman Elliott is recognised for its impressive strength in managing large real estate transactions, including purchases, sales and financings. Its lawyers frequently assist clients entering into co-ownership and joint venture agreements, as well as demonstrating strong expertise in complex commercial leasing and sale-leasebacks. The team’s experience covers a wide range of product types, including commercial, retail and mixed-use properties. It is further equipped to handle issues surrounding land development, including zoning approvals and official plan amendments. The group demonstrates notable experience in OLT hearings. Its clients include public and private companies and REITs.

**Strengths**

"Stikeman brings excellent bench strength which allows them to handle a diverse set of complex issues, from typical purchase and sale transactions to lease negotiations, construction issues and more."

"Stikeman Elliott has a diversity of experience across the partners which brings a great deal of knowledge."

**Work highlights**

A Stikeman Elliott team, led by Mario Paura, acted for Ivanhoé Cambridge in its joint venture acquisition with Starlight Investments of an 11 multi-family property portfolio in the Greater Toronto Area.

Stikeman Elliott acted for ELAD Canada in securing Toronto City Council approval of an Official Plan Amendment and rezoning for a mixed-use development.

**Notable practitioners**

Calvin Lantz (see p.368) is head of the firm’s municipal and land use group. Lantz frequently appears before the OLT and municipal councils, in addition to advising developers seeking planning and zoning approvals. "Calvin is a very reasonable and calming presence in often tense situations where parties are jockeying for position. He is very concise and gets to the heart of the matter.” Calvin is one of the strongest municipal lawyers in the country.”

"Calvin’s attention to detail is what sets him apart from the rest." "Calvin is a very sophisticated planning lawyer. His commitment is unwavering and he has a very strong understanding of our needs and desired outcomes." Mario Paura (see p.368) is the head of real estate in the firm’s Toronto office and is particularly highly regarded for his expertise in retail leasing. He is a skilled commercial real estate practitioner who often acts for developers and lenders on transactions in the space. His client roster also features major asset managers. "Mario offers excellent service to customers and is always solution-oriented." Eric Carmona (see p.362) is an experienced lawyer who handles a variety of commercial transactions across Ontario, including acquisitions and dispositions. He capably assists with mandates involving residential, commercial, industrial, hospitality and senior living developments. "Eric can conceptualise a very complex deal into documents and deal structures that are elegant, precise and accomplish all the relevant goals without weighing down the deal with the unnecessary.”

"Eric’s expertise and ability to negotiate and get things done is remarkable." Douglas Klaassen (see p.366) capably assists with commercial mortgages and securitisation transactions, among other forms of lending in the real estate space. He is also experienced in leasing matters. "Douglas is an expert in financing and mortgage loan syndication and certainly has a good reputation.” Dana Porter (see p.369) handles the purchase and sale of real estate in Ontario, in addition to financing matters. He also offers expertise in infrastructure development. "Dana has a depth of experience that is leveraged to help guide clients through both legal and tactical considerations on commercial real estate matters. He is adept at leading difficult negotiations to help bring transactions to a successful close on a principled basis.”

"He brings everything to the table that I need for real estate transactions.” Melissa Schyven (see p.207) is an increasingly prominent lawyer in the Ontario real estate market. She is singled out for her work on hotel and resort developments, with further experience advising on residential projects. "Melissa is a very good technical lawyer and negotiator who is very succinct in her explanations.”

"She always impresses with her comments on structuring documents." Patrick Duffy (see p.183) co-leads the firm’s project development and finance group. He is routinely engaged on planning and land use matters in Ontario. "The level of service received from Patrick is exceptional. During meetings with stakeholders, he is aware of our needs and able to achieve the required outcomes.”

"He continues to provide solid legal advice and is an integral team member on large projects.” Neil Shapiro (see p.370) is a Toronto-based lawyer with a developing commercial real estate practice. He has strong experience acting for REITs and real estate agencies on purchases and disposition transactions. "Neil has consistently been an excellent contributor to a number of complicated and diverse transactions.”

"Neil is very practical and a quick study.” Andrew Elliott (see p.364) is counsel in Stikeman Elliott’s Ontario real estate group. He is adept at advising on planning matters as they relate to residential, retail and mixed-use developments. "Andrew has excellent legal drafting skills.”

"He is timely and responsive.”

**Torkin Manes LLP**

What the team is known for

Torkin Manes is a respected mid-market law firm acting on the full range of commercial real estate matters. The team is well regarded for its activity in the retail and shopping centre arena, further acting on transactions in the multi-residential and senior living spaces. It is well versed in purchases, dispositions, joint venture transactions and developments. Leasing is another area of expertise for the group, as is advising title insurers and professional indemnity insurers on matters relating to the sector.

**Strengths**

"The Torkin Manes team has expertise in all aspects of real estate and development. They are very client-focused and responsive.”

"Torkin Manes provides a lot of value-added advice on a range of commercial real estate matters including complicated situations.”

"Torkin Manes has good bench strength and has been able to quickly assess and respond to specific issues as they come up.”

**Notable practitioners**

Mario Paura - 356
Rawlinson (see p.369) is the commercial real estate practice co-head at Torys. As part of his diverse prac-
tice, he advises on commercial, hospitality and senior-
housing developments. “Graham arrived at some very
practical solutions to deal with issues and allow
the transaction to close.” Charlene Schafer (see p.370)
ably assists clients with real estate transactions,
including joint ventures. She advises a broad range
of clients, from funds to landlords. “Charlene is very
smart, rational and easy to work with.”

WeirFoulds LLP
What the team is known for WeirFoulds has a
skilled group with considerable experience acting
for municipalities on significant expropriations
and OLT appeals, in addition to its engagement on
mid-market transactions in Ontario. The team acts
for landowners and developers, providing advice
and representation in connection with planning
approvals and other development matters. It coun-
sels clients on ownership structures and purchases
and sales. The firm is highlighted for its visibility on
leasing mandates.

Real Estate Québec

Notable practitioners
Bruce Engell (see p.364) is chair of the firm’s munici-
pal and planning group, with expertise covering the
full spectrum of matters arising in the course of real
estate development. He is adept at representing cli-
ents before the OLT and the courts in Ontario. “Bruce
Engell is an intellectual heavyweight.”

Other Ranked Lawyers
Barbara Lanyos of Bloem Lanyos is a well-respected
practitioner who is particularly renowned her rep
resentation of substantial Canadian real estate
investors. “Barbara does an excellent job for her cli-
ents—she is smart and practical.”

Kim Mulin of Wood Bull LLP possesses expertise
in a wide range of land use matters, with signif-
ificant knowledge of municipal issues. She often
acts on behalf of public bodies and has experience
appearing before the OLT, among other tribunals and
courts.

Tara Piurko of Miller Thomson LLP has earned an
excellent reputation for her appearances before a
range of tribunals, including the OLT. She regularly
provides effective representation on official plan
amendments and zoning by-law amendment appli-
cations. “Tara is an extraordinarily competent lawyer
who is both pragmatic and articulate. She is also
an intelligent, humble and kind individual who has earned
our trust and confidence.” “Tara is an excellent partner,
with strong real estate knowledge and an ability to
synthesize complex matters.” “She has a depth of
expertise in municipal matters as they pertain to real
estate development and is always able to offer a way
forward in difficult situations.”

Scott Snider of Turkstra Maizza has notable experi-
ence appearing before the OLT and other key tribu-
nals, as well as representing clients in court. Snider
is frequently involved in matters west of the GTA. “He
is a very good lawyer with a busy practice.”

Amber Stewart of Amber Stewart Law operates a
Toronto-based boutique firm and has strong experi-
ence in dealing with residential developments.

Real Estate Québec

Real Estate

Leading Firms

Band 1
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
Fasken
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Band 2
De Grandpré Chait

Band 3
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
Norton Rose Fullbright
Stikeman Elliott LLP

Band 4
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
KRB Lawyers

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Leading Individuals

Star individuals
Rubin Marc J. De Grandpré Chat* Band 1
Benhamou Elias Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP* Papadimitriou James McCarthy Tétrault LLP* Band 2
Arquini Anthony Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP* Fewes Stefan Stikeman Elliott LLP* Gagnon-Larocque Annie McCarthy Tétrault LLP* Band 3

Other Ranked Lawyers

Bélanger Sauvé
What the team is known for Bélanger Sauvé is a
Québec-based law firm that is highly regarded for its
representation of municipalities, demonstrating top-
drawer expertise in zoning, land use and expropria-
tion. The municipal law team advises clients on issues
pertaining to rezonings and developments, including
approvals and bylaw amendments. It is further noted
for its in-depth knowledge of municipal taxation. The
firm offers services out of Montréal, Trois-Rivières,
Joliette and Rouyn-Noranda.

Notable practitioners
Marc Lalonde is a top Montréal real estate lawyer
who is well reputed for his work in the zoning and
land use space. Marc-André LeChasseur is a promi-

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Notable practitioners
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land use space. Marc-André LeChasseur is a promi-

is able to advise on complex matters.” “Daniel demonstrates excellent business acumen and knows how to effectively assert our position while preserving business ties between the parties.” Neil Katz (see p.366) assists both domestic and international companies with a variety of complex real estate transactions. Based in Montréal, he acts for a range of real estate investors, including pension funds, REITs and asset managers. “Neil is a knowledgeable legal professional with strong relationships in his market.” “No issue is too complicated for Neil and he is very client focused.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for
Borden Ladner Gervais operates a well-respected real estate practice, with a team that frequently assists clients with significant property transactions. The firm’s expertise also extends to real estate development projects and leasing agreements. BLG acts for a broad client base, including those in hospitality and property management, as well as financial institutions and pension funds. Strengths “BLG has expertise in many areas and great support staff.” “BLG’s lawyers are always on the ball and quick to respond.”
Work highlights BLG represented Groupe Mach Acquisition in its CAD1.5 billion acquisition of office and retail properties in Montréal.
Notable practitioners Sylvie Bouvette (see p.361) advises on commercial real estate transactions, with further experience in real estate project development. She is based in BLG's Montréal office.

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
What the team is known for
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is a market-leading law firm with an outstanding depth of expertise in commercial real estate, with the ability to handle a wide range of transactions and development projects in Montréal. The team is acclaimed for its involvement in acquisition and disposition transactions, financings and joint ventures, and has significant experience representing pension funds, REITs and private developers. It regularly represents international clients in connection with major projects in Montréal, as well as advising Québec-based real estate investors on matters further afield. The lawyers are highly rated for their handling of major mixed-use developments, including master-planned community projects, and are equally well placed to advise on residential, retail and office property transactions.

Strengths “Davies’s team possesses immense depth and breadth: each member provides a specialty and knowledge that allows complete coverage of all aspects of a transaction or file.” “The firm has a highly diverse and skilled team that meets our needs. The customer service is exceptional.”
Work highlights Davies advised Cominar REIT on its CAD5.7 billion acquisition by Iris Acquisition II.
Notable practitioners Elias Benhamou (see p.361) has a reputation as one of the leading real estate transactional lawyers in Montréal. He boasts impressive experience in joint ventures, acquisitions and sales as well as redevelopment and project financing. “Elias has deep knowledge on various aspects of the industry and commercial vision.” Montréal-based Anthony Arquin (see p.360) has notable expertise advising on development projects, commercial sales and purchases. “Anthony makes sure his consistently aligns with his client’s objectives and always makes sure they receive the highest level of service.” “He has a great commercial and business mind.” Joseph Jarjour (see p.366) is well known for his real estate expertise and frequently assists financial institutions as well as investors and developers. “From a strategic point of view, Joseph knows how to advise his clients by aligning them on what is generally acceptable or not on the market, according to the different transactions.” “He is a great partner in all that he assists us with.”

De Grandpré Chait
What the team is known for
De Grandpré Chait is a highly regarded Québec-based law firm with specialized real estate expertise. The team represents significant private and public clients in the retail, residential and industrial sectors, with notable experience assisting with shopping centre and hotel developments, acquisitions, leases and facilities expansions. It is further equipped to handle construction lending and other financing mandates. The firm is particularly well known for its work on significant transactions in the mid-market, as well as acting for national and international clients in the space. It is also esteemed for its land use planning and municipal law practice, acting exclusively for private sector clients on expropriations, rezoning and development approvals.
Strengths “The team is comprised of business-oriented people with an encyclopedic knowledge of the law.” De Grandpré Chait has put together a top-tier team that has enough bandwidth to handle this increasingly demanding market.”
Work highlights De Grandpré Chait represented the Azrieli Group in the sale of the head office and distribution centre of Aldo Group in Montréal.
Notable practitioners Marc Rubin (see p.369) is one of the best-known real estate lawyers in Montréal. He uplifts a terrific reputation for his experience advising on a wide range of transactions. “Marc is the best transactional and strategic thinker in the industry.” “Marc is by far the most solution-oriented, business-minded and results-driven lawyer we have worked with.” Marc Beauchemin (see p.360) advises on the full gamut of zoning and land use issues, including complex regulatory and administrative matters. Of late, he has played a leading role in multiple major developments in Montréal, covering both residential and commercial purposes. “Marc is an excellent lawyer.” “Marc Beauchemin is top notch.” Sylvain Bélair (see p.360) is well respected for his expertise in zoning and land use. His Montréal-based practice includes a strong emphasis on expropriation. “He really good experience in the field, asks the right questions and thinks ahead.” Jonathan Fectuea (see p.364) is the head of the zoning/land use department at the firm. Based in Montréal, his experience includes handling expropriation and land use matters both in contentious and non-contentious settings. Piero Biasini (see p.361) has a growing reputation for his expertise in real estate acquisitions and financing transactions in Québec and other provinces across Canada. “Piero is strong, pragmatic and doesn’t overcomplicate things.” “His strength is on the transactional side - his legal knowledge is deep and he can anticipate what we will deal with.” Montréal-based Fredric Carsley (see p.362) is well known for his real estate expertise and is adept at handling single-asset acquisitions. “Fredric is one of the most experienced practitioners in the business.”

Fasken
What the team is known for
Fasken operates a large and trusted real estate team in Montréal and Québec City with deep and broad experience in the sector. The firm is widely lauded for its leading financing expertise, and its lawyers regularly structure complex lending agreements for banks and institutional investors in connection with major real estate and construction projects. The team also advises on major real estate transactions including sale-leasebacks and joint venture developments, and operates an active commercial leasing practice. It frequently acts for clients throughout the real estate industry on condominium, retail and office developments.
Strengths “The team provides very clear and precise opinions and guidance on complex files. Fasken is an integral part of our decision-making on complex files.” “Fasken has a very deep bench of excellent lawyers.”
Work highlights A Fasken team represented Devimco, as well as a number of private investors, in negotiations with Otéra Capital regarding the financing of the Solar Unquitter project.
Notable practitioners Richard Clare (see p.363) maintains an impressive reputation for his experience in commercial real estate transactions, including acquisitions, sales and joint ventures. “Richard has deep commercial awareness and vision and makes sure his work consistently aligns with client objectives and market trends.” Nicolas Leblanc (see p.368) is a Montréal-based real estate lawyer who is particularly noted for his recent work on high-value transactions and development projects. “Nicolas is a great lawyer and produces an excellent work product.” “He is technically excellent and very creative in terms of structuring.” Montréal-based Elias Retinas (see p.369) is an experienced real estate lawyer with broad capabilities covering real estate acquisitions and joint venture transactions. “Elias is my most trusted advisor on broad-ranging commercial matters. In each case, he is responsive and deeply aware of the parties involved.” “He is a key individual for us on matters of great complexity. He brings his expertise to our files and his service is excellent.” Mariella Lo Papa (see p.367) is well placed to advise on leasing transactions as well as real estate sales and purchases. Based in Montréal, her clients range from leading pharmaceutical companies to retailers and financial services companies. “She is very responsive, helpful and intelligent.”
KRB Lawyers

With the team is known for KRB Lawyers is a Québec-based law firm with impressive real estate capabilities, advising on property acquisitions, financing and refinancing, lease agreements and development projects. With a diverse client base, featuring a number of significant private investors, the firm is adept at handling both commercial and residential property issues.

Strengths “The team at KRB can think outside of the box to come up with innovative legal solutions. Their solution-oriented advice often takes into account both the business and legal reality.”

“We often encounter complex issues in certain real estate financing complex issues and the team at KRB is always able to help us overcome the issues at hand, proposing solutions that work for all parties involved.”

Work highlights KRB advised First National Financial on the refinancing of a portfolio of 72 residential assets. It is also highly valued for its title experience and is actively on significant multi-use residential and commercial developments. With partners based in both Montréal and Québec City, the firm is well equipped to handle the real estate aspects of large infrastructure projects and high-value financing matters throughout the province. Its client roster comprises prominent pension funds, REITs and private companies.

Strengths “Norton Rose houses a strong, expansive team that can assist with many aspects of a file.”

“The team has an excellent understanding of business terms and current market trends.”

Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright advised Société Immobilière Arbois with the establishment of a real estate development fund for the redevelopment of a piece of land in Québec City.

Notable practitioners

Christopher Karamatos acts for a range of clients in the real estate space, including an impressive number of private investors and trusts. Based in Montréal, he routinely advises on acquisitions, financings and lease agreements. “Chris is a strong leader at the firm and he understands his client’s business.”

“Chris manages his team exceptionally well and has guided us personally through complex transactions.”

Diana Lynintzis assists with a range of commercial transactions, including lease negotiations, acquisition finance and development projects, as well as land acquisitions. Her clients include property managers, development companies and REITs. “Diana is more than a lawyer, she is a key member of our team and a trusted advisor.” “She is a great lawyer – she knows her stuff and is very dedicated to her clients.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault is a distinguished law firm with a well-integrated real estate practice in Québec. Its real estate lawyers assist major pension funds and institutional investors with major transactions, as well as representing local developers. The team offers notable lending capacity, as well as advising on the acquisition, development, leasing and disposition of major real estate assets. It is also highly valued for its title expertise and land use planning work, regularly assisting key clients with zoning and planning approvals for large developments. The firm provides deep expertise in the senior housing, hospitality and municipal sectors.

Strengths “The team has a deep understanding of the subject matter and an ability to focus on important elements of the transaction without overcomplicating things.”

“The firm houses a wealth of experience and is at the forefront of all things real estate.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised Summit Industrial REIT on its CAD83 million acquisition of an office complex in Saint-Laurent, Montréal.

Notable practitioners

James Papadimitriou (see p.368) advises a broad spectrum of clients on real estate transactional and financing matters. He is head of the firm’s real property and planning practice for the Québec region. “He is very involved in the market and is at the forefront of new issues affecting the real estate market.” “James is a pleasure to work with and a leader among his group.” Annie Gagnon-Larocque (see p.364) is adept at handling real estate transactions including project financings, acquisitions and developments. “Annie always goes above and beyond to meet her client’s needs.”

Up-and-coming lawyer Mary Pagonis (see p.368) impresses for her capabilities in real estate development and finance work. Based in the firm’s Montréal office, her clients range from significant property investors and REITs to international financial institutions. “She is a very practical lawyer who understands what we are trying to achieve and is good technically.”

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is a distinguished international firm with a solid presence in the Québec real estate space. The team is well regarded for its work on traditional real estate transactions, including acquisitions and dispositions, and is also active on significant multi-use residential and commercial developments. With partners based in both Montréal and Québec City, the firm is well equipped to handle the real estate aspects of large infrastructure projects and high-value financing matters throughout the province. Its client roster comprises prominent pension funds, REITs and private companies.

Strengths “Norton Rose houses a strong, expansive team that can assist with many aspects of a file.”

“The team has an excellent understanding of business terms and current market trends.”

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Notable practitioners

Mario Caron (see p.362) is an experienced real estate lawyer adept in all aspects of real estate acquisitions, sales, financing, leasing and municipal taxation. Based in Montréal, he chairs the firm’s Canadian real estate team. “It is a real pleasure to work with Mario and his expertise is greatly appreciated.”

Miguel Manzano (see p.367) is co-head of the firm’s real estate team in Québec. He is held in high esteem for his experience advising on sales and acquisitions as well as sale-leaseback transactions. “Miguel is a true gem: he was able to address many abnormal features in our given circumstance with a creative plan to move forward.” “Miguel is a very strong, solid and practical practitioner.”

Jean-Christophe Beaudoin (see p.369) operates a broad real estate practice, advising on acquisitions, finance and project development, as well as the establishment of new investment funds. “Jean-Christophe is highly knowledgeable and attentive to our needs.” “I trust him with many of our major real estate transactions.”

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott is a large full-service law firm that represents clients from the commercial, retail and residential sectors in high-value acquisitions, financings and joint venture transactions, benefiting from the firm’s national platform to advise on matters in Montréal and further afield. The Québec real estate group frequently advises real estate developers, institutional investors and publicly traded REITs on large regional and multi-jurisdictional files, including major infrastructure projects. The team offers further capabilities with respect to the acquisition of agricultural land and CPTAQ hearings as well as renewable energy and power production projects.

Strengths “I’m impressed with Stikeman Elliott’s level of service and attentiveness to our matters. I have confidence that the team can handle any real estate transaction, regardless of complexity.”

“The firm houses a very dynamic team with a lot of different skills. It is very dedicated to our business and always ready to help.”

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott represented 4530 Côte des Neiges and AIMCo Realty Investors in the CAD80 million sale of a multi-storey apartment building in downtown Montréal.

Notable practitioners

Montréal-based Stefan Fews (see p.364) is rated for his experience advising on real estate investment projects, joint ventures and secured financing transactions. “Stefan is so knowledgeable and meticulous, and he has excellent business sense.” “He is an excellent lawyer and communicator. We enjoy working with him for his ability to deliver commercial results.”

Neil Bindeman (see p.361) advises on a range of mandates in the real estate space. He serves as of counsel in the firm’s Montréal office. “Neil has very strong real estate knowledge.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Montréal-based Yan Beneser (see p.361) regularly advises on financing and leasing transactions. He has particular expertise in representing retailers in commercial real estate dealings. “Yan is solution-oriented and always willing and able to think outside of the box. His depth of knowledge of our business means we work in partnership on our deals.”

Stéphane Lalande of Cain Lamarre Casgrain Wells is a Montréal-based lawyer who acts for a range of investors and developers in the real estate space, advising on acquisition and finance matters.

Valérie Mac-Seing is a Montreal-based founding partner at Mac-Seing Thomas. She is recognised in the field for her expertise assisting in property acquisition and financing transactions.

Montréal-based Armand Poupart advises on administrative and municipal law. His clients include a variety of supralocal authorities.

Sebastien Thomas of Mac-Seing Thomas is highly regarded for his work in planning as well as land transfer and land use.
Leaders' Profiles in Real Estate

ANDERSON, Garth
Blake Cassels & Boyden LLP, Calgary
+1 403 260 9778
garth.anderson@blakes.com
Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)

Practice Areas: Garth focuses on the acquisition, development and financing of commercial real estate and infrastructure projects. He advises numerous Canadian and foreign-based institutional clients, including banks, pension funds, life insurance companies, real estate investment trusts, utility companies and Crown corporations, in connection with the acquisition, disposition, leasing and financing of their commercial and industrial properties. Garth is qualified as an expert witness in the Court of Queen’s Bench of Alberta regarding solicitors’ standard of conduct in real estate and insurance matters.

Professional Memberships: Member of The Law Society of Alberta and the Commercial Real Estate and Construction Subsections of the CBA.

ANDRES, Ian
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
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iarenes@goodmans.ca
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Partner and head of the Real Estate Group. Specializes in municipal and planning issues, assisting clients on complex development applications and land use projects throughout the GTA, the Ontario Municipal Board, the Assessment Review Board and municipal committees and councils. The Ontario Science in Planning program at the University of Waterloo. Recently recognized in Best Lawyers Canada, 2020 Edition - Real Estate.

BARNETT, Chris
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Chris Barnett is a partner in Osler’s Real Estate Group and practices in the areas of administrative and regulatory law, with a focus on municipal and planning and environmental approvals and expropriations. He specializes in providing clients with both public and private sectors with strategic advice on coordinating and addressing the various levels of approvals required for complex projects. He advises clients on a broad range of matters, including municipal governance, heritage issues, growth management issues, cultural heritage, parkland dedication and dispositions, employment land and aggregate resource policies. He also advises landowners and authorities on expropriations under both provincial and municipal legislation.

Career: Chris is a graduate of the University of Ottawa and obtained his Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Calgary, where he co-founded the Real Estate Law Society. He worked as a law clerk with a real estate law firm in Calgary before joining Osler in 2010.

BAUER, Robert T.
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation. Mr. Bauer represents clients in proceedings before the Assessment Review Board and municipal and provincial authorities. He has extensive experience in representing clients in expropriation proceedings, both public and private, involving a wide range of issues, including the taking of property for public purposes under both federal and provincial statutes.

BEAUCHEMIN, Marc
De Grandpré Chait, Montréal
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)

Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation. Mr. Beauchemin represents clients in proceedings before the Assessment Review Board and municipal and provincial authorities. He has extensive experience in representing clients in expropriation proceedings, both public and private, involving a wide range of issues, including the taking of property for public purposes under both federal and provincial statutes.

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Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation. Mr. Bauer represents clients in proceedings before the Assessment Review Board and municipal and provincial authorities. He has extensive experience in representing clients in expropriation proceedings, both public and private, involving a wide range of issues, including the taking of property for public purposes under both federal and provincial statutes.

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Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation. Mr. Beauchemin represents clients in proceedings before the Assessment Review Board and municipal and provincial authorities. He has extensive experience in representing clients in expropriation proceedings, both public and private, involving a wide range of issues, including the taking of property for public purposes under both federal and provincial statutes.

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Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation. Mr. Bauer represents clients in proceedings before the Assessment Review Board and municipal and provincial authorities. He has extensive experience in representing clients in expropriation proceedings, both public and private, involving a wide range of issues, including the taking of property for public purposes under both federal and provincial statutes.

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Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation. Mr. Beauchemin represents clients in proceedings before the Assessment Review Board and municipal and provincial authorities. He has extensive experience in representing clients in expropriation proceedings, both public and private, involving a wide range of issues, including the taking of property for public purposes under both federal and provincial statutes.

BAUER, Robert T.
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)

Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation. Mr. Bauer represents clients in proceedings before the Assessment Review Board and municipal and provincial authorities. He has extensive experience in representing clients in expropriation proceedings, both public and private, involving a wide range of issues, including the taking of property for public purposes under both federal and provincial statutes.
Careers: Known for his extensive expertise in municipal and administrative law, Sylvain Bélair is regularly called upon to represent and defend his clients’ interests before various administrative bodies and courts of law. In the field of municipal taxation, Sylvain has contested tax assessments for industrial complexes, commercial buildings, retirement homes, and even golf courses and vacant land awaiting development. Two of his notable cases include the Olympic Stadium and the Palais des congrès de Montréal. In the area of expropriation, he has represented clients in many expropriation cases, including those related to Highway 30, Technoparc Saint-Laurent and the Turcot Interchange. He has also taken on cases related to residential or commercial re-zoning and industrial park creation and expansion. He currently represents multiple owners whose properties have been expropriated for the Réseau express métropolitain, the new expropriations and tax reassessments regional hospital projects. He also represents multiple clients seeking damages for disguised expropriation before the Superior Court or the Federal Court. He offers clients deep transfer charges levied on property transactions and park service charges levied following cadastral changes and permit requests. Sylvain has extensive experience with litigation arising from the interpretation and application of municipal zoning, subdivision and construction regulations under the Act Respecting Land Use Planning and Development. He assists developers by negotiating and drafting memorandums of understanding for land enhancement and development. He is very involved in the firm’s internal operations and has served in various administrative roles over the years, including as team lead and member of the board of directors.

Professional Affiliations: PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS Member, Association des evaluateurs municipaux du Québec Member, Barreau du Québec, Canadian Bar Association – Québec Member, Canadian Property Tax Association Member, Institut de développement urbain du Québec INVOLVEMENTS Advisory Committee member – Economy and Public Finances, Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montréal Vice president of the Québec Chapter, Canadian Property Tax Association

BENHAMOU, Elias
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Montréal

Featured in Real Estate (Québec)

Practice Areas: A senior partner, Elias provides clients with business-minded advice in all aspects of real estate development, acquisitions, joint ventures, financing, construction and leasing. He also has significant development experience in secured syndicated lending and mortgage financing. For more than 30 years, he has worked on many of Quebec’s largest real estate transactions, advising some of the most active private and institutional real estate owners and developers, as well as major national retailers. Elias is a speaker and moderator at prominent real estate conferences and a guest lecturer at the McGill Graduate School of Urbanism. He chairs the Opinion Committee for commercial matters in the Montréal office as well as the Space Planning Committee for Davies’ Montréal office renovation. He is a trustee of the Phi Foundation for Contemporary Art and a board member of the Phi Centre. Select Recognition: The Lexpert/America’s Leading Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; IFLR 1000, Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure. The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada, Real Estate Law, Montréal 2018, Montréal; Who’s Who: Legal Canada.

BERG, Ira
Goodmans LLP, Toronto

Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Partner. Practice focuses on commercial real estate and public/private partnership projects. Covers all aspects of commercial real estate acquisition, owners, developers, landlords, tenants, purchasers and vendors and involves the planning, drafting and negotiating of a wide range of commercial real estate contracts and agreements. Ira has extensive experience in complex real estate financing transactions, acting for borrowers, syndicates, banks and trust companies. Ira has extensive experience in public/private infrastructure projects and has acted for both public and private sector participants.

Career: Recognized as a leading lawyer by Chambers Canada (real estate and gaming & licensing), Best Lawyers in Canada (real estate), Legal Media Group’s Expert Guide (real estate), Canada’s Leading Lawyers (real estate and gaming), The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory (project finance, property development and infrastructure law), IFLR 1000 (project finance), and the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure. Professional Affiliations: Law Society of Ontario Canadian Bar Association Ontario Bar Association Canadian Council for Public Private Partnerships

BEGNEZ, Van
Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Montréal

Featured in Real Estate (Québec)

Practice Areas: Van is a partner in the Real Estate Group of our Montréal office. He advises on acquisitions, dispositions, financing and leasing transactions to real estate owners and clients with core real estate assets critical to their businesses. His clients include property owners, developers, lenders and other commercial clients. He is known for his extensive experience in advising national and international retailers, including businesses involved in franchising on their commercial real estate needs in Quebec. Van provides ongoing, day-to-day counsel to numerous major national and international retail clients on their commercial leasing needs across Canada. He also represents real estate funds to institutional property owners and managers, REITs, family offices and governmental authorities.

Career: Van created and spearheaded the development of Estoppel Express, an estoppel certificate production service developed through the Osler Works platform.

BOUVETTE, Sylvie
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Montréal

Featured in Real Estate (Québec)

Practice Areas: Senior partner in the Commercial Real Estate Group. Represents sellers, purchasers and joint venture partners in real estate transactions and in relation to the financing of major real estate complexes. Headed among the largest-scale real estate transactions (hotels, shopping centres, office buildings, multi-residential properties, major urban redevelopments and senior housing residences) as well as disputes involving very complex real estate structures and negotiating partnership/co-ownership arrangements. Also represents developers and lenders of renewable energy projects. Often represents pension funds, REITs, public and private companies, financial institutions.


BRONSKILL, David
Goodmans LLP, Toronto

Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: A senior partner, David provides clients with business-minded advice in all aspects of real estate development, acquisitions, joint ventures, financing, construction and leasing. He also has significant development experience in secured syndicated lending and mortgage financing. For more than 30 years, he has worked on many of Quebec’s largest real estate transactions, advising some of the most active private and institutional real estate owners and developers, as well as major national retailers. Elias is a speaker and moderator at prominent real estate conferences and a guest lecturer at the McGill Graduate School of Urbanism. He chairs the Opinion Committee for commercial matters in the Montréal office as well as the Space Planning Committee for Davies’ Montréal office renovation. He is a trustee of the Phi Foundation for Contemporary Art and a board member of the Phi Centre. Select Recognition: The Lexpert/America’s Leading Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; IFLR 1000, Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure. The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada, Real Estate Law, Montréal 2018, Montréal; Who’s Who: Legal Canada.

BERG, Ira
Goodmans LLP, Toronto

Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Partner. Practice focuses on commercial real estate and public/private partnership projects. Covers all aspects of commercial real estate acquisition, owners, developers, landlords, tenants, purchasers and vendors and involves the planning, drafting and negotiating of a wide range of commercial real estate contracts and agreements. Ira has extensive experience in complex real estate financing transactions, acting for borrowers, syndicates, banks and trust companies. Ira has extensive experience in public/private infrastructure projects and has acted for both public and private sector participants.

Career: Recognized as a leading lawyer by Chambers Canada (real estate and gaming & licensing), Best Lawyers in Canada (real estate), Legal Media Group’s Expert Guide (real estate), Canada’s Leading Lawyers (real estate and gaming), The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory (project finance, property development and infrastructure law), IFLR 1000 (project finance), and the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure. Professional Affiliations: Law Society of Ontario Canadian Bar Association Ontario Bar Association Canadian Council for Public Private Partnerships

BEGNEZ, Van
Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Montréal

Featured in Real Estate (Québec)

Practice Areas: Van is a partner in the Real Estate Group of our Montréal office. He advises on acquisitions, dispositions, financing and leasing transactions to real estate owners and clients with core real estate assets critical to their businesses. His clients include property owners, developers, lenders and other commercial clients. He is known for his extensive experience in advising national and international retailers, including businesses involved in franchising on their commercial real estate needs in Quebec. Van provides ongoing, day-to-day counsel to numerous major national and international retail clients on their commercial leasing needs across Canada. He also represents real estate funds to institutional property owners and managers, REITs, family offices and governmental authorities.

Career: Van created and spearheaded the development of Estoppel Express, an estoppel certificate production service developed through the Osler Works platform.

BOUVETTE, Sylvie
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Practice Areas: Senior partner in the Commercial Real Estate Group. Represents sellers, purchasers and joint venture partners in real estate transactions and in relation to the financing of major real estate complexes. Headed among the largest-scale real estate transactions (hotels, shopping centres, office buildings, multi-residential properties, major urban redevelopments and senior housing residences) as well as disputes involving very complex real estate structures and negotiating partnership/co-ownership arrangements. Also represents developers and lenders of renewable energy projects. Often represents pension funds, REITs, public and private companies, financial institutions.


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CARMONA, Eric M
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Featured in ICSC (National-Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Eric Carmona is a partner in the Real Estate Group. His practice focuses on commercial real estate matters, including acquisitions and disposals of property transactions, including the purchase, sale and financing of commercial office complexes, retail shopping centers, residential apartment buildings, hotels, retirement homes and long-term residences, as well as secured lending. Eric is an accomplished real estate lawyer whose capabilities set him apart as one of the country’s leading real estate attorneys. He is highly regarded for his expert handling of the whole transactional process from financing to purchase, including significant cross-border deals. He has extensive involvement in joint venture structuring, portfolio acquisitions, financings and restructurings (acting on behalf of both lending syndicates and corporate borrowers). He is knowledgeable across a range of industries including commercial, residential, retail, senior living and industrial. Eric also practices corporate commercial law, with an emphasis on the acquisition and/or privatization of public real estate and pipelines and capital market transactions. His 30 years of experience has gained him significant exposure to the full spectrum of transactional real estate matters, including acquisitions and disposals, for both public and private companies and REITs.

CARON, Mario M
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Mario Caron is chair of our Canadian real estate team. His focus is on sales and acquisitions, project financing, commercial leasing and municipal taxation. He also has a more general commercial practice that involves representing corporations upon start-up and in major transactions such as acquisitions and joint ventures. Mr. Caron acts on behalf of several Canadian and foreign corporations and regularly advises a number of pension funds and financial institutions, particularly regarding real estate development, project financing and the establishment of tax-driven vehicles for the holding of assets. He regularly represents property owners and tenants who are contesting municipal assessments of industrial and commercial properties.

CARROLL, Maxwell
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Real Estate
Career: Max practices real estate law in British Columbia and Alberta with a focus on commercial leasing, acquisition and development. He has extensive commercial leasing practice which is focused on representation of institutional and privately owned landlords and representation of tenants leasing large industrial or office premises. He regularly prepares standard form leases for his landlord clients and ensures consistency of their portfolio lease documentation across their portfolio. Max has been lead West Coast real estate counsel for a large institutional landlord and has overseen the lease preparation and negotiation of over 250 distinct leasing matters. Max has also lead counsel on numerous acquisitions and sales of some of the largest real estate assets and development properties. His client's rely on Max's experience in their negotiations of purchase agreements, due diligence, structuring, financing and closings. Max also has represented owners of environmentally challenged sites selling their land while limiting potential liability resulting from existing contamination. Working closely with his developer clients, Max supports the full life-cycle of complex real estate development from feasibility, syndication and acquisition through to development approvals, market sales, and sale of development as end purchasers. His extensive experience includes projects ranging from boutique developments to large master-planned communities with multiple towers. Max's development clients include local and international real estate investors, both public and private, and owned companies and publicly traded real estate investment trusts. Private investors in the real estate market frequently engage Max to review shareholder agreements, limited partnership documentation, joint venture agreements and confirm the underlying real estate fundamentals of potential investments in the Lower Mainland. Max is a member of the bars of both British Columbia (2010) and Alberta (2017).

Professional Memberships: Law Society of British Columbia, Member Law Society of Alberta, Member Urban Development Institute, Member National Associates of Industrial and Office Properties, Member

CARSLEY, Fredric L.
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Real Estate Law Commercial Leases and Rentals Condominium and Co-Ownership Properties Real Estate Finance, Lending and Title Examination Real Estate Development
Career: Fredric L. Carsley, a passionate Quebec real estate lawyer. With over 45 years of experience in commercial real estate acquisition, development, financing and leasing, Fred Carsley has won the admiration and loyalty of many renowned players in the retail, office, industrial and multi-residential sectors. Identified by various national and international directories as a leading law practitioner in the fields of real estate development and property leasing, Fred is often referred to as “the go-to person in Quebec” by out-of-province clients and referring colleagues. He is particularly recognized for his way of simplifying the often complex and technical issues of real estate development, negotiating the agreements and preparing the documentation to ensure the best possible outcome. Fred is always willing to give back to the industry, he currently serves as an ISCC Ambassador and as a next generation mentor. As ISCC Canadian Division Government Relations Chair, Fred lobbied the Federal Government to change the Canada Interest Act in order to facilitate long-term mortgage lending. This effort was central to his admission as a Fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys. In 2017, Fred was recognized for his contribution in the development of the Canadian Section - Title Insurance and Membership Admission Committees. Professional Memberships: PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION: Member, Barreau du Québec Member, Institut de dével- oppement urbain du québec INOLVE- MENTS Past Board and Faculty member, Georgetown University Law Center, Advisory Group – Judge, ICSC Foundation JTR Scholarship, 2018 – Mentor, ICSC Foundation Mentorship Program, 2020 – to date – Member, ICSC Foundation Mentorship Program, 2005 to 2006, Quebec Government Relations Committee – Chairman from 2002 to 2006, Canadian Branch Committee

CENTA, Andrea
Fasken, Toronto
acenta@fasken.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Andrea Centa is the Co-Leader of the Firm’s Real Estate Law practice group and Leader of the Ontario Real Estate Law practice group. She is a seasoned real estate partner who has established a broad real estate practice, focused on acquisitions and dispositions of commercial real estate, the development of large real estate projects and financings. In her transaction-based practice, Andrea advises both domestic and cross-border clients across a variety of industries. She handles sophisticated transactions on behalf of real estate developers, private institutional investors, both local and foreign, financial institutions, pension funds, pension fund managers and Crown corporations. Her clients include buyers and sellers, lenders and borrowers, developers and investors in respect of office, retail, industrial, multi-residential and institutional properties. Andrea also represents institutional and private clients and developers in the investment in real estate in Canada by Canadian, US and other non-Canadian investors through the establishment of joint ventures, co-own-
See under Environment for profile.

DYCK, Michael L
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Real Estate
Practice Areas: Michael Dyck is a partner in the Real Estate and Banking & Finance Groups. As part of his commercial real estate practice, Michael provides advice in connection with a broad range of real estate, development and construction transactions. He acts for purchasers and vendors with respect to acquisitions and dispositions of multi-tenant office complexes, industrial properties and development sites, as well as acting for lenders and borrowers in connection with various types of commercial real estate financings, including construction loans, acquisition loans, leasehold financings and mortgage bond financings. Michael also has an extensive leasing practice, acting for landlords and tenants in connection with office, industrial and retail leases, as well as long-term ground leases. He also acts for owners and contractors in connection with construction projects, including in the real estate industry and the oil and gas industry. Michael has significant experience in providing advice with respect to ownership arrangements, including co-ownerships and limited partnerships. In his banking practice, Michael provides advice in all matters relating to banking transactions. He also acts for lenders and borrowers in general corporate financings, acquisition financings, subordinate financings, and also acts for issuers and purchasers in connection with debt offerings. He also regularly provides advice in connection with Canadian aspects of cross-border financings.

ELGART, Churyl
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Churyl is a partner in Osler’s Real Estate Practice Group. Her practice focuses on real estate planning and project development including title and ownership issues, municipal issues, property (tax) assessment, offset levies and expropriations. She appears before subdivision and development appeal boards, municipal councils, the Land and Property Rights Tribunal, and courts. Churyl is active in professional bodies including as a presenter.
Professional Memberships: Member, CREW Calgary; Vice-Chair, Municipal Sections (South), Alberta Branch, Canadian Bar Association, Member, Commercial Real Estate Section (South), Alberta Branch, Canadian Bar Association, Director, Alberta Environmental Association, Co-Chair, Alberta Municipal Legal Advisers Conference.
Elliott, Andrew
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Practices in real estate, commercial matters, including acquisitions and sales, financing, leasing, land development matters, joint ventures and expropriation. Andrew also consults with lawyers on a variety of transactional, conveyancing and other real estate practice matters.
EMMONS, P. Martin
Fasken, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: A seasoned and senior partner, Martin (Marty) Emmons has a broad-based real estate practice focused on the acquisition and sale of commercial and leisure real estate, and the development of significant real estate projects. Advising Canadian, U.S. and other non-Canadian parties in the structuring of their real estate holdings in Canada. His practice involves significant experience with joint ventures, co-ownerships, limited partnerships, long-term ground leases, land exchanges and other similar structures. Regularly handling large and complex real estate transactions. Marty acts on behalf of several of the largest real estate development firms in Canada, pension funds, pension fund advisors, private real estate developers, public hospitals and a number of significant U.S. based real estate companies and REIT's. Marty oversees a team of skilled and talented real estate lawyers providing the full spectrum of real estate services to our clients. Transactions involve all real estate asset classes (office, industrial, retail and mixed-use projects), major portfolio transactions comprising assets across the country, ground lease transactions and sale lease back.
ENGELL, Bruce
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Bruce Engell’s practice focuses on land use and environmental issues, disputes and related litigation matters. Bruce is the Chair of WeirFoulds’ Municipal and Planning Group. His practice focuses on issues respecting the development, use and ownership of land, including municipal, planning, and property law issues, such as land use, development disputes, industrial contamination, waste management facilities, road allowances and building permits. He has appeared in many significant court and Ontario Municipal Board matters. Bruce is author of Ontario Planning Practice: Annotated Statutes and Regulations, an annotated loose-leaf publication, and co-author of the book, Remedies and the Sale of Land, 2nd ed.
Career: Ontario Bar, 1989
FECTEAU, Jonathan
De Grandpré Chait, Montréal
514.878.3241
jffecteau@dgrandprechait.com
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Municipal Law and Expropriation Environment Protection Real Estate Development Property Acquisition Real Estate Taxation Construction Regulations Expropriation Real Estate Development Urban Planning
Career: Jonathan M. Fecteau is your ally for all your municipal law needs. Jonathan is the head of the Municipal Law team. His practice focuses on expropriation, property assessment and municipal regulation (zoning, subdivision, construction, nuisance, and urban planning). In expropriation and property assessment matters, he exclusively represents individuals and businesses claiming fair compensation for expropriation damages or seeking a fair assessment for the property they own or occupy. He also oversees the execution of mandates contesting the legality of regulations and ultra vires actions taken by municipal authorities and seeks damages and appropriate remedies in cases of disguised expropriation and legitimate expectations (estoppel). Within the framework of the Act respecting land use planning and development and other municipal regulations, Jonathan assists real estate promoters, developers and builders in all essential phases of their projects, including property acquisition and protocol agreement negotiation with public authorities. He also helps them obtain authorizations from the Ministère de l'Environnement, the Commission de protection du territoire agricole du Québec and local and regional municipalities. Jonathan appears regularly before the courts and administrative tribunals of Canada, and his skill as a negotiator is lauded by his peers.
Professional Memberships: PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS Member, Barreau du Québec; Member, Canadian Bar Association; Québec Member, Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships Member, Institut de développement urbain du Québec
FERREIRA, Daniel
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Daniel’s practice covers all aspects of real estate transactions, including acquisitions and dispositions, joint ventures, financing and development, involving major commercial real estate properties of various classes. He is also experienced in commercial leasing, having acted for both tenants and landlords in leasing transactions, in the pharmaceutical, banking services, food and retail industries.
Professional Memberships: Daniel is an active member of the Canadian Bar Association, Urban Development Institute and the International Council of Shopping Centres.
Publications: He regularly speaks at conferences and has authored and co-authored several articles on a variety of real estate topics.
FEWS, Stefan
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
(514) 397-5490
sfews@stikeman.com
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Stefan Few is a partner in the Corporate and Real Estate Groups. Stefan’s practice is focused on commercial real estate law, secured financing transactions and joint ventures. His experience includes the acquisition, financing, leasing and development of shopping centres, office towers, hotels and other major real estate assets. He regularly acts for REITs, pension funds and other institutional investors in the negotiation and structuring of partnerships, corporations and other business entities established for the purposes of real estate transactions in Canada and internationally. He has acted for the dominant CMBS lender in Canada for the past 15 years. He also has a particular expertise in Quebec agricultural law.
FREEMAN, Jonathan
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Chair of the firm’s Real Estate Group. Practice focuses on all aspects of commercial real estate law, including co-ownerships and limited partnerships. With a focus on representing traditional bank and non-bank lenders in complex real estate financing transactions, including those relating to treasuries and construction loan facilities. He has extensive experience with seniors housing loans, CMHC insured loans, commercial mortgage-backed securities and other types of securitized debt. Has financed all real estate asset classes and also routinely advises issuers and underwriters. Received a Lexpert “Rising Star” award, honouring Canada’s leading lawyers under 40, in 2017.
GAGNON-LAROCQUE, Annie
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Partner in the Real Property and Planning Group in Montréal. Practice focuses on real estate acquisitions, real estate financings, property development, commercial leasing, and joint venture transactions. Regularly represents financial institutions and public and private companies in the multi-residential, retail and hotel industries, and for development work. Acting on major transactions for REITs, developers of residential and mixed-use projects, including on projects involving vertical subdivisions and co-ownership.
Professional Memberships: Fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorney (ACMA); Urban Development Institute (UDI); Association of Quebec Women in Finance (AFFQ); International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC); Canadian Bar Association; Past President of CREW Montréal (Commercial Real Estate Women).
Personal: Member of the Aboriginal and Minority Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee – ACMA Member of the Immeubles engagés Committee (Climate change) UDI Real Estate Management Certification’s Faculty member – Concordia University.
and mixed-use developments, public-private infrastructure and energy projects. Their large commercial real estate matters have involved numerous transactions (including with respect to development), providing real estate advice to traditional and non-traditional lenders and issuers, including institutional and private equity funds, pension fund managers in private equity ventures, retail lease transactions, project financings, and asset-backed securitizations.

**Practice Areas:** Partner in the Real Property and Planning Group in Toronto and is a widely-acknowledged expert on syndicated lending. Paul's clients benefit from his unparalleled level of experience in the construction, condominium, and development spaces. Clients turn to Paul for his leadership and advice in respect to their most complex and noteworthy syndicated lending matters. Paul has personally advised dozens of lenders on syndications in the Canadian and international context.

**Career:** Toronto, 2006

**Professional Memberships:** Law Society of Upper Canada, Canadian Bar Association, and the Ontario Bar Association.

**Personal:** Best Lawyers in Canada for administrative law, 2019.

**GREEN, Bram**

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Featured in Real Estate (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Joe practices real estate law with a specialization in commercial leasing matters. He acts for several prominent owners, developers and tenants, and has worked on transactions that have been awarded “Deal of the Year” honours by the National Association of Office and Industrial Properties (NAOIP). He has also worked on transactions that have been reported as the largest commercial lease transactions in the city of Toronto. Joe has had a long career in which he served as Co-Chair of the Law Society’s bar admissions committee and as Co-Chair of the Law Society’s continuing legal education conference focused on commercial leasing issues and he lectures extensively at a number of other real estate seminars, including the law conference of the ICSC (Innovating Commerce Serving Communities).

**HOUWER, Roslyn**

Goodmans LLP, Toronto +1 416 597 4119 rhouwer@goodmans.ca

Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Counsel. Specializes in municipal law with her practice focusing on the full range of land development matters. Handled residential and employment projects throughout southern Ontario and is currently involved with several city building projects for key downtown locations which will be served by new transportation hubs. Also handled numerous large commercial planning matters for the private and public sectors, including large-scale shopping centres and commercial projects in a mixed-use urban format. Appears frequently before the Ontario Land Tribunal (formerly Local Planning Appeal Tribunal) and municipal councils on behalf of both private and public sector clients.

**Career:** Recognized as a leading practitioner by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory for property development and by Best Lawyers in Canada for administrative and public law, municipal law and real estate law. Chambers Canada 2023 recognizes Roslyn in the area of Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use.

**Personal:** Has lectured at the Law Society of Ontario, the Canadian Bar Association, Disguise Hall Law School, the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, the Ontario Association of Architects and the Building Industry and Land Development Association. She has also published articles relating to the planning process.

**HOWARD, Gregory J.**

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto 416.863.5580 ghoward@dwpv.com

Featured in Real Estate (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** A senior partner with over 40 years of experience practicing commercial real estate and corporate law, Greg is widely recognized as one of the leading lawyers in Canada in his areas of expertise. He advises clients on commercial real estate acquisitions and dispositions, joint ventures, development projects, project financing, commercial leasing, REITs, private equity funds, workouts, strategic planning and corporate matters. He represents leading Canadian and international real estate owners, investors, developers, financial institutions and public agencies in their significant transactions and projects, both in Canada and internationally, and in many of the most notable Canadian real estate transactions and development projects. Select Recognitions: Chambers Canada 2019, Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal; Real Estate; Expert Guides’ Best of the Best; Martindale-Hubbell’s highest rating, AV preeminent.

**HOWE, Robert**

Goodmans LLP, Toronto (416) 597-5158 rhowe@goodmans.ca

Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Partner in the Municipal and Land Development Group at Goodmans. Practice focuses on land use planning and public infrastructure matters for private and public sector clients. A wide range of experience in land use planning matters, appearing regularly before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (formerly Ontario Municipal Board), the Ontario Court of Justice, and before municipal councils, landowners and municipalities regarding development proposals throughout the GTA that include major residential and mixed-use greenfield development, as well as large institutional developments. Also involved in significant hearings regarding municipal official plans engaging topics that include environmental feature protection, cultural heritage conservation, Growth Plan policy and land use/budget/urban area expansions. Also developed a specialty in servicing and financial matters related to land development, including the negotiation and drafting of complex joint venture agreements between landowners and municipalities regarding the provision and funding of municipal infrastructure, and landowner cost-sharing agreements.

**Career:** Recognized as a leading lawyer by Chambers Canada, Best Lawyers in Canada and the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory.

**Professional Memberships:** Law Society of Ontario.

**Personal:** Past Chair of the Municipal Law Section of the Ontario Bar Association. Sits on the board of directors of the Hassle Free Clinic in Toronto.
HUBAND, Chris
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
+1 416 863 2758
cah@blakes.com
Featured in Real Estate (Nationale—Canadais), Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Chris has over 30 years of experience in completing commercial real estate transactions. He is often engaged in the purchase and sale of major real estate assets and has significant expertise with respect to mortgage financing, joint ventures and development projects. He advises pension funds and their advisers concerning the various rules relating to the investment by pension funds in real estate. Chris has a broad range of clients, including pension funds, mutual funds, life insurance companies, as well as lenders, advisers, major landlords, and tenants and developers.

HUTMACHER, John
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416-863-2219
john.hutmacher@blakes.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: John works on acquisitions and dispositions, joint ventures, financing, development, condominium and including transactional property. He represents many Canadian commercial properties, including many of the country’s most prominent retail, office and industrial developments. He is particularly experienced in helping U.S. and overseas clients and lawyers understand the legal and practical differences in conducting real estate transactions in Canada. John is Co-Practice Group Leader of the Firm’s Real Estate Group, made up of approximately 40 lawyers.

Professional Memberships: John is the global chair of the Real Estate Practice Group at Lex Mundi, the world’s largest network of law firms with over 160 member firms. He is also the past Chair of each of the American Bar Association (ABA) Real Property Section’s Special Investors and Investment Structure Group and the International Real Estate Finance Committee. John regularly speaks at ABA and other industry events worldwide on cross-border real estate transactions, the Canadian real estate market and other issues of interest to industry leaders and participants. He has also spoken and presented papers on topics relevant to the real estate industry at MIPIM, the International Bar Association and the Law Society of Ontario.

ITTERMANN, Devin
Lawson Lundell LLP, Calgary
ditterman@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Real Estate, Corporate Commercial Law,
Career: Devin ittermann practices real estate and corporate commercial law, and is based in Lawson Lundell’s Calgary office. Devin advises a wide variety of clients including commercial property owners and developers, business owners, lenders, borrowers, landlords, and tenants. Devin has significant experience in respect of purchase/sale transactions, financing, condominium/retail, leasehold, and development matters, and has had the opportunity to work on major housing developments in both Calgary and Fort McMurray, lease agreements for a range of different types of properties, and the purchase and sale of numerous businesses, including education/insurance institutions, restaurants, hotels, medical practices, and pharmacies. Devin is a member of the Alberta Bar (2006), Devin is a member of the Alberta Bar (2006).

JEFFERY, Steven
Blaney McMurtry LLP, Toronto
+1 416.593.3939
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Steven Jeffery practices in the areas of corporate/commercial law and real estate financing and development. He has significant experience in all aspects of debt financing, including securitization work. He acts for real estate companies and lenders in the acquisition, disposition, development, construction and financing of commercial, residential and mixed-use condominium projects.

JACKSON, Richard
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
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rcjackson@stikeman.com
Practice Areas: Richard Jackson is the Managing Partner and former Head of the Commercial Real Estate Group at Stikeman Elliott’s Vancouver office. Richard’s diverse real estate practice encompasses acquisitions, sales, leasing, and all aspects of major multi-use development projects, including zoning, subdivision, environmental and municipal approvals. His practice also includes corporate real estate based joint ventures as well as First Nation’s treaties and major energy projects. Richard is consistently sought out by top developers in British Columbia, providing counsel on the most significant real estate projects throughout Vancouver and B.C’s Lower Mainland. He has acted for the Province of British Columbia on land-related matters in the development of all four concluded modern-day Indigenous treaties in British Columbia. Richard has also played an integral role influencing Impact Benefit Agreements on behalf of First Nations groups and communities.

JAROUX, Joseph
Dans Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Montréal
+1 514 841 6545
jarjou@wpv.com
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Joseph is a partner whose practice focuses on real estate development, real estate transactions and joint ventures, financing and construction. He advises leading owners, investors and developers on complex and multi-layered real estate transactions and development projects. He also regularly acts for lenders or borrowers in connection with secured (mortgage) lending matters, as well as in respect of construction and project financings. Clients can count on Joseph as a key team member who thoroughly understands their business model and transactional concerns and who, over the past two decades, has been involved in many of Montréal’s most high profile real estate transactions and development projects. Joseph is a member of Davies’ Montréal office Recruitment, Evaluation, Talent Management and Workplace Harassment Prevention committees. He is also a member of the board of directors and the corporate secretary of the Festival du Nouveau Cinéma de Montréal, one of Québec’s most prestigious film festivals. Selected Recognition: The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada.

JEFFERY, Steven
Blaney McMurtry LLP, Toronto
+1 416.593.3939
jefferry@blaney.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Steven Jeffery practices in the areas of corporate/commercial law and real estate financing and development. He has significant experience in all aspects of debt financing, including securitization work. He acts for real estate companies and lenders in the acquisition, disposition, development, construction and financing of commercial, residential and mixed-use condominium projects.

KATZ, Neil
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
514-982-5090
nkatz@blakes.com
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Neil is a senior partner and an experienced real estate lawyer with a focus on acquisitions and dispositions. Neil has worked on some of Québec’s largest real estate transactions. Neil has extensive expertise in advising leading public and private companies, institutional investors, private equity sponsors, chartered banks and other financial institutions on a wide variety of transactions. Prior to his career in law, Neil worked as an analyst and appraiser for a major real estate developer, the real estate investment banking arm of a Canadian chartered bank and a leading real estate appraisal firm.

CLAASSEN, Douglas
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
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dklaassen@stikeman.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Douglas Claassen is a partner in the Real Estate Group of the Toronto office. His practice focuses on commercial real property and leasing, commercial mortgage lending, securitization, structured finance, and private equity funds. Doug acts for commercial property owners, landlords, commercial and residential mortgage lenders, aggregators, servicers, CMBS and ABS issuers, investors, underwriters, and rating agencies based in Canada and the United States.

KOFMAN, Daniel
Blakes, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416-863-2789
daniel.kofman@blakes.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Daniel Kofman represents clients in all aspects of commercial real estate, including acquisitions, dispositions, leasing, development and financing. He is frequently consulted by both foreign and domestic real estate investors and represents several banks/financial institutions and borrowers on real estate financing transactions. Daniel also acts for clients in the renewable energy and electric vehicle industries and has experience with developing, buying, selling and financing renewable energy projects (including solar and wind farms) and hotels.

KOTSOPOULOS, Savvas
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Featured in Retail (Nationale—Canadais), Real Estate (Ontario)
See under Retail for profile.

LANTZ, Calvin
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Calvin Lantz is a partner in the Real Estate Group and head of the Municipal & Land Use Group. He is a Certified Specialist in Municipal Law (Land Use Planning and Development) and appears before administrative boards and approval bodies and agencies; including the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (formerly the Ontario Municipal Board). A member of the Municipal Committee, John regularly speaks at ABA Real Estate seminars and appears before official plan and zoning by-laws amendments, including consents to sever lands, minor variances, subdivision and site plan approvals, condominium conversions, building permits, other related municipal and provincial approvals that are necessary for land development. Calvin strategizes and leads teams of development approval professionals (including architects, land use planners and engineers); negotiates with senior municipal staff and politicians, government agencies and land owners; prepares and submits land use planning applications and provides strategic direction on the approval process; provides legal opinions on a broad range of municipal issues, zoning by-laws and land use policies; prepares land use planning instruments; and negotiates municipal and development agreements such as section 37 agreements, subdivision and site plan approvals, heritage easement agreements and agreements with conservation authorities.

LEBLANC, Nicolas
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Nicolas Lelbanc is a partner in Fasken’s Real Estate group in Montréal. He is also active in the Infrastructure group. Nicolas provides strategic advice to a wide range of players in the financial, real estate, transportation and infrastructure markets on the development of projects requiring interaction with administrative, government and community stakeholders. Nicolas represents owners, managers, promoters and lenders in relation to purchase and sale agreements, development agreements, commercial leases and real estate financings for a wide range of commercial, industrial and multi-residential properties. Nicolas negotiates diverse real estate transactions and guides clients through the various project steps in the transportation and energy sectors, including the design, construction, procurement and commissioning.
LEHMANN, Rachel
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Rachel’s diverse real es-
tate practice involves regularly acting on
acquisitions, dispositions, financings, joint
ventures and development projects of all
asset classes, including retail and com-
mercial, industrial and office, multi-resi-
dential and hospitality. Rachel also often
provides real estate advice in connection
with complex commercial transactions,
including domestic and international
mergers and acquisitions, renewable ener-
gy and infrastructure transactions, project
and other financings and receivership sales.
Rachel regularly acts for clients with port-
folios that span North America, including
pension funds, life insurance companies
and real estate investment trusts. In her
real estate financing practice, Rachel has
acted for financial institutions, private
lenders and a wide range of borrowers on
numerous large- and mid-scale secured
financings.
LEISH, Signe
Cassels-Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Practice encompasses all
aspects of municipal, land use planning
and environmental law, with a particular
focus on land development. Extensive expe-
rience representing both private sector
builders and developers as well as munic-
ipalities and public institutions. Appears
regularly before the Ontario Land
 Tribunal and the courts.
Professional Memberships: Urban Land
Institute, Transit Oriented Develop-
ment Product Council Member; Lambda
Alpha International Honorary Society for
the Advancement of Land Economics,
Board Member.
Publications: Co-author of three leading
texts: Municipal and Planning Law in
Canada, 2nd edition, Canadian Forms &
Precedents-Municipal Law, Canadian
Forms & Precedents—Land Development.
LIVERGANT, Stephen
McCarthy Tetrault, Toronto
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slivergant@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Practice encompasses all
aspects of commercial real estate with
particular emphasis on development,
acquisitions and dispositions with respect
to all asset classes., as well as structuring
of co-ownerships and partnerships. In
addition, has extensive expertise in the de-
velopment and conveying of residen-
tial and industrial condominium projects.
Represents private and public real estate
companies as well as acts for pension
funds and other institutional clients.
Has acted as a director of a public real estate
company. For several years he has lec-
tured on the subject for the Alberta Bar
Admission course on real estate law.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar
Association and Calgary Bar Asso-
ciation.
LO PAPA, Mariella
Firm, Montréal
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Mariella Lo Papa is
Co-Leader of the firm’s national Real
estate practice and Co-Chair of the
Real Estate Law group in Montréal.
For more than 20 years, she has
focused on retail, office and industrial
leasing and related matters, representing
landlords, tenants and portfolio managers.
This gives Mariella the perspective to
generate solutions for clients and to cre-
late, ongoing relationships between the
parties. She has worked on major lease
transactions involving regional shopping
centers, life-style centers, office buildings
and mixed-use properties, as well as
leaseback transactions. Mariella also
advises on property development,
adquisitions and dispositions. Clients
seek Mariella’s advice on daily operations,
development and rezoning issues, and
owner/tenant negotiations. Mariella has
also developed an extensive catalog of
leasing forms and language that permits
the commercial leasing group to stream-
line the lease negotiation and execution
process and offer competitive pricing.
LOGAN, Paul
Fasken, Calgary
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plogan@fasken.com
Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Paul is a member of our
Real Estate Group in the Calgary office.
He advises on a wide variety of complex
matters for real estate clients, including
purchase and sale transactions of office,
industrial and retail properties, mortgage
financing, leasing, and development and
planning matters. Paul acts for a broad
range of clients, including pension funds,
life insurance companies, major landlords,
and institutional lenders. Paul also has
significant experience in negotiating
leases and subleases for office, industrial
and commercial space, for local, national
and international landlords and tenants.
Paul also provides real estate advice on
complex commercial transactions in the
conventional energy and renewable ener-
gy sectors, including purchases, ground
leases and development of power plants,
wind, solar and hydroelectric energy in-
frastructure, project financings and share
and asset purchase transactions.
LOMBARDI, Gabriella
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glombardi@dwpv.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Gabriella is a senior
partner in the Commercial Real Estate and
Corporate practices. She has extensive
experience in a broad range of transac-
tions involving commercial property such
as acquisitions, disposions, development
of major real estate projects, including
mixed-use properties, joint ventures,
securitizations and complex leasing.
Gabriella advises clients in diverse
industries such as the self-storage facili-
ties sector, the renewable energy sector,
the forestry sector, the mining sector,
the hospitality sector and, more broadly,
in the commercial real estate sector,
including all commercial property asset
types. She has represented major Canadian
pension funds, Canadian and international private
equity funds and investors and institution-
ally investors with respect to acquisitions,
dispositions and development of com-
mercial property and fund investments.
Select Recognition: Chambers Canada;
The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory;
The Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who
Legal-Canada.
LONGCROFT, David C.
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Hospitality (Nationally – Cana-
dal, Real Estate (British Columbia)
See under Hospitality for profile.
MACDONALD, Ross A
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
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rmacdonald@stikeman.com
Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Ross MacDonald, KC is
a senior partner at Stikeman Elliott. Ross
is one of the six lawyers who founded the
office in 1988 and he served as the
Managing Partner for over 20 years.
Ross’s diverse real estate and commercial practice emphasizes
acquisitions, leasing, financing, and all
aspects of major multi-use development
projects, including zoning, subdivision,
environmental remediation, governmental
and municipal approvals. His practice also
includes corporate, real estate-based
transactions involving pension fund
syndications as well as public-private
partnership infrastructure and concession
agreements. Appointed in 1988, Ross con-
tinues to act as lead counsel responsible
for the development of Concord Pacific
Place, the 200+ acre former site of Expo
86 located in downtown Vancouver. Born
and raised in Greater Vancouver, Ross
has in-depth knowledge of the region’s
municipal landscape and its real estate
opportunities and challenges.
MACDOUGALL, Cynthia
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
416 601 7634
cmadougall@mctyr.ca
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Senior partner of the
firm’s Toronto office and head of McCarthy
Tétrault’s Municipal Group in Toronto.
She is one of the most experienced and
successful municipal approval lawyers
in Ontario. Cynthia focuses on the areas
of municipal and land use planning law,
specifically as it relates to infrastructure
and complex multi-phase development
projects, often with challenging approval
constraints and environmental issues.
She practices extensively in front of the
Ontario Land Tribunal, Committees of
Adjustment, and municipal Council’s and
committees, representing institutions,
private developers and non-profit organi-
zations. Cynthia works with members of
city councils and senior government
staff at the municipal, provincial and
federal levels government, particularly
in the GTA. Cynthia provides advice on
major infrastructure projects in Ontario,
and has been the municipal lawyer on
many landmark and precedent setting projects
across the GTA. She is the original author
of the Certification A Table for Ontario P3
tracts. 
Career: Ontario Bar, 1986
Publications: Municipal Section,
Canadian Bar Association (Ontario). She is
past-chair of the Toronto Parks and Trees
Foundation, past-president and past-di-
rector of the Neighbourhood Information
Post, as well as a former director of the
Wood Green Centre, the Tscarbor-
ough Distress Centre and Sistering.
MANZANO, Miguel F.
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com
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Miguel Manzano’s practice
focuses on acquisitions, real estate, joint
ventures, project finance and commercial contracts. His experience includes
acting in sale and leaseback
financings of aircraft, helicopters and soft-
ware and in project financings for creating
a wind farm in Québec and a copper mine
in Spain. Mr. Manzano was involved in the
sale of several landmark Montreal office
buildings and has extensive experience in
ternational transactions such as bid
preparation for construction projects,
joint ventures and equity participations in
toll highways and public utilities in Latin
America. In addition to French and Eng-
lish, Mr. Manzano speaks fluent Spanish
and Italian.
MARTIN, Steven
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
416-863-5572
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Steven focuses on
commercial real estate transactions,
including joint ventures, development
of major commercial and residential
projects, purchase and sale transactions,
leasebacks, commercial leasing,
and real estate financings. His real estate
clients include REITs, developers, pension
funds, retailers and other institutional in-
vestors. Over the last decade, Steven has
achieved substantial expertise in advising
on large infrastructure projects, including
public-private partnerships. As lead
counsel, Steven has acted for clients on
numerous successful P3 bids in industries
as diverse as transportation, maintenance
facilities, hospitals, social infrastructure,
water treatment facilities and driver
examination centres. Select Recogni-
tion: Chambers Canada; Lexpert Special
Edition: Infrastructure; The Canadian
Legal Lexpert Directory; Who’s Who
Legal-Canada; Who’s Who Legal-Real
Real Estate; The Best Lawyers in Canada.
MERRICK, Jeffrey
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Jeff is the Chair of the
Infrastructure group and the head of the
Vancouver Real Estate group. He has
expertise in developing, buying, selling,
leasing and managing major commercial
real estate and infrastructure projects.
He also has expertise in P3s and APFs,
including all aspects of major design, build,
finance and operate projects working with
private and public partners.
Professional Memberships: Jeff is a
member of the Canadian Bar Associa-
tion—Real Property Subsection and the
Assistance for Foreign Investors in Real Estate (AFIRE).

**Publications:** Contributing author to a Continuing Legal Education publication of annotated precedents.

***MIECAREK, Pawel***

David Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
(416) 367-7549
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Pawel is a partner in the Commercial Real Estate practice at Davies in Toronto. He advises clients on commercial real estate and financing transactions, acquisitions and dispositions, development projects, joint ventures, commercial leasing, renewable energy projects and public-private partnerships. He provides advice to financial institutions as well as large real estate developers and investors in Ontario and across Canada. He also works for pension fund clients, REITs and other institutional investors. Pawel is a member of the Board of Toronto Student Committee. Select Recognition: The Canadian Law Experip Directory: The Best Lawyers in Canada.

***MORASSUTTI, Paul***

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
416.862.4873
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Paul’s practice is focused primarily on all types of commercial real estate, including the acquisition (including by sale-leaseback and ground lease), disposition, leasing (landlord and tenant), development, financing (including by private placement, syndicated facility, securities, construction financing, bank debt, mezzanine and equity financing, project financing and traditional mortgage financing, for lenders and borrowers), joint ventures, co-ownership, and asset and property management of commercial real estate in the office, industrial, mixed-use, hotel, multi-family, self-storage, seniors housing and retail classes. Ryan advises a broad range of domestic and cross-border clients including real estate investment trusts, pension funds, private equity firms, developers, financial institutions, asset and property managers, government agencies, emerging companies and telecommunication companies. Ryan also regularly advises on real property matters as part of corporate acquisitions and dispositions (including for large M&A transactions and for emerging and high-growth clients), reorganizations, ganging matters, equity offerings, mortgage enforcement, mortgage acquisitions and insolvency matters.

**Professional Memberships:**
- Canadian Bar Association Ontario Bar Association
- Law Society of Ontario

**Publications:** Bar Admission Course Materials for Real Estate.

**Personal:** Osogoole Hall Law School, LL.B.

***MORROW, Juli***

Goodmans LLP, Toronto
(416) 597-4135
jmorrow@goodmans.ca
Featured in Real Estate (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Counsel. Practice initially centered on a broad range of commercial matters and now focuses on commercial real estate transactions including financings, acquisitions, dispositions, management agreements, development agreements, joint ventures and partnerships. A large part of her practice involves financing and refinancing of real estate assets, including mortgage transactions, sale/leaseback transactions, private placements and public offerings. acted on a number of credit lease transactions in connection with commercial mortgage-backed securities. Also acted for tenants and landlords in connection with the initial public offerings of several REITs.

**Career:** Recognized as a leading practitioner of real estate law by Chambers Canada, The Legal 500 Canada, Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Women in Business Law, IFLR 1000, Best Lawyers in Canada, and The Canadian Legal Experip Directory in the area of property financing and development work. Also by Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers (one of the top 12 in the world) and Chambers Global, Law Business Research’s The International Who’s Who of Real Estate Lawyers, The International Who’s Who of Business Lawyers, Lexpert/LAmerican Lawyer Media’s Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada and was named one of the top 25 women lawyers in Canada by Lexpert.

***NIELSEN, Ryan***

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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Ryan’s practice involves all aspects of commercial property matters, including the acquisition (by sale-leaseback and ground lease), disposition, leasing (landlord and tenant), development, financing (including by private placement, syndicated facility, securities, construction financing, bank debt, mezzanine and equity financing, project financing and traditional mortgage financing, for lenders and borrowers), joint ventures, co-ownership, and asset and property management of commercial real estate in the office, industrial, mixed-use, hotel, multi-family, self-storage, seniors housing and retail classes. Ryan advises a broad range of domestic and cross-border clients including real estate investment trusts, pension funds, private equity firms, developers, financial institutions, asset and property managers, government agencies, emerging companies and telecommunication companies. Ryan also regularly advises on real property matters as part of corporate acquisitions and dispositions (including for large M&A transactions and for emerging and high-growth clients), reorganizations, ganging matters, equity offerings, mortgage enforcement, mortgage acquisitions and insolvency matters.

**Professional Memberships:**
- Canadian Bar Association Ontario Bar Association
- Law Society of Ontario

**Publications:** Bar Admission Course Materials for Real Estate.

**Personal:** Osogoole Hall Law School, LL.B.

***PAPADIMITRIOU, James***

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Montréal
514 250 6382
j.papadimitriou@mccartt.ca
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)

**Practice Areas:** Senior partner in the Montréal office. Practice focuses on real estate (acquisitions, dispositions, development, joint ventures, financing, mortgage purchases, syndications, participations and leasing). He is also the firm’s Real Property and Planning Group leader for the Québec region.

**Career:**

**Professional Memberships:**
- Canadian Bar Association and American Bar Association
- Real Estate Development Institute
- Regent of American College of Mortgage Attorneys; Governor, Québec Bar Association Foundation; Board of Directors Urban Development Institute

**Publications:** Frequent speaker and author

**Personal:** Fluent in English, French, Greek.

***PATTERSON, Pitman***

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
+1 416 367 6109
ppatterson@bgcl.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Pitman Patterson is a partner in BLG’s Toronto office and the National Business Leader of the Environmental, Municipal, Expropriation and Regulatory Practice Group. His practice is focused on planning and development law, expropriation law, and general municipal law. Pitman appears frequently at the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT, formerly the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal) in planning and expropriation cases, and before councils and in the courts. He also advises public and private sector clients in a variety of transit infrastructure matters, including integration of public infrastructure with private development.

**Career:**

***PAURA, Mario***

Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
416-869-5638
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Featured in Real Estate (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Mario Paura is Head of the Toronto office's Real Estate Group and Co-Head of the National Real Estate Group. He is an active member of the Mergers & Acquisitions Group, Co-Leader of the Retail Group, and a member of the firm’s Management Committee. Mario has over 25 years of experience focused primarily in the areas of commercial real estate, financing, M&A and commercial leasing. Mario’s diverse and sophisticated real estate practice includes all aspects involving the purchase, sale, financing and development of asset classes including retail and commercial, industrial and

***PARGH, Shaun***

Lawson Lundell LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)

**Practice Areas:** Corporate Commercial Law

**Career:** Shaun Partridge, KC is a partner based in our Calgary office. Shaun practices in our Real Estate and Corporate Commercial practice groups and has a practice that encompasses a broad range of sophisticated real estate and corporate-commercial transactions, including: corporate reorganizations and restructur- ing, real estate acquisition and disposition, development and financing. Shaun represents investors, developers and end-users with the acquisition, financing, development and disposition of all types of commercial property and has assisted clients in projects such as: development of residential subdivision developments; development and structuring of numerous condominium projects; and commercial lease negotiations for a wide variety of tenants and landlords. Shaun also provides advice to domestic and international corporations and public institutions in relation to corporate structures and governance, the drafting and negotiation of contracts and agreements, private mergers and acquisitions, private equity, start-ups and corporate governance and compliance. Shaun was appointed Queen’s Counsel in 2014. Shaun is a member of the Alberta Bar (1989).

**Professional Memberships:**
- Law Society of Alberta, Member Canadian Bar Association, Member Calgary Bar Association, Member Mortgage Loans Association, Member

***PATTERSON, Pitman***

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Pitman Patterson is a partner in BLG’s Toronto office and the National Business Leader of the Environmental, Municipal, Expropriation and Regulatory Practice Group. His practice is focused on planning and development law, expropriation law, and general municipal law. Pitman appears frequently at the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT, formerly the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal) in planning and expropriation cases, and before councils and in the courts. He also advises public and private sector clients in a variety of transit infrastructure matters, including integration of public infrastructure with private development.

**Career:**

***PAURA, Mario***

Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
416-869-5638
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Featured in Real Estate (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)

**Practice Areas:** Mario Paura is Head of the Toronto office's Real Estate Group and Co-Head of the National Real Estate Group. He is an active member of the Mergers & Acquisitions Group, Co-Leader of the Retail Group, and a member of the firm’s Management Committee. Mario has over 25 years of experience focused primarily in the areas of commercial real estate, financing, M&A and commercial leasing. Mario’s diverse and sophisticated real estate practice includes all aspects involving the purchase, sale, financing and development of asset classes including retail and commercial, industrial and

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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)

**Practice Areas:** Corporate Commercial Law

**Career:** Shaun Partridge, KC is a partner based in our Calgary office. Shaun practices in our Real Estate and Corporate Commercial practice groups and has a practice that encompasses a broad range of sophisticated real estate and corpo-
office, multi-residential, hospitality and entertainment properties, and REITs. In his banking practice, Mario has acted for both borrowers and lenders in domestic and international financings and securitized financings. In connection with his mergers and acquisitions practice, Mario regularly represents a variety of clients with portfolios that span North America in all aspects of real estate investment. He effectively provides clients with customized and practical advice on purchases and dispositions of businesses by way of share and asset purchases, partnerships and joint ventures. Greg has significant experience to help them maximize value and increase management efficiency.

PETERS, Tina
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Tina Peters is a partner in McCarthy Tétrault’s Real Property & Planning Group in Calgary. Her practice is focused on real estate acquisitions and dispositions, real estate based financing transactions (both on behalf of financial institutions and landowners), and commercial leasing. She advises clients with real property matters as part of corporate acquisitions, reorganizations, equity offerings and renewable energy project acquisitions, financings and financings. Tina has experience on both sides of the negotiating table, having acted for sellers and acquirers, lenders and borrowers, tenants and landlords. In 2010, Tina completed a secondment with the in-house legal department of a major oil and gas company. Tina’s recent matters include acting for Otera Capital Inc. on the payday of their loan on the sale of Stantec Tower in Edmonton and construction financing for other phases of the ICE district, and advising the Bank of Nova Scotia in connection with its financing of the development known as Trinity Hills in Calgary.

Career: Alberta Bar, 2011
Professional Memberships: Law Society of Alberta, the Canadian Bar Association, the Calgary Bar Association, NAIOP and CREW Calgary

PLATER, Gregory
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Gregory Plater is Head of the Real Estate Group in the Vancouver office, lead partner of the Real Estate Group for Western Canada, Co-Lead of the National Real Estate Group and a member of the Projects & Infrastructure Group. Greg provides advice with respect to all aspects of real estate acquisitions, dispossession, financings, pre-purchase transactions, development projects, joint ventures, construction arrangements and leasing (including ground leases of public and government owned land) in British Columbia and Alberta. His clients include a broad range of public and private real estate companies and developers, pension funds, real estate advisors, lenders and municipalities. In particular, the development projects in which he has provided advice have involved all aspects of the real estate development of highly contaminated land. Greg has provided advice on a variety of significant public-private partnership (PPP) transactions for transportation, medical, and public and government infrastructure projects in British Columbia and Alberta, both as counsel to project proponents and as lender’s counsel. Most recently, he has developed a particular expertise in acting for municipalities on joint development projects involving the private sector.

PORTER, Dana
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Dana Porter is a partner in the Real Estate Group. He also practices in the Projects & Infrastructure, Financial Products & Services and Restructuring & Insolvency Groups, and is a former member of the Management Committee in the Toronto office. Dana’s practice includes all aspects of commercial real estate, with an emphasis on acquisition and financing of income properties, structured project finance, public-private partnerships and other public sector transactions. He represents a number of institutional investors, lenders and advisors, both domestic and international, as well as public sector entities and private sector suppliers of services and materials to the public sector. Dana is a member of the Canadian Council for Public-Private Partnerships (CCPPP) and the National Association of Industrial, Office and Retail Properties (NAIOP), and has served as a director or officer of a number of for-profit corporations. He was an instructor in the Real Estate Bar Admission Program of the Law Society of Ontario’s Bar Admission Course and has been a lecturer for the Law Society of Ontario and the Canadian Bar Association.

PREVOST, Jean-Nicolas
Norton Rose Fullbright, Québec
Jean-nicolas.prevost@nortonrosefullbright.com
Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Jean-Nicolas Prevost practices business law with a focus on corporate, real estate and banking law. An important part of his practice involves drafting and negotiating sale and purchase, development, management and administration agreements for commercial transactions. He has experience in the development of innovative corporate structures, setting up investment funds and drafting agreements between shareholders or investors or creditors. Mr. Prevost has represented institutional and private lenders and borrowers in financing transactions. He also has extensive experience in real estate law and commercial leasing.

RABY, Stephen
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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)
Practice Areas: Steve Raby maintains a dynamic commercial real estate practice, acting for developers, lenders, vendors and purchasers, landlords and tenants and other government infrastructure developers. Mr. Raby has extensive experience in all aspects of commercial real estate transactions, municipal planning and subdivision, leasing, loan, condominium, law, construction law and mortgage law.

RAWLINSON, Graham
Torys LLP, Toronto
416-865-7397
grawlinson@torys.com
Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: A leading real estate lawyer, Graham brings decades of experience helping clients navigate the real estate industry through business-minded counsel focused on optimal opportunities and outcomes for clients. Co-head of Torys’ Commercial Real Estate Practice, Graham is known for his extensive experience in commercial real estate and infrastructure transactions, including real estate joint ventures, acquisitions, divestitures, project finance, development, leasing, construction and secured lending. Graham regularly acts for public and private businesses in some of their most complex and transformational real estate transactions. He brings market insight and real estate experience through his longstanding work in the seniors housing, retail, office and hospitality sectors.

REDMOND, David
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416-869-5382
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Practice encompasses all types of commercial real estate transactions. Has a sophisticated commercial mortgage lending practice acting for institutional lenders dealing with all types of financing for commercial properties, including multi-residential, office, shopping centre, industrial and construction projects. Also has extensive experience in purchase and sales transactions, financing and structuring of real estate transactions, commercial leasing, joint ventures and co-ownerships, dealing with REITs and work involving all asset classes in the commercial real estate field.

REGO, Conrad
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)
Practice Areas: Practice focuses primarily on real estate joint ventures, including the acquisition, development, financing, and leasing of multi-residential and commercial real estate assets as well as mixed use development projects, office and residential towers and hotels properties. Elías regualrly acts on behalf of various developers, lenders, investors, family offices and hotel operators and has extensive knowledge and understanding of the technical and business aspects surrounding the real estate industry. He has established a reputation as a solution driven dealmaker and is recognized by one of Montreal’s go to real estate lawyers.

RUBIN, Marc J
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Real Estate Law Real Estate Financing and Title Examination

REINER, David G
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Featured in Real Estate (Nationwide – Canada, Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: David is a partner in Davies’ Commercial Real Estate, Corporate and Infrastructure practices. He advises on complex commercial real estate transactions, specializing in large and intricate purchases and sales, joint venture arrangements, developments and financings, both domestically and internationally. He also has significant experience in public-private partnerships for large infrastructure projects. David is key advisor to some of the world’s most sophisticated real estate developers, REITs, pension funds and investment funds, who rely on him for their understanding of their businesses and high-level advice. His client-focused approach has also earned the trust of several Canadian banks. Select recognition: The Legal 500 Canada 2017.

RETINAS, Elias
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(514) 397-1410
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Featured in Real Estate (Québec)
Practice Areas: Elias Retinas specializes in real estate law and is a partner at Fasken’s Montréal office. His practice is focused primarily on real estate joint ventures, including the acquisition, development, financing, and leasing of real estate assets such as mixed use development projects, office and residential towers and hotels properties. Elías regularly acts on behalf of various developers, lenders, investors, family offices and hotel operators and has extensive knowledge and understanding of the technical and business aspects surrounding the real estate industry. He has established a reputation as a solution driven dealmaker and is recognized by one of Montréal’s go to real estate lawyers.
Real Estate Development

Real Estate Transactions

Career: Considered one of the best real estate lawyers in the country, Marc J. Rubin is a leader in practice. Marc is a true pillar in commercial real estate law. He is the top lawyer in Montréal and Québec when it comes to major real estate transactions, including acquisitions, sales, financing, restructuring, real estate development and leasing. He has a diversified portfolio and represents institutional, private and public clients. Marc understands how precious time is for his clients and leverages his vast expertise and specialized knowledge to solve even the most complex problems in record time. His clients particularly appreciate his skill in managing each transaction and his emphasis on providing valuable, high-quality services. Over the years, Marc has received prestigious recognition from the likes of Chambers Canada, which named him “Star Individual” (416 Real Estate lawyer in Québec since 2016). He is also one of the 500 most recommended lawyers in Canada. He has repeatedly been recognized by his peers and is often cited for his knowledge and experience with highly complex real estate issues. Few significant real estate projects are completed in Greater Montréal and throughout the province without his valuable contribution.

Professional Memberships: PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS Member, Barreau du Québec Member, Canadian Bar Association - Québec Member, Institut de développement urbain du Québec

RUBINOFF, Fred M

Goodmans LLP
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Real Estate Group at Goodmans. Practice is transaction based involving a broad range of commercial real estate transactions, including real estate financings, purchase and sale transactions, joint ventures, development of major commercial and residential projects and commercial leasing. His clients include financial institutions and other lenders, developers, REITs and institutional and private investors.

Career: Recognized as a leading practitioner of real estate law by Chambers Global, Chambers Canada, The Legal 500 Canada, Best Lawyers in Canada and by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory in the areas of banking and financial institutions, real property development and project finance. He has also been recognized by LMG’s Guide to the World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers as a leading lawyer in real estate.

Professional Memberships: Ontario Bar Association Canadian Bar Association Law Society of Ontario Canadian Condominium Institute

Personal: Fred was a Cabinet Member for the $50 million “In Our LifeTime Campaign” for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

SALEM, Andrew

Goodmans LLP
416.537.4646
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Practices in the areas of commercial real estate, property development, and commercial leasing. Represents clients on all aspects of real property purchases, sales, joint ventures and financing transactions, with a specialization in transactions relating to development projects. Also has a very active commercial leasing practice, acting for both landlords and tenants on all types of leasing transactions. Has acted for a wide range of clients, including property developers and investors, federal and provincial government agencies, municipalities, universities, financial institutions, restaurant and retail brands, energy companies, large manufacturers, railways, and many others.

SCHAFER, Charlene

Torly's LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: With sophisticated negotiation skills, Charlene has deep real estate experience that is backed by transaction acumen. She works closely with clients across their real estate transactions, distilling complex issues with practical perspective and insight. Charlene maintains a comprehensive real estate practice focused on commercial transactions, particularly in the real estate private equity, fund and joint venture space. She advises domestic, cross-border and international clients in all real estate sectors, regularly representing pension funds owners, fund sponsors, managers, private equity funds, sovereign wealth funds, developers, local and international institutional investors, universities, major lenders and borrowers, landlords and tenants. Charlene has extensive experience in the creation, promotion, management of and investment in both open-end and closed-end domestic, national and international real estate private equity funds, limited partnerships, joint ventures and co- ownerships, development-related matters and asset management. She frequently acts on transactions involving acquisitions and dispositions of single property and portfolio investments, sale/leaseback arrangements, as well as single lender and syndicated construction, servicing, term and take-out financing. Charlene advises clients on the real estate components of their mergers and acquisitions transactions; in addition to advice relating to industrial and office leasing negotiations, construction-related mandates, regulatory, compliance matters and land transfer tax advice.

SCHYVEN, Melissa

Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Hospitality (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)

See Under Hospitality for profile

SEE, Jonathan

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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Ontario), Real Estate (Ontario)

See Under Corporate/Commercial for profile

SHAPIRO, Neil

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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Neil Shapiro is a partner in the Real Estate Group. His practice focuses on commercial real estate, construction, infrastructure projects, public-private partnerships, commercial leasing, and real property financing. His real estate practice includes all aspects involving the purchase, sale, financing, leasing, and development of all asset classes, including retail and commercial, industrial and office, multi-residential, and hospitality. Neil also has extensive experience in the construction and infrastructure sectors, and regularly advises and assists a variety of clients on a full spectrum of construction-related matters, including procurement, drafting and negotiation of construction contracts, construction liens, and dispute management.

SHIRREFF, Craig

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
604.643.5955
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Partner and leader of our Real Property and Planning Group in Vancouver. He advises clients in a number of different industries on all aspects of commercial real estate transactions, including acquisitions, dispositions, development, structuring, leasing and financing.

Career: British Columbia Bar, 1999

Publications: Co-editor of the Firm’s Real Estate MATTERS publication and a frequent contributor to the Firm’s real property blog, “The Lay of the Land”

Personal: Craig sits on the editorial advisory board of the British Columbia Real Estate Practice Manual and the legal professions advisory committee of the Land Title & Survey Authority

SMYTHE, Scott

McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Vancouver
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Real Property and Planning Group in the firm’s Vancouver office. Practice is focused on commercial real estate and related corporate matters, with particular expertise in land acquisitions, land development, structuring, strata property, commercial leasing and real estate-related corporate reorganizations. Acts for several leading real estate investors and developers, as well as owners of major office towers, industrial parks and shopping centres. Extensive experience with the structuring, acquisition, financing, development, leasing and sale of significant residential, industrial, retail, office and mixed-use properties.

Career: British Columbia Bar, 1997

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association


Personal: Appointed as a Director of the BC Land Title and Survey Authority in 2017 and re-appointed in 2020.

TANG, Isaac

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
416.367.6143
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Isaac represents municipalities, public agencies and private landowners on a broad range of land-related litigation matters, including land-use planning appeals, expropriations and ground lease arbitrations. He provides strategic planning and municipal law advice to a range of public- and private-sector clients, including hospitals, transit authorities, school boards, pension funds, developers, businesses and individual homeowners.

Career: Isaac is a former Executive Member of the Ontario Bar Association (Municipal Law Section) and a guest lecturer for the Community Planning course at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He is a frequent contributor on municipal and planning law matters. Ontario Bar, 2011, 10, University of Toronto, 2010, BSc., Queen’s University, 2007.

TKATCH, Brett

Blaney McMurtry LLP, Toronto
416.593.3969
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Featured in Real Estate (Ontario)

Practice Areas: Recognized for his expertise in commercial real estate, Brett Tkatch numbers Canada’s top retailers among his clients. He has been responsible for retaining counsel and overseeing key transactions on major real estate transactions across Canada. From a lending standpoint he is involved in major portfolio loan purchases, participating loans amongst major lending institutions covering such properties as multi-million dollar office towers, residential portfolios, condominium developments and shopping centres. Brett has been recognized as a leading practitioner of real estate law by Chambers Canada and Best Lawyers in Canada.

Career: Called to the Bar of Ontario, 1988

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Upper Canada; Ontario Bar Association

TOLENSKY, Peter

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ptolensky@lawsonlundell.com
Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)

Practice Areas: Real Estate

Career: Peter Tolensky chairs Lawson Lundell’s Real Estate Group. His clients include pension funds, utility, mining and pipeline companies, and private entities to whom he provides advice on a variety of real estate and corporate structuring
Charles has been an active participant in the privatization and disposition of large land assemblages, subdivisions, bare land strata plans, air space parcels, real estate acquisitions, financings, sales, and structuring forms of ownership and transactions. Charles has provided advice to private pension plans and public-private partners, particularly relating to medical infrastructure and transportation projects. Working closely with clients, he has provided advice in connection with acquisition and development projects spanning a wide variety of commercial, residential, industrial, resort, and financing matters.

Ed also advises clients on a variety of energy related projects, including cogeneration plants, run-of-river electrical generation plants, electrical transmission lines, and natural gas pipelines and LNG plants. His expertise in this field includes advising clients on the development of standard form documentation in the real estate, property management and mortgage broker fields and advising professional practice in those fields. Ed has been retained by the B.C. Law Society to provide advice on complaints against members and in the real estate field. Ed has acted for the Provincial Government and the Land Title and Survey Authority in the development of amendments to the Land Title Act to facilitate the Electronic Filings System and the Digital Plan System. Ed assisted the BC Real Estate Association in drafting sample legislation, much of which found its way into the Real Estate Services Act. Admitted to British Columbia Bar (1983).

Professionals: British Columbia Law Institute, Board Member Canadian Council for Public & Private Partnerships, Member Mortgage Brokers Association of B.C., Member National Association of Industrial & Office Properties, Member SPA – Strata Property Agents of British Columbia, Associate Member Urban Development Institute, Member Publications: Ed has published numerous articles for Continuing Legal Education of BC and others.

WITZ, Michael B
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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)

Practice Areas:
Real Estate, Forestry, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity & Venture Capital

Career: Jack Yong is a partner and leader of Lawson Lundell’s Asia Pacific Group. He practices real estate and corporate and commercial law, and provides clients with strategic counsel in diverse areas of business law. Jack’s real estate practice focuses on land acquisitions, development projects and commercial leasing for local and international clients. He advises on a variety of structuring and financing matters for all types of projects and has a focus on acquisitions, dispositions, financings, development projects, master-planned communities, joint ventures and various ownership structures, ground leases and property leasing.

YONG, Jack
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)

Practice Areas:
Real Estate, Land Use Planning, Private Equity & Venture Capital

Career: Andrew was featured in the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure. 2022, Andrew was featured in the Lexpert World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers. In 2014, Andrew was listed in The Legal 500 Canada in the area of real estate: Ontario, Canada in the area of real estate: Ontario, and the Best Lawyers in Canada in the area of banking and finance and the Real Estate: Ontario, The Legal 500 Canada in the area of real estate and construction, Who’s Who Legal: Real Estate and Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers. In 2022, Andrew was featured in the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure.

WITT, Michael B
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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)

Practice Areas:
Real Estate, Forestry, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity & Venture Capital

Career: Jack Yong is a partner and leader of Lawson Lundell’s Asia Pacific Group. He practices real estate and corporate and commercial law, and provides clients with strategic counsel in diverse areas of business law. Jack’s real estate practice focuses on land acquisitions, development projects and commercial leasing for local and international clients. He advises on a variety of structuring and financing matters for all types of projects and has a focus on acquisitions, dispositions, financings, development projects, master-planned communities, joint ventures and various ownership structures, ground leases and property leasing.

YONG, Jack
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)

Practice Areas:
Real Estate, Land Use Planning, Private Equity & Venture Capital

Career: Andrew was featured in the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure. 2022, Andrew was featured in the Lexpert World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers. In 2014, Andrew was listed in The Legal 500 Canada in the area of real estate: Ontario, Canada in the area of real estate: Ontario, and the Best Lawyers in Canada in the area of banking and finance and the Real Estate: Ontario, The Legal 500 Canada in the area of real estate and construction, Who’s Who Legal: Real Estate and Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers. In 2022, Andrew was featured in the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure.

WITT, Michael B
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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)

Practice Areas:
Real Estate, Forestry, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity & Venture Capital

Career: Jack Yong is a partner and leader of Lawson Lundell’s Asia Pacific Group. He practices real estate and corporate and commercial law, and provides clients with strategic counsel in diverse areas of business law. Jack’s real estate practice focuses on land acquisitions, development projects and commercial leasing for local and international clients. He advises on a variety of structuring and financing matters for all types of projects and has a focus on acquisitions, dispositions, financings, development projects, master-planned communities, joint ventures and various ownership structures, ground leases and property leasing.

YONG, Jack
Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver
604.631.9216
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Featured in Real Estate (British Columbia)

Practice Areas:
Real Estate, Land Use Planning, Private Equity & Venture Capital

Career: Andrew was featured in the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure. 2022, Andrew was featured in the Lexpert World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers. In 2014, Andrew was listed in The Legal 500 Canada in the area of real estate: Ontario, Canada in the area of real estate: Ontario, and the Best Lawyers in Canada in the area of banking and finance and the Real Estate: Ontario, The Legal 500 Canada in the area of real estate and construction, Who’s Who Legal: Real Estate and Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Real Estate Lawyers. In 2022, Andrew was featured in the Lexpert Special Edition: Infrastructure.

WITT, Michael B
Lawson Lundell LLP, Calgary
403-266-9027
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Featured in Real Estate (Alberta)

Practice Areas:
Real Estate, Forestry, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity & Venture Capital

Career: Jack Yong is a partner and leader of Lawson Lundell’s Asia Pacific Group. He practices real estate and corporate and commercial law, and provides clients with strategic counsel in diverse areas of business law. Jack’s real estate practice focuses on land acquisitions, development projects and commercial leasing for local and international clients. He advises on a variety of structuring and financing matters for all types of projects and has a focus on acquisitions, dispositions, financings, development projects, master-planned communities, joint ventures and various ownership structures, ground leases and property leasing.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Restructuring/Insolvency
Restructuring/Insolvency

Goodmans LLP

What the team is known for
Toronto-based Gale Rubenstein (see p.384) is a seasoned restructuring and insolvency lawyer with vast experience handling matters in this field. Robert Chadwick (see p.379) is deeply experienced assisting clients with recapitalisation transactions, strategic reviews and CCAA proceedings. He is based in Toronto. “Rob is a top practitioner in the field.”

No one knows the market better than Rob.” Brendan O’Neill (see p.383) is held in high regard for his expert representation of court-appointed monitors in CCAA proceedings, and also acts for sponsor funds in recapitalisation transactions. He is based in Toronto. “Brendan is an energetic and effective lawyer. He is a tireless advocate for his clients.” Head of Goodmans corporate restructuring group Joseph Pasquariello (see p.383) frequently advises monitors and special managers in CCAA proceedings. Based in Toronto, he has notable experience relating to some of the most significant matters in the Canadian market. “Joseph is a very strong player with a great track record of getting tough deals done.” Joseph Latham (see p.382) is a veteran Toronto lawyer who frequently acts as counsel to court-appointed monitors. He also has experience acting for debtor-in-possession lenders on CCAA-related matters. “Joseph was phenomenal and did an excellent job from a strategic perspective.” Chris Armstrong (see p.379) is a well-regarded practitioner in the restructuring field, with experience advising debtor companies undergoing CCAA proceedings, as well as noteholders, trustees and loan agents. He is based in Toronto. “Chris is a very talented lawyer. He has great experience and is a good negotiator.”

Toronto-based Brian Empey (see p.380) frequently handles bankruptcy and liquidation mandates. He also has notable expertise in structured finance and derivatives. Caroline Descours (see p.380) is based in Toronto, where she regularly assists with CBCA proceedings and refinancing transactions. “Caroline is intelligent and thoughtful. She’s exceptional.”

Marc Wasserman (see p.385) is consistently active on high-value and highly significant cross-border restructuring matters. He has acted on mandates arising in industries as diverse as cannabis, manufacturing, transportation and tobacco. Based in Toronto, Wasserman leads the national insolvency and restructuring group at Osler. “Marc is one of the best lawyers in Canada. He is easy to get along with and is very commercial.” “Marc is a very strong lawyer and has delivered consistently above expectations.” “Marc is extremely strategic and creative.” Osler’s Montréal managing partner Sandra Ablan (see p.379) is noted for her wealth of experience in relation to retail insolvency matters. She is widely acknowledged as one of the leading lawyers in this field in Quebec. “Sandra is an excellent lawyer. She’s very hands-on and provides good, practical advice.” “Sandra is very knowledgeable, practical and well respected. She is excellent at managing very complex situations.”

Mary Buttery represents monitors in CCAA proceedings and also has experience acting for provincial and territorial governments. She is based in Vancouver. “Mary is an excellent lawyer across the board, and one of the leading restructuring lawyers in Vancouver.”

Jeremy Dacks (see p.380) is a respected litigator who often acts on major CBCA proceedings. He is based in Toronto, where he has a wealth of experience assisting with litigation matters up to the Ontario Superior Court and Ontario Court of Appeal. “Jeremy’s attention to detail, while retaining the big picture thinking, is really helpful.”

Michael De Lellis (see p.380) handles a variety of restructuring of its lease obligations and proceedings under the CCAA.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Gale Rubenstein (see p.384) is a seasoned restructuring and insolvency lawyer with vast experience handling matters in this field. Robert Chadwick (see p.379) is deeply experienced assisting clients with recapitalisation transactions, strategic reviews and CCAA proceedings. He is based in Toronto. “Rob is a top practitioner in the field.”

No one knows the market better than Rob.” Brendan O’Neill (see p.383) is held in high regard for his expert representation of court-appointed monitors in CCAA proceedings, and also acts for sponsor funds in recapitalisation transactions. He is based in Toronto. “Brendan is an energetic and effective lawyer. He is a tireless advocate for his clients.” Head of Goodmans corporate restructuring group Joseph Pasquariello (see p.383) frequently advises managers in CCAA proceedings. Based in Toronto, he has notable experience relating to some of the most significant matters in the Canadian market. “Joseph is a very strong player with a great track record of getting tough deals done.” Joseph Latham (see p.382) is a veteran Toronto lawyer who frequently acts as counsel to court-appointed monitors. He also has experience acting for debtor-in-possession lenders on CCAA-related matters. “Joseph was phenomenal and did an excellent job from a strategic perspective.” Chris Armstrong (see p.379) is a well-regarded practitioner in the restructuring field, with experience advising debtor companies undergoing CCAA proceedings, as well as noteholders, trustees and loan agents. He is based in Toronto. “Chris is a very talented lawyer. He has great experience and is a good negotiator.”

Toronto-based Brian Empey (see p.380) frequently handles bankruptcy and liquidation mandates. He also has notable expertise in structured finance and derivatives. Caroline Descours (see p.380) is based in Toronto, where she regularly assists with CBCA proceedings and refinancing transactions. “Caroline is intelligent and thoughtful. She’s exceptional.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP operates an outstanding restructuring and insolvency practice and is recognised for its con- summate ability to manage a wide variety of complex restructuring and insolvency mandates on behalf of an impressive portfolio of financial advisers, private equity firms and major hedge funds. The group offers strong coverage across Canada with highly praised restructuring and insolvency lawyers in its Calgary, Montréal and Toronto offices. It also has an impressive track record acting for debtors and court-appointed monitors on CCAA filings, and is active on both high-end and mid-market transactions. The team has notable experience acting for lenders on high-profile insolvency proceedings, as well as handling bondholder mandates and retail insolvency matters.

Strengths
“Osler’s Montréal managing partner Sandra Ablan (see p.379) is noted for her wealth of experience in relation to retail insolvency matters. She is widely acknowledged as one of the leading lawyers in this field in Quebec. “Sandra is an excellent lawyer. She’s very hands-on and provides good, practical advice.” “Sandra is very knowledgeable, practical and well respected. She is excellent at managing very complex situations.”

Mary Buttery represents monitors in CCAA proceedings and also has experience acting for provincial and territorial governments. She is based in Vancouver. “Mary is an excellent lawyer across the board, and one of the leading restructuring lawyers in Vancouver.”

Jeremy Dacks (see p.380) is a respected litigator who often acts on major CBCA proceedings. He is based in Toronto, where he has a wealth of experience assisting with litigation matters up to the Ontario Superior Court and Ontario Court of Appeal. “Jeremy’s attention to detail, while retaining the big picture thinking, is really helpful.”

Michael De Lellis (see p.380) handles a variety of
work which includes acting for distressed companies in CCAA proceedings. He is based in Toronto. Toronto-based Kathryn Esaw (see p.381) represents debtors, creditors, and lenders in a number of insolvency matters, including proceedings under the CCAA. Strengths: “Kathryn was the engine room of the legal team.”

Band 2

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for Bennett Jones is extremely well positioned to advise on large-scale insolvency matters in the oil and gas and mining sectors. The firm demonstrates notable strength in bondholder work, as well as advising debtors, court officers and international investors. It is also acknowledged for its aptitude in cross-border matters involving US Chapter 11 proceedings, with the team’s industry expertise covering matters in the real estate, financial services and non-profit sectors. The firm is involved in a considerable number of litigious mandates in the field and stands out for its bench strength in both Calgary and Toronto. Lawyers in the Calgary office regularly act for strategic buyers in the energy sector, while the Toronto office offers creditor-side experience across diverse industries.

Strengths
“The team at Bennett Jones provides a strong balance of restructuring and insolvency expertise with a commercial approach to complex transactions.”

“The Bennett Jones team is highly responsive to questions.”

Work highlights Bennett Jones LLP acted for the official committee of investors in connection with the CCAA proceedings of Ardenton Capital.

Notable practitioners
Kevin Zych is a highly respected figure in Canada’s restructuring and insolvency space. He possesses significant experience advising companies on CCAA filings, as well as acting for lenders and agents. He co-heads the Bennett Jones team from his base in Toronto. Strengths: “Kevin is probably the number one lawyer to go for in this area. He is extremely experienced and has a tremendous platform.”

Calgary-based Christopher Simard acts for a range of debtor companies, receivers and note holders, and is experienced acting on real estate restructurings. He co-heads the Bennett Jones restructuring and insolvency practice. Strengths: “Christopher is practical and great to deal with.” Interviewees highlight Sean Zweig for his expert handling of multi-stranded, cross-border files. He is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Sean is very thoughtful and gives excellent advice. He is not afraid of having difficult conversations to drive the right outcomes.”

Calgary-based Ken Lenz is active on a range of CCAA proceedings. He has substantial experience in energy sector mandates and co-heads the litigation team within Bennett Jones. Raj Sahni is based in Toronto, and is well versed in restructuring and insolvency mandates arising in sectors such as energy and retail. Strengths: “Raj is a pleasure to deal with. He has a very practical and commercial approach to complex issues.”

Calgary-based Kelsey Meyer maintains an excellent and rapidly growing insolvency litigation practice, which is concentrated on restructuring matters. Strengths: “Kelsey is very technically strong and very responsive to client needs. She takes a partnership approach to client challenges and works proactively to solve challenging issues.”

Michael Shakra is a rising star in the insolvency market. His practice exhibits strength in domestic and cross-border restructurings across a number of industries. Strengths: “Michael is timely, responsive and drives things to completion.”

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon maintains a well-established restructuring and insolvency department with standout lawyers in a number of industries. Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is a rising star in the insolvency space. It is highly respected for its expertise covering matters in the real estate, financial services and non-profit sectors. The firm is involved in a considerable number of litigious mandates in the field and stands out for its bench strength in both Calgary and Toronto. Lawyers in the Calgary office regularly act for strategic buyers in the energy sector, while the Toronto office offers creditor-side experience across diverse industries.

Strengths
“The team at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is highly responsive to questions.”

Work highlights Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP acted for the official committee of investors in connection with the CCAA proceedings of Ardenton Capital.

Notable practitioners
Kathryn Esaw is a highly respected figure in Canada’s restructuring and insolvency space. She possesses significant experience advising companies on CCAA filings, as well as acting for lenders and agents. She co-heads the Blake, Cassels & Graydon team from her base in Toronto. Strengths: “Kathryn was the engine room of the legal team.”

Band 2

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP is highly responsive to questions. It has a strong presence representing major banks both domestically and internationally. It is widely acknowledged for its impressive track record assisting clients from the financial services, mining and natural resources sectors with large CCAA and cross-border Chapter 11 proceedings. The
firm is well placed to advise lenders, receivers and troubled businesses, and fields additional expertise in litigation, which includes experience before the Supreme Court of Canada.

Strengths
“Blakes’ advice was excellent, their performance timely, and their expertise precise.”
“Blake, Cassels & Graydon approach problem solving from a business perspective with a keen focus on client objectives.”

Work highlights
Blakes, Cassels & Graydon advised Deloitte Restructuring in its capacity as appointed monitor of ITI-Macdonald’s CCAA proceedings.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Pamela Huff (see p.381) heads the nationwide restructuring and insolvency team at Blakes. She acts on a broad array of insolvency matters involving companies in sectors such as tobacco, construction and retail. Strengths: “Pamela is very skilled at providing strategic advice. She is assertive, practical and business-oriented.” Head of Blakes’ restructuring and insolvency group in Calgary, Kelly Bourassa (see p.379) centres her practice on the representation of banks and financial institutions and has notable experience advising lending syndicates. She also demonstrates strength assisting with insolvency matters in the oil and gas space. Strengths: “Kelly is a very good lawyer. I can trust her with complicated and demanding files.” “Kelly is thorough, sophisticated and approachable. She has a strong ability to deliver legal advice in the context of commercial issues on hand.” Linc Rogers (see p.384) maintains an impressive practice which sees him represent court-appointed monitors as well as companies undergoing insolvency proceedings. He is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Linc is practical and doesn’t overcomplicate things.” “Linc is great in court. He knows the law extremely well and is very good to work with.” Vancouver-based Peter Rubin (see p.384) is commended for his assured handling of several prominent CCAA proceedings and counts a number of financial institutions among his clients. Strengths: “Peter has a calm, practical approach. He is comfortable on large transactions with competing stakeholders.” Milly Chow (see p.379) has notable experience acting for financial institutions and lending syndicates on restructuring and insolvency mandates. She is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Milly is a brilliant, dynamic and strategic counsellor.” “Milly is extremely well organised and very efficient.” Toronto-based partner Aryo Shalviri (see p.385)’s flourishing practice encompasses a range of restructuring matters. He is experienced in handling distressed M&A and commercial reorganisations on behalf of a broad clientele. Strengths: “Aryo is extremely responsive and hard-working. I am impressed with his knowledge and attention to detail.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault has a national restructuring and insolvency team with a significant creditor-side practice. It regularly advises restructuring officers and monitors, as well as undertaking large debtor mandates. McCarthy offers notable cross-border capabilities and experience relating to pensions and investment funds, and stands out for its recent involvement in energy sector insolvency matters, in addition to acting on mandates in the manufacturing and automotive industries. The firm’s clients benefit from its multidisciplinary offering and expertise in litigation, tax and corporate law, while its national breadth allows it to provide local support across Canada.

Strengths
“They have a deep team. They are practical and strategic.”
“The firm is diligent and responsive.”

Work highlights
McCarthy Tétrault advised Attis Group in the context of its CCAA restructuring.

Notable practitioners
James Gage (see p.381) advises monitors and trustees in addition to companies undertaking restructuring proceedings. He heads up the bankruptcy and restructuring practice at McCarthy and is based in Toronto. “He is very experienced and practical.” “He is very strong strategically.” Sean Collins (see p.380) acts for monitors and receivers, as well as other stakeholders in major restructurings. He splits his time between Calgary and Vancouver.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Robert Thornton (see p.381) is a distinguished national law firm with strong restructuring and insolvency capabilities in Montréal and Toronto aby supported by its offices in Calgary and Vancouver. The group offers extensive experience advising debtors and court-appointed monitors on complex CCAA matters, as well as representing clients in parallel US Chapter 11 and Chapter 15 proceedings. The firm also acts for the purchasers of distressed assets. McCarthy is particularly active on mandates in the retail, mining, oil and gas, and real estate sectors.

Strengths
“McCarthy is extremely strong and well-respected.”
“It is a distinguished firm with deep bench of dedicated lawyers offering noteworthy strengths acting as debtors’ counsel on major Canadian insolvencies. Its recent workload includes pharmaceutical, tobacco and cannabis insolvencies. The team also handles mandates in the mining and the oil and gas industries.

Strengths
“The firm’s service is fast and excellent.” “They have a strong connection to the market and good client awareness.”

Work highlights
Thornton Grout Finnigan acted for FTI as the court-appointed monitor of the CCAA proceedings of the Just Energy Group.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Robert Thornton is rated highly for his prowess in major restructurings and insolvencies. His clientele consists of corporations, monitors and creditors, among others. “Robert is the godfather of Canadian restructuring. He has a high-level strategic background.” D.J. Miller has extensive experience advising court-appointed receivers, lenders and creditors on CCAA proceedings. She is based in Toronto. “She provides an excellent service and has an excellent knowledge of commercial matters.” “D.J. is extremely strong and experienced in insolvency and restructuring matters. She does not just provide legal advice, but rather becomes an integral part of the team coordinating risk mitigation.” Grant Moffat is a Toronto-based lawyer who maintains a broad practice, encompassing regular rules advising on highly contentious insolvency mandates. Leanne Williams is noted for her experience in major CCAA proceedings and is highly sought after by major commercial banks, among other clients. She is based in Toronto. “Leanne is a strategic thinker and she provides important guidance to clients.” Rebecca Kennedy advises on a range of CCAA proceedings and has especially notable expertise in the cannabis space. “Her quality and professionalism makes it a pleasure to work with her.” Toronto-based associate Rachel Bengino focuses on sophisticated restructuring and insolvency matters. Her client base includes lenders, debtors and purchasers, among others. “Rachel is excellent. She is superb, strategic and practical.”

Torys LLP
What the team is known for
Torys is a highly regarded law firm with impressive competencies in the restructuring and insolvency space. The team assists a prestigious portfolio of corporate clients with debt restructuring, exit financing and recapitalisation transactions. It often represents leading financial institutions and banks, as well as busi-
nesses in the manufacturing and retail sectors. The restructuring and insolvency group is well placed to advise on cross-border files, including Chapter 11 and Chapter 15 proceedings. It offers impressive expertise out of Toronto and an expanding practice in Calgary.

Strengths “The team at Torys is very experienced, pragmatic and talented. They're deeply commercial.”
Work highlights: Torys represented Sagard as the term debt lender in the current CCAA restructuring proceedings for Just Energy Group.

Notable practitioners
David Bish (see p.379) has experience acting for information officers in major CCAA proceedings and also represents monitors and creditors. He heads the restructuring and insolvency team and is based in Toronto. “He is one of the top technical lawyers in the country. He knows the law inside out.” Toronto-based Tony DeMarinis (see p.380) has noteworthy experience as special counsel on high-value matters. He serves as chair of Torys’ corporate restructuring and advisory practice. “Tony is terrific at bringing partners together to get a solution in a practical way.”

Respected insolvency practitioner Scott Bomhof (see p.379) has experience acting for lenders, court officers and real estate companies. He has advised on high-value matters occurring in sectors such as tobacco and construction. He is based in Toronto.

Adam Slavens (see p.385) frequently advises clients on high-value CCAA and receivership proceedings from his base in Toronto. “Adam is a very strong practitioner. He is always looking to find the right path to drive an outcome, and he is very client-focused.”

Band 3

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais has a distinguished national insolvency practice with impressive experience acting for clients from the banking, construction, mining and energy sectors, and a substantial caseload of oil and gas insolvency matters. BLG demonstrates significant Chapter 11 experience in Western Canada, with offices in both Calgary and Vancouver complementing the firm's Toronto and Montréal offering. It is valued for its representation of secured lenders and debenture holders, as well as court officers, in both high-end and mid-market receiverships and bankruptcy filings. The firm is regularly active on high-profile, cross-border liquidations.

Strengths “Borden Ladner Gervais looks for practical solutions, simplifying complex matters into ways that can be managed by various stakeholders.”

“They were able to address the key issues that required solving. I always felt at ease and knew that they were looking out for my interests.”


Notable practitioners
Patrick McCarthy KC (see p.383) is a highly seasoned restructuring and insolvency lawyer with a particular focus on the energy sector. He has considerable experience in cross-border insolvency work, acting for receivers, monitors and trustees, and is well versed in CCAA proceedings. He is based in Calgary. Sources note Montréal-based Marc Duchesne (see p.380) for his considerable presence in the commercial litigation and regulatory space in Québec. His clients include numerous banks and other financial institutions. Alex MacFarlane possesses experience acting on high-value CCAA proceedings and representing insurance companies and receivers. He is based in Toronto.

Strengths: "Alex is very thoughtful and patient when working with our firm and he is very collaborative in creating practical solutions.”

Josef Krüger (see p.382) is based in Calgary and possesses a particular knowledge of restructuring and insolvency issues in the energy sector. Vancou-ver-based Lisa Hiebert (see p.381) advises a broad range of clients, including financial institutions, on CCAA restructurings and bankruptcy proceedings.

Strengths: “Lisa is able to explain what the impact of a decision is to business people who don’t understand the law.”

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
What the team is known for Cassels Brock & Blackwell demonstrates a solid presence in Cana-dia’s national restructuring and insolvency market, offering significant multi-jurisdictional expertise, with a focus on Canada-US cross-border restructurings. The firm acts for a variety of clients in the mining and energy sectors, with notable experience working on behalf of both creditors and distressed companies. Cassels Brock also acts for trustees in various roles, including as monitors and receivers. The expansion of the restructuring and insolvency teams in Calgary and Vancouver has bolstered the strong practice in Toronto.

Strengths “They are very quick and responsive to client requests without jeopardising the quality of service.”

“The firm is very responsive and very strong in complex matters.”

Work highlights: Cassels Brock & Blackwell represented FTI Consulting in its role as monitor in the CCAA proceedings of FIGR Brands.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Jane Dietrich (see p.380) attracts high praise for her consummate handling of highly significant CCAA proceedings. “Jane is a high-quality insolvency lawyer.” Based in Toronto. Ryan Jacobs (see p.382) has notable experience in US-related matters, and has represented notable debtor clients in the energy sector in CCAA proceedings. He also has a noteworthy creditor practice. “Ryan has great technical awareness and client service. He is well rounded and brings in a strong depth of experience." Ryan shows a high level of sophistication in complex cross-border transactions.”

Toronto-based Shayne Kukulowicz (see p.382) chairs the restructuring and insolvency group at Cassels Brock. He advises an array of clients, including lenders and monitors, and has experience handling recapitalisation matters. His insolvency expertise is complemented by a significant grasp of bank lending and speciality finance.

“Shayne is a very strong leader.” Jeffrey Oliver (see p.383) acts for numerous lenders and monitors on restructuring and insolvency matters. He is based in Calgary. Natalie Levine (see p.382) is a partner in the firm’s Toronto office. Her high-quality restructuring practice is active across a variety of industries, and includes notable expertise in the representation of US-based clients. “Natalie is an outstanding lawyer.”

Strengths “The firm does an excellent job of handling complex and sophisticated matters.”

What the team is known for Their practical mindset and solution-mode approach were highly appreciated by the team.

Work highlights: Cassels Brock & Blackwell advised The Aldo Group in connection with its CCAA restructuring.

Notable practitioners
Natalie Renner (see p.384) for his considerable presence in the com-

Natalie MacParland (see p.382) enjoys an excellent reputation in the restruc-

Natalia MacParland (see p.382) is a partner in the

Natasha MacParland (see p.382) is a partner in the

Advances in connection with its CCAA restructuring.

Notable practitioners
Natalie Renner (see p.384) for her capable handling of restructuring and insolvency matters in Canada’s nascent cannabis industry.

Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP
What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg is well respected for its ability to represent a wide range of key stakeholders in major restructur-

Strengths “The team at Davies is highly responsive and available any time they are needed. They display excellent judgement and real-world experience on commercial matters.”

“The firm does an excellent job of handling complex and sophisticated matters.”

“When he is representing you.” Robin is very practical and clear with his advice.”

Interviewees especially highlight Natalie Renner (see p.384) for her capable handling of restructuring and insolvency matters in Canada’s nascent cannabis industry.

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken has a highly regarded national team with substantial experience of mining and retail insolvency. The firm is also active in matters in the construction sector, advising a wide range of clients including lenders and debtors on complex debt recovery proceedings, liquidations, receiverships and informal workouts. It often acts for distressed companies during CCAA proceedings. Fasken is particularly well known for its strengths in Vancouver and Montréal, and leverages the firm’s international platform to advise on mandates involving European and African components.

Strengths “Fasken has a very strong team with very capable counsel and deep industry knowledge.”

Work highlights: Fasken advised Sandoz Canada in connection with its CCAA proceedings.

Notable practitioners
Stuart Brotman (see p.379) heads the insolvency and restructuring practice at Fasken. He is consistently active on significant, high-value matters, with his work including major restructuring and insolvency mandates in mining, logistics and retail. He has experience representing lenders, receivers and information officers among other clients. He is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Stuart is a very strong counsel. He is capable, creative and very smart.”

Kibben Jackson (see p.382) possesses restructuring and insolvency experience representing public companies as well as acting on matters in the cannabis sector. He is based in Vancouver. Alain Riendeau (see p.384) has notable experience advising insolvent companies as well as monitors and creditors under CCAA and CBCA restructuring proceedings. He is based in Montréal. Luc Béliveau (see p.379) advises clients on a range of high-value CCAA and receivership proceedings from his base in Montréal. Aubrey Kaufman (see p.382) is based in Toronto, where he regularly acts on behalf of banks and other creditors in high-value insolvency proceedings.

Norton Rose Fullbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fullbright is an international law firm with considerable strengths across a wide variety of restructuring and insolvency matters in Canada. The group is very highly regarded in Alberta for its focus on energy insolvencies, although the firm also has a very strong presence in Quebec and a notable profile in Vancouver. It advises on CCAA, CBCA and US Chapter 15 proceedings, as well as debtor-in-possession financing and distressed M&A transactions. Norton Rose’s restructuring and insolvency team represents a range of major banks and financial institutions.

Strengths
“Norton Rose Fullbright’s team is deep, cohesive and productive.”

“Norton Rose Fullbright has a team which is very strong technically, but balanced with a practical mindset.”

Work highlights Norton Rose Fullbright represented Cline Trust Company as senior secured creditor and parent company to Coalspur Mines (Operations) in CCAA proceedings. Norton Rose Fullbright is also regularly active on CCAA proceedings, representing the full gamut of stakeholders, including creditors such as monitors and receivers.

Chaitons LLP

What the team is known for Chaitons is recognised for its strength in mid-market corporate restructuring and bankruptcy matters and related litigation. The firm offers notable expertise representing a range of stakeholders in insolvency, including liquidators, creditors and court-appointed monitors. It acts for a diverse portfolio of clients from the manufacturer, automotive, transportation, retail and financial services sectors. The group is based in Toronto and has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario, as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. The team is also experienced in cross-border work in the US market.

Notable practitioners

Harvey Chalton is experienced acting on CCAA proceedings, representing the full gamut of stakeholders, including creditors such as financial institutions and private equity firms. He is based in Toronto. Toronto-based George Benchetrit offers clients the benefit of more than two decades of experience and advises on a range of matters. His practice spans all aspects of insolvency, bankruptcy and corporate restructuring.

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons Canada advises domestic and international clients on a variety of restructuring and insolvency mandates, with notable experience in US Chapter 15 proceedings. The restructuring and insolvency team is well regarded for its track record acting for banks, accounting firms and debtor corporations, as well as for its significant mining and real estate insolvency expertise. It is also active on restructurings in the manufacturing sector, in addition to assisting with the sale and purchase of distressed assets. With significant national depth, Dentons is noted for its particular strength in Western Canada.

Notable practitioners

Howard Gorman KC (see p.381) acts for receivers and trustees, as well as noteholders. He possesses particular experience acting on mandates in sectors such as energy and real estate. He is a senior partner in Norton Rose’s Calgary office. Strengths: “Howard is a highly regarded senior restructuring lawyer who advises his clients with strong legal acumen and a keen business sense.”

“Avery is very widely respected for his work in restructuring.”

Montréal-based Virginie Gauthier (see p.384) has notable experience advising on CCAA proceedings, representing the full gamut of stakeholders, and is often involved in international matters. Strengths “McMillan has been very good at understanding the intricacies of complex situations and the solutions required to achieve the optimal economic outcome.”

“McMillan’s entire team responds and advises quickly and always makes themselves available on short timelines. They’re very practical.”

Work highlights McMillan represented Morgan Stanley in connection with the CCAA proceedings of Just Energy.
shareholders of distressed companies. In addition to his client work he is managing partner of McMillan’s Calgary office. “Adam is always responsive and provides excellent advice and assistance.” Toronto-based Tushara Weerasooriya (see p.385) is noted for her strong capabilities in restructuring and receivership proceedings. “Tushara is always great to work with. She understands client needs and responds with practical solutions and sound legal documents.” “Tushara is an absolute delight to work with. She’s knowledgeable, responsive and personable.”

Band 5

Aird & Berlis LLP

What the team is known for Aird & Berlis is a notable player in Canada’s mid-market restructuring and insolvency space. The team regularly acts for secured lenders and other creditors, as well as representing bondholders in cross-border transactions. The firm’s international restructuring and insolvency experience includes handling mandates involving Africa and the UK. Based in Toronto, the firm also has substantial experience advising on matters involving distressed real estate assets and acting for clients in the retail sector.

Strengths “They provide a high-quality service.”
“The firm has a well-developed team of professionals who communicate well.”
“They are very aware of what’s going on in the market, and provide very good responses to queries.”

Work highlights Aird & Berlis represented Ernst & Young in its role as the court-appointed monitor with respect to the CCAs proceedings of CanTrust.

Notable practitioners

Steven Graff has a notable presence in the financial services sector. He is well versed in acting for creditors on restructuring mandates, with experience representing lenders, bondholders and shareholders. He is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Steven is practical and comes up with creative solutions.” “He is a very bright lawyer.”

Fishman Flanz Meland Paquin LLP

What the team is known for Fishman Flanz Meland Paquin is a Montréal law firm with niche experience in commercial litigation, insolvency and restructuring. Its team advises Canadian and international financial institutions on a range of matters, including corporate workouts and bankruptcies. It is active on matters in the retail, mining and manufacturing sectors. The firm is active in the mid-market and its clients include debtors, creditors, monitors and receivers.

Notable practitioners

Montréal-based Avram Fishman serves as managing partner of Fishman Flanz. He is noted by sources for his regular involvement in insolvency matters relating to the tobacco industry.

Goldman Sloan Nash & Haber LLP

What the team is known for Goldman Sloan Nash & Haber is a respected Toronto law firm which is adept at representing clients in CCAs proceedings. The group often acts for court officers, debtor companies and mezzanine lenders. It demonstrates notable experience providing counsel to insurance companies regarding the restructuring of project arrangements. Financial advisory firms also number among the firm’s clients.

Strengths “The firm provides smart and to-the-point advice, and a rapid and complete response.”

Work highlights Goldman Sloan Nash & Haber served as counsel to Express Gold Refining in connection with its CCAs restructuring.

Notable practitioners

Mario Forte regularly acts for insurance companies and other financial institutions with regard to noteworthy restructuring and insolvency matters. “Mario is an experienced lawyer who provides smart and practical advice.”

Reconstruct LLP

What the team is known for Reconstruct LLP is a newly formed insolvency and restructuring boutique which has notable experience assisting distressed debtors with insolvency proceedings. The Toronto-based group is frequently called upon to advise on proceedings under CCAs and BIA. The firm is additionally adept at handling commercial litigation mandates. Its recent workload includes cannabis, tobacco and pharmaceutical insolvencies.

Strengths “The lawyers we worked with were all highly skilled and able to explain the nuances of the case. I don’t believe there was ever a time they did not promptly respond to our queries.”

Client service is clearly a core focus for the firm.

Notable practitioners

Caitlin Fell is a founding partner of Reconstruct LLP. She is experienced in multi-jurisdictional proceedings under the CCAs and Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, and acts for debtor corporations, purchasers and court officers, among others. “Caitlin provides very strong and practicable advice.” Sharon Kour maintains an excellent restructuring practice which incorporates strength in CCAs and Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act matters. She is a founding partner of Reconstruct LLP. “She is smart, responsive and commercially minded. At the same time, she is thoughtful, respectful, and considerate. She is an excellent lawyer.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Bryan Gibbons (see p.381) of Lawson Lundell LLP is a high-quality restructuring lawyer whose client base is composed of banking and financial institution clients. “Bryan is a very solid lawyer who provides sound and practical advice.” “His responsiveness and attention to detail are exceptional.” “Bryan is great to work with. He’s knowledgeable and practical with strong technical skills.”

Matthew Gottlieb (see p.288) is recognised by sources for his litigation work in the insolvency space. Based in Toronto, he is a founding partner of litigation boutique Lax O’Sullivan Lisus Gottlieb.

Gerald Kandestin is highlighted by sources for his considerable experience in restructuring and insolvency issues. He is particularly active representing lenders. He is a founding partner of Montréal law firm Kugler Kandestin.

Edmond Lamek has a wealth of experience guiding prominent companies through their CCAs proceedings and also acts for receivers and monitors. He is based in the Toronto office of DLA Piper (Canada) LLP.

Kyla Mahar is based in the Toronto office of Miller Thomson LLP, where she is highlighted for her noteworthy experience representing clients in CCAs proceedings.

Strengths: “Kyla is a very strong advocate for her clients. She is very good at thinking through technical arguments, and she’s delightful to work with.”

“Kyla is a trusted adviser.”

“She is very enthusiastic and focused on client service.”

Sylvain Rigaud (see p.384) of Woods LLP has notable experience advising on major CCAs proceedings. He is based in Montréal.

Sources value Toronto-based Kenneth Rosenberg (see p.295) of Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP for his particular niche acting for class action litigants, such as unions and pension fund investors, in insolvency proceedings.

Respected lawyer Sylvain Vaucclair (see p.385) has notable experience assisting clients with CCAs proceedings. His clientele includes monitors, debtors, creditors and trustees, among others. He is based at Montréal disputes boutique Woods LLP.

Toronto-based Steven Weisz of Cozen O’Connor is noted by sources for his litigation focus and deep expertise in creditor-side work. He also represents court-appointed officers. “He is very knowledgeable and talented.” “Steven is the consummate professional.”
Leaders’ Profiles in Restructuring/Insolvency

ABITAN, Sandra
Partner, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Montréal
(514) 904-5648
sabitan@osler.com
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sandra is the Managing Partner of the Montreal office. She has played a significant role in the development of the office over the years and has held various leadership roles within the Firm. Sandra is a recognized leader in the insolvency and restructuring practice in Quebec and nationally. Her clientele is diverse and active in the Canadian and international business community—global companies, financial institutions, equity participants, and court officers who have sought her advice in working through major restructurings, recapitalizations, restructurings and strategic acquisitions. With over 30 years of experience, Sandra has an expertise in cross border and international matters, acting for a number of major private and public corporations operating in a variety of areas. She is lauded for her creative and practical approach to problem solving and finding solutions to complex business and legal problems.

Career: Sandra is a Past President of the Board of the Turnaround Management Association -Montreal Chapter and an active member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada in addition to other renowned organizations in her areas of expertise.

Professional Memberships: Insolvency Institute of Canada Canadian Bar Association, Insolvency Section Canadian Insolvency Foundation American Bankruptcy Institute, Member of the International Committee International Insolvency Practitioners (Insol International) Former Member of Comité de liaison, Superior Court, Commercial Division Fédération CJA, Co-Chair of the Women in Business Network

Publications: Co-author of the chapter on Directors’ Liability for LexisNexis published in April 2010 to present.

Personal: Université de Montréal, LL.B.

ABITAN, Douglas
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Luc Béliveau practises in the areas of restructuring and banking law. Luc was a member of the firm’s Partnership Board from 2013 to 2020 and Chairman of the Board from 2015 to 2020. Luc regularly represents creditors, lenders, lenders, investors, creditors, receivers, monitors and trustees. He defends the interests of clients in restructurings, liquidations, recapitalizations, realizations of security interests, and asset recoveries. Luc sits on the boards of several private corporations and also served on the Superior Court Liaison Committee, for both the Civil and Commercial Divisions.

BÉLIVEAU, Luc
Fasken, Montréal
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Luc Béliveau practises in the areas of restructuring and banking law. Luc was a member of the firm’s Partnership Board from 2013 to 2020 and Chairman of the Board from 2015 to 2020. Luc regularly represents creditors, lenders, investors, creditors, receivers, monitors and trustees. He defends the interests of clients in restructurings, liquidations, recapitalizations, realizations of security interests, and asset recoveries. Luc sits on the boards of several private corporations and also served on the Superior Court Liaison Committee, for both the Civil and Commercial Divisions.

BISH, David
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: David is one of Canada’s leading insolvency lawyers. He brings highly experienced counsel in bankruptcies, insolvencies, receivierships and restructurings, with a focus on creative solutions and practical perspective for clients navigating distressed circumstances. As the head of Torys’ Corporate Restructuring and Advisory Practice, David regularly advises across all aspects of bankruptcy, proposals, wind-ups, liquidations, reorganizations, restructurings, receiverships and security enforcement, and corporate governance issues in distressed circumstances. He brings a wealth of experience to commercial financing, private equity and M&A transactions, including work that extends beyond domestic transactions to cross-border matters. David’s long track record as counsel to a wide range of parties —leading corporations, financial institutions, distressed investors and accounting firms — gives him a nuanced perspective of stakeholder interests on large, complex insolvency and restructuring transactions, helping clients navigate challenges and advance their business objectives.

BOMHOF, Scott A
Torys LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Having worked on some of the most significant Canadian and cross-border insolvency and restructuring proceedings. Scott brings extensive experience and strategic guidance to clients in their most complex deals and cases. Scott advises clients in all aspects of corporate restructuring and insolvency, including court proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, plans of arrangement under the Canada Business Corporations Act, sales proceedings, debtor-in-possession/interim financing loans, and receiverships, as well as out-of-court transactions involving negotiated work-outs, recapitalizations, debt exchanges, re-financings, distressed investments and acquisitions. Scott’s broad experience spans a range of sectors and industries, including real estate, construction and life sciences.

BOURASSA, Kelly
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Calgary
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Kelly is head of the Restructuring & Insolvency group at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP in Calgary. She is an experienced insolvency lawyer who advises clients in all aspects of complex commercial reorganizations, in and out of court work-outs, receiverships and other enforcement of security, representing lending syndicates, debtors, purchasers, secured and unsecured creditors and court officers. Domestic and cross-border cases.

Career: Kelly is recognized by all major domestic and international publications as a leading restructuring and insolvency lawyer in Canada.

Professional Memberships: Kelly is a member and sits on the board of directors of the Insolvency Institute of Canada, she is a member of the Global Board of Trustees of the Turnaround Management Association and a member of the International Insolvency Institute, the American Bankruptcy Institute, Law Society of Alberta and Law Society of Upper Canada, and the Alberta Bar.

Publications: Editor of Halburys’s Laws of Canada Bankruptcy and Insolvency 2021 and Western Editor of Canadian Bankruptcy Reports.

BROTMAN, Stuart
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Stuart Brotman is Leader of the firm’s Insolvency and Restructuring Group. Acting in all nature of insolvency proceedings, Stuart assists clients in bankruptcy, receivership and restructuring under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act, the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, the Canada Business Corporations Act and the Winding Up and Restructuring Act. Stuart has considerable cross-border experience, having advised clients under the CCAA and Chapter 15 of the United States Bankruptcy Code. Advising both private and public companies, these clients include a broad range of stakeholders, including debtors, creditors, suppliers, customers and other contracting parties and monitors. He monitors trustees in bankruptcy. He also frequently represents prospective purchasers in pursuing and completing asset sales in domestic and cross-border insolvency proceedings. Stuart is regularly involved in lending transactions, advising primarily on recovery and interceptor issues. He has particular experience with the interaction between traditional bank financing and alternative financing in the mining sector (eg., streaming and royalties). Stuart also maintains an active commercial litigation practice.

BYERS, David
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada), Litigation (Ontario)

See Under Litigation for profile.

CHADWICK, Robert J
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner. Practices in the areas of corporate and commercial law, restructuring, mergers and acquisitions, banking and private equity law with a focus on corporate financing and restructuring. Also has expertise in national, cross-border and international transactions. Provided strategic advice in significant financings, acquisitions and other transactional matters in various industries on behalf of a diverse group of clients. Advises a number of boards of directors of companies, and is recognized as a leading business lawyer in Canada.


CHOW, Milly
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Milly has extensive expertise in complex and multi-jurisdictional financial restructuring; distressed merg-
ers and acquisitions and debtor-in-possess-
ion (DIP) financings involving restructur-
ing matters across Canada and abroad. For over 25 years, Milly has been a trusted advisor to debtors, purchasers, lender syndicates, secured creditors, monitors, receivers, trustees and other stakeholders in a wide range of industries.

Professional Memberships: Milly has played senior leadership roles in the Turnaround Management Association (TMA), having served as a former Global President (2017) and Global Chair (2018) and TMA Toronto Chapter President (2012). She is currently a member of the TMA Presidential Task Force on Govern-
ance and Chair of the Editorial Advisory Committee of the Insolvency Institute of Canada (IIC) and was Co-Chair of the 2020 IIC Virtual Annual Conference. Milly was also a member of the Conference Planning Committee for the 2021 Annual Review of Insolvency Law (ARIL) and has served on the Advisory Council for the M&A Distressed Investing Summit (2017, 2018) and on the American Bar Institute Cross Border Program Advisory Board (2019).

Cobb, Evan
Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Evan Cobb’s practice covers all aspects of corporate and commercial law, with a particular focus on bankruptcy, insolvency and restructur-
ing. Mr. Cobb represents clients in both formal and informal restructurings as well as proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. He regularly acts for debtors, creditors and court-appointed officers in both domestic and cross-border restructurings and insolvency matters.

Collins, Sean F
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sean has widespread experience in all forms of complex corpo-
rate, financial and operational restructur-
ings, including representing debtors, distressed investors, private equity, boards of directors, court officers, creditors and contractual counterparties in both court-supervised and out-of-court restructurings. Sean has extensive experience in international cross-border insolvency proceedings.

Career: Alberta Bar, 1992

Professional Memberships: Insol-
vency Institute of Canada, Canadian Bar Association, Law Society of Alberta, Turn-
around Management Association, INSOL International.

Dacks, Jeremy
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jeremy specialises in insolvency and restructuring litigation and frequently appears as lead counsel before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Commercial List) and other courts across Canada in significant domestic and cross-border insolvency cases. He appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada, including involving pension and insolvency issues. He has acted for major debtor corporations such as Target Cana-
dada and Sears Canada, receivers, trustees in bankruptcy, monitors, secured creditors and purchasers of distressed assets. Jer-
emy is a member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada.

Career: Jeremy is a member of the Model Order Sub-committee of the Commercial List Users’ Committee of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

Professional Memberships: Insolven-
cy Institute of Canada, Ontario Bar Asso-
ciation, Insolvency Law Section, Canadian Bar Association, Turnaround Management Association, Toronto Chapter, Model Order Sub-committee of the Commercial List Users’ Committee of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.


Dell’Utri, Michael
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael’s practice focuses on corporate and insolvency law with an emphasis in insolvency and restructur-
ing, plans of arrangement under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act (Canada) and corporate statutes, complex corporate recapitalizations, proposals and bankruptcies under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (Canada), complex cross-border matters, acqui-
sition financings, governance and secured transactions and the enforcement of debtor and creditor rights. Michael has served as counsel to debtor corporations, lending syndicates, bondholders, equity sponsors, purchasers, governments and court officers.

Professional Memberships: Insol-
vency Institute of Canada; Turnaround Management Association, Board of Director member and Secretary; INSOL International; Law Society of Ontario; Canadian Bar Association; Ontario Bar Association.

Personal: Osgoode Hall Law School, L.L.B.; Schulich School of Business, M.B.A.

Demarinis, Tony
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Tony is a widely rec-
ognized leader in his field, with decades of experience playing pivotal roles in prominent and successful Canadian and cross-border restructurings and insolvencies. Clients call upon his leading corporate and insolvency experience to drive many of this field’s most demanding transactions and proceedings. As Chair of Torys’ Canadian Corporate Restructuring and Advisory Practice, Tony advises a wide range of prominent clients on all aspects of corporate financial restructurings or corporate transactions involving litigation, restructurings, distressed investments and acquisitions, court proceedings under the federal Companies’ Creditors Arrange-
ment Act or Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, plans of arrangement under the Canada Business Corporations Act, sales transactions, and bridge-in-possession loans, and receiverships. Tony’s clients include public companies seeking to re-finance or restructure debt, lenders and lending syndicates, ad hoc bondholder groups, bridge and debtor-in-possession lenders, financial sponsors, distressed business purchasers, exit lenders, receivers, monitors and information officers. He has deep expertise across many industry sectors, including energy, mining, oil and gas, retail, entertainment, manufacturing, financial services, real estate, media, tobacco, forestry, agriculture, telecommu-
nications and technology.

Descours, Caroline
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner. Practice focuses on corporate restructuring and commercial insolvency matters, including Canadian, transnational, and cross-bor-
der matters. Significant experience in corporate and insolvency restructurings, recapitalization transactions, acquisitions, commercial financing transactions, and private equity and corporate matters. Advis-
or to companies, secured and unsecured debtors, and monitors and trustees, as well as boards of directors in respect of corporate and restructurings and strategic alternative. Also acts for private equity funds and investors in a broad range of transactions.

Career: Honoured as one of Lexner’s Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40, and has been recognized as a Rising Star by IFRL1000. She has also been recog-
nized as “repeatedly recommended” by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory for restructurings and insolvency, recognized as a leading practitioner by Best Lawyers in Canada and Chambers and Partners, and included in Euromoney’s Guide to the World’s Leading Women in Business Law.

Professional Memberships: Law So-
ciety of Ontario Turnaround Management Association.

Durie, Richard
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practise focuses on commercial restructuring, insolvency, and related litigation. Extensive experience representing numerous stakeholders in formal and informal corporate reorganiza-
tions, enforcement of security, and unse-
cured creditor remedies. Deputy Chair of the firm’s Financial Services Group.

Career: Chair of the firm’s national Re-
structuring and Insolvency Practice Group.

Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Toronto (Bankruptcy Law, 2012-2016). Frequent speaker and author.

Professional Memberships: Member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada and the International Insolvency Institute (III). Fellow and member of the board of directors of INSOL International, a global federation of national associations for lawyers and accountants who specialize in turnaround and insolvency. Member of Turnaround Management Association (TMA) and International Women’s Insolv-
ency & Restructuring Federation (IWIRC).

Duchesne, Marc
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Co-Leader of the National Insolvency and Financial Restructuring Group. Advises debtors, creditors, holders of notes or debentures, and insolvency Court-appointed officers. Acts in insolvency and financial services litigation matters. Significant roles in the restructurings of Asset Backed Com-
mercial Paper, AbitibiBowater, Boutique Jacob, Quebecor World, Bikini Village, Mega Brands, Mexicana Airlines, MAAX Corporation, Mechtronix Systems, Hexagon One, BioAmber Inc. the liquidations of the Norbord and Evolution Family of Mutual Funds, Swissvo and Maple Bank. Current mandates include representation of the Bankng syndicate in the cross-bor-
der insolvency of Groupe Alti, acting for the CCMA Monitor to the restructuring of the retail chain "Fristash" and representing The Bank of Nova Scotia in the CCMA restructuring of Groupe Atis.

Career: Partner, Québec Bar, 1981. L.L. University of Ottawa, 1980. Taught Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law course at the Faculty of Law of the McGill University (2016 and 2018) and at the University of Ottawa (2011)

Professional Memberships: Insolv-
ency Institute of Canada, INSOL Internation-
al, Canadian Turnaround Management Association.

Empey, Bryan F
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-
wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner and member of the Restructuring Group. Advised debtor companies, creditors, regulators, commit-
tees and court-appointed officers on insolvency matters across Canada. Expertise in complex and cross-border restructurings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) and in insolvencies of securities firms and financial institutions. Also advises clients in connection with secured transactions and structured financings, including de-
rivatives and asset-backed securitizations, and regulatory compliance in the financial services and payments industry.

Career: Recognized as a leading insolv-
Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyers and is BV Peer Review Rated by Martin-dale-Hubbell. Brian is also recognized in the area of banking and finance law and insolvency and restructuring law by Best Lawyers in Canada.

**Professional Memberships:** Law So-ciety of Ontario Canadian Bar Association Ontario Bar Association, Insolvency Sec-tion Insolvency Law Society of Manitoba International Turnaround Management Association

**Publications:** Has authored articles and spoken nationally and internationally, including at INSOL and ARL.

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**ESAW, Kathryn**

Oster, Hudsin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto

Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Kathryn is a Partner in insolvency and restructuring matters. Her practice focuses on proceedings under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act throughout Canada. She has represented debtors, creditors, court officers, creditors, purchasers and lenders. Kathryn has also experience in restructurings under the Canada Business Corporations Act.

**Career:** Kathryn has been a speaker at the Canadian Bar Association Insolvency Law Conference, the Annual Review of In-solvency Law conference, and has served as a guest lecturer at the Osgoode Hall Law School, York University and the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. Prior to joining Oster, Kathryn was a partner at another leading law firm.

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**Ferland, Denis**

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Denis is a partner specializing in financial restructuring, bankruptcy, insolvency and the related litigation as well as commercial litigation. He offers practical and proactive advice to large multinationals, banks and financial institutions, creditors, debtors and court officers (trustees, monitors and receivers).

Over his career, he has acted in many of Quebec’s most significant restructuring and insolvency proceedings, including the Way for countless reorganizations and transactions (often with an international component). Denis is a frequent speaker on bankruptcy & insolvency issues and has presented at several insolvency and bankruptcy conferences. He is also a long-time instructor for the Chartered Insolvency and Restructuring Profes-sional Qualification Program. Denis is the Co-chair of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Practice Group for the Quebec Bar Association.

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**Jean Stikeman**

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Jean Fontaine is a partner and member of the Litigation & Dispute Resolution & Restructuring & Insolvency Groups. His practice focuses primarily on the areas of restructuring & insolvency, and shareholders disputes. Jean has represented creditors, debtors, financial institutions, creditors, court officers and public companies. He is a member of the Montreal Office’s Management Committee. As such, he is actively involved in all management areas of the office, including strategic orientations. He is also a member of the Montreal office’s Business Development and Growth Balance Initiative Committees.

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**GAGE, James D**

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Practices exclusively in bankruptcy, insolvency and restructuring matters. Extensive experience advising debtors, creditors and court officers in work-out, restructuring, receivership and bankruptcy proceedings in both Canadian and international contexts.

Recent matters include lead bankruptcy counsel to Rothmans, Benson & Hedges Inc. in its restructuring proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act, the syndicate of senior lenders in the border cross-border restructuring proceedings of a natural gas and elec-tricity retailer, and to Cannabis Trust Holdings Inc. in its restructuring proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act. Other recent matters include Canadian restructuring counsel to a car rental company in its global restructuring proceedings implemented under chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, and to U.S. Steel Canada Inc. in its restructuring proce-dures under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act and chapter 15 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.

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**GIBBONS, Bryan C.**

Lawson Lundell LLP, Vancouver

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Insolvency & Restructuring, Banking & Debt Finance, Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Real Estate

Career: In his over 30 years of practice, Bryan has regularly advised banking and financial institutional clients with respect to loan restructuring, insolven-cy, realization and recoveries. In this capacity, Bryan is particularly adept at conceiving and implementing workouts and recovery strategies for lenders to corporate borrowers and regularly advises banking clients in relation to significant portfolios of impaired loans. Bryan has acted for Canadian Banks, many Provincial Bank of Montreal and HSBC Bank Canada, and private lenders in a wide range of insolvency matters across diverse industries ranging from manufacturers and asset management dealerships to large fractional plane-owners, real estate developers of multi-unit development projects, among many other insolvency matters involving debt restructuring, security realisation, workouts, receiver, as well in respect of a multitude of creditors, monitors and shareholders in respect of formal and informal receiverships and enforcement and financial services litigations.Bryan has been involved in a number of significant international restructurings and representing insolvency professionals, challenged companies, lenders, directors and officers and other stakeholders. His sector expe-rience is diverse and includes cannabis, retail, oil and gas, mining, technology and manufacturing.

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**HieuB, Lisa**

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Lisa Hiebert is an Insolvency & Restructuring lawyer in BLG’s Vancouver office. She works with a group of partners and associates who practise in a wide range of areas including commercial insolvencies, formal and informal restructurings and enforcement and financial services litigation.Lisa has been involved in a number of significant international restructurings and representing insolvency professionals, challenged companies, lenders, directors and officers and other stakeholders. Her sector expe-rience is diverse and includes cannabis, retail, oil and gas, mining, technology and manufacturing.

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**Jean Gormán, Howard A.**

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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Howard Gorman practises primarily in the areas of insolvency and restructuring and civil litigation. Howard Gorman has extensive experience in representing debtors, creditors, insurers and financial institutions, and clients in complex domestic and cross-border insolvencies, across a wide range of industries. He has also acted for purchasers in significant acquisitions through insolvency proceedings and has particular expertise in financings and airline insolvencies.

**Career:** Recognized by all major domestic and international publications as one of the...
the leading insolvency and restructuring lawyers in Canada.

Professional Memberships: Pomela is the immediate past president and board member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada. She is also a member of the International Insolvency Institute, Turnaround Management Association (Toronto Chapter), INSOL International, International Women’s Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation and The Advocates’ Society.

JACKSON, Kibben Fasken, Vancouver (604) 631-4783 kjackson@fasken.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Kibben Jackson is a recognized corporate/commercial litigator in the Vancouver office who specializes in insolvency. He is highly sought for his experience in corporate restructurings, secured creditor realization and acting for court’s officers in all manner of insolvency processes. Given his depth of expertise, clients appreciate Kibben’s ability to guide them in the face of evolving insolvency legislation and judicial developments.

Canada’s largest financial institutions and trustee firms respect Kibben’s ability when it comes to restructuring proceedings, bankruptcies and receivables. He also has extensive experience representing significant debtors in successful reorganizations and debt restructuring.

JACOBS, Ryan Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto +1 416 860 6465 rjacobs@casselsbrock.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Member of the firm’s Executive Committee. Former New York practitioner – has developed one of the leading cross-border restructuring practices in Canada acting on behalf of ad hoc and official creditor groups, Debtors, DIP Lenders and institutional and distress investors across a broad spectrum of industries. Specializes in some of the largest and most complex in-court and out-of-court reorganizations, recapitalizations and restructurings in Canada.

Career: Named a Lexpert Rising Star (Leading lawyer under 40 in Canada) in 2015. Called to the bar in both NY and Ontario.

KAUFFMAN, Aubrey Fasken, Toronto +1 416 868 3838 akauffman@fasken.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Aubrey Kauffman’s practice is focused on advocacy matters related to domestic and cross-border bankruptcy, insolvency and restructuring proceedings. A highly seasoned litigator and advisor, Aubrey has acted in many high-profile restructuring proceedings, advising a variety of stakeholders including court officers, debtors, directors and officers, creditors at all levels of the capital structure and government agencies.

KONYUKHOVA, Maria Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto 416 869 5230 mkonyukhova@stikeman.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Maria Konyukhova is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. She exclusively practices in the area of insolvency law, representing debtors, court appointed monitors, court officers, secured lenders and purchasers. She frequently appears in Commercial List matters before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Court of Appeal, focusing on Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act proceedings, court-appointed receiverships and bankruptcies. Maria has also appeared before the Alberta, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Manitoba Courts in restructuring matters.

KRÜGER, Josef Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Calgary 403.232.9563 jkruiger@blg.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Senior Counsel in BLG’s Insolvency & Restructuring Group in Calgary. Has practised for more than 40 years in the areas of insolvency & restructuring, commercial litigation, and international arbitration. Has been involved in over 400 trials and arbitrations and has extensive experience arguing matters on appeal. Has acted in numerous insolvency and restructuring proceedings, including many cross-border restructurings.

Practice Areas: Experience also includes acting as lead counsel in trials and arbitrations in the fields of corporate and shareholder disputes, banking, engineering, oil & gas, contractual, patent, and seismic data disputes. Appointed King’s Counsel in 2010. Elected as a member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada in 2010. Recognized as Insolvency and Financial Restructuring Law Lawyer of the Year by IFLR in Canada in the 2019 edition of The Best Lawyers in Canada.

KUKULOWICZ, Shayne R Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto 416 860 6483 skukulowicz@cassels.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Senior partner in the Restructuring & Insolvency Group at Cassels. Practices exclusively in insolvency with an emphasis on commercial restructuring, receiverships and bankruptcies. Extensive experience in formal and informal corporate reorganizations, cross-border restructurings and liquidations, security enforcement and creditor remedies.

Career: Frequent lecturer on insolvency-related matters for the Law Society of Upper Canada, the Ontario Bar Association and other conference providers. 2014 Lexpert Zethal award winner for practice excellence and thought leadership. LLB, Western University; B.A., (Economics), Harvard University.

Professional Memberships: Member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada, the International Insolvency Institute, INSOL International, and the Turnaround Management Association (TMA).

LACHANCE, Christian Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Montréal 514.841.6576 clachance@dwpv.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Christian is a member of the Dispute Resolution practice and co-ordinator of the Montréal office’s Financial Restructuring & Insolvency practice. He specializes in financial restructuring and insolvency litigation, as well as corporate and commercial litigation. He advises trustees, receivers, lenders and retailers on some of Canada’s most complex and intricate restructuring cases and regularly works with companies in difficult financial circumstances. Christian is the president of the Liaison Committee of the Superior Court, Commercial Chamber of the Barreau de Montréal, and, since 2013, has lectured at the University of Sherbrooke and McGill University law faculties on Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law. He is a member of the Emerging Issues and Law Reform Committee of the Insolvency Institute of Canada. In 2020, Christian received the Benchmark Canada Impact Case of the Year Award and the IFLR Canada Re­structuring and Insolvency Lawyer of the Year Award. Select Recognition: IFLR1000, Lexpert Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Un­der 40, Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation; The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada.

LATHAM, Joseph Goodmans LLP, Toronto (416) 597-4211 jlatham@goodmans.ca Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Restructuring Group at Goodmans. Practices primarily on commercial insolvencies, including bankruptcies, receiverships and financial and corporate restructurings. Regularly advises on Canadian and cross-border matters, and has represented monitor­ed purchasers, debtors, financial institu­tions, creditor groups and court officers, including monitors, information officers, receivers and trustees in bankruptcy proceedings.

Career: Identified as a leading insolvency and restructuring lawyer by Chambers Canada, Chambers Global, IFLR 1000, Who’s Who Legal Canada and by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory. Also recognized as a leading lawyer by Best Lawyers in Canada for insolvency and restructuring and banking and finance and by the Who’s Who Legal: Restructuring & Insolvency 2022 Guide.

Professional Memberships: The Law Society of Ontario Insolvency Institute of Canada, Ontario Bar Association, Insolvency Section INSOL International Turnaround Management Association (Past President of Toronto Chapter) American Bar Association

Personal: An instructor in the Bar Admission Course for the Law Society of Ontario, an occasional lecturer at the University of Western Ontario Law School, and an adjunct professor at the University of Western Ontario Law School where he developed and taught a course on corporate and commercial insolvency. He has been a speaker at numerous legal education seminars and a number of his papers have been published in various forms.

LEVINE, Natalie E. Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto 416-860-6568 nlevine@cassels.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on corporate restructurings, with an emphasis on debtors, DIP Lenders, insolvency practitioners in cross-border proceedings. Former US practitioner. Works with US-based clients to understand the challenges of the Canadian insolvency landscape and develop solutions in complex proceedings. Matters encompass a variety of industries including mining, oil and gas, retail, manufacturing, transportation, and entertainment.

MACPARRY, Natasha Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto +1 416.863.5567 nmacparland@dwpv.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Natasha is a partner who provides clients with smart solutions for their complex insolvency and restructuring challenges. She is a skilled corporate commercial lawyer with wide-ranging litigation experience and regularly leads complex, high-profile restructuring mandates, often with cross-border elements. She advises on a variety of debt restructuring, bankruptcy and insolvency, corporate debtor/creditor rights enforcement, turnarounds, workouts, and plans of arrangement under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act. Clients regularly consult her for strategic advice and risk analysis on deal structuring and lending. She has deep and innovative deal experience in distressed acquisitions and financings. She is a member of the International Insolvency Institute. Natasha co-authors a regular column in Rebuilding Success magazine on important insolvency decisions and co-authors Davies Insolvency Now, a quarterly publication on developments. She chaired the 2020 and 2021 Annual IIC conference. She is a guest lecturer at Osgoode Hall Law School, the University of Toronto Faculty of Law and Schulich School of Law. Select Recognition: 2019 TMA Toronto Women of Excellence Award, Today’s Leader; Chambers Global; The Legal 500 Canada; IFLR1000, Lexpert Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40; The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Restructuring & Insolvency.

MAEROV, Adam C McMillan LLP, Calgary 403.215.2725 adam.maerov@mcmillan.ca Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Adam Maerov is the Office Management Partner of McMillan’s Calgary office where he leads the Alberta restructuring team. Adam is driven by his commitment to developing practical, tailored strategies and solutions to his clients’ most complex business problems. Adam’s practice includes all aspects of restructuring including distressed acquisitions, workouts, reorganizations, receiverships and security enforcement.
Representative transactions include significant domestic and cross-border restructurings matters in the energy sector and other industries across Canada. In 2018, Adam lead the McMillan team that intervened on behalf of the Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Practitioners in the Redwater Energy appeal before the Supreme Court of Canada. Adam is a leader in the American Bar Association Business Bankruptcy Committee where he is the International Coordinating Committee Director and a Co-Chair of the Corporate Governance Subcommittee. Adam is the recipient of the 2018 Kathryn R. Heidt Memorial Award presented by the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association. In 2019 Adam was invited to join the Insolvency Institute of Canada, Canada’s premiere private sector insolvency organization.

Guy P. Martel is a partner at Stikeman Elliot since 2002. He practices in restructuring, bankruptcy, distressed M&A, banking and private equity law. Guy specializes in corporate finance, reorganizations and restructuring with a strong focus on cross-border and international transactions. He has provided strategic advice in a large number of large-scale financings, re-financings, turn-arounds, restructurings, acquisitions and other transactions across many different industries. Guy routinely advises board of directors and management groups and is recognized as a leading cross-border corporate lawyer in Canada. He often appears before commercial courts across Canada and has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada.

MCCARTHY, Patrick T
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Calgary
(416) 601-8342
pmccarthy@bgc.com
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nationwide-Canada)
Publications: Has prepared papers for and participated in programs and conferences for numerous organizations, including the American Bankruptcy Institute, the IIC, the III, the Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Practitioners, the Legal Education Society of Alberta, and the Canadian Bar Association's Alberta branch. Co-Author, with his former colleague, R. A. “Treatment of Forward Contracts in Insolvency Cases: A Comparison of U.S. and Canadian Law,” Annual Review of Insolvency Law v.2, 2004. Contributing Editor, Annual Review of Insolvency Law, 2003-present. Personal: Instructor, “Insolvency and Restructuring” course, University of Calgary Faculty of Law, 2008 Instructo, “Insolvency and Restructuring” course, University of Windsor Faculty of Law, 2005 and 2007. Instructor, “Advocacy” and “Negotiating and Counselling” courses, University of Calgary Faculty of Law 1980-90
MENDELSOHN, Max
McMillan LLP, Montreal
(514) 846-7822
max.mendelsohn@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nationwide-Canada)
Practice Areas: Max Mendelsohn, widely renown as a pragmatic deal-maker, advises commercial enterprises and acts as a mediator and arbitrator in commercial disputes and shareholder disagreements. Recognized in Lexper’s 500 leading lawyers in Canada, the Chambers Global Directory of the world’s leading lawyers and the International Who’s Who of Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyers. Recipient of Lexper’s Zenith award, TMA lifetime achievement award and designation of Avocats Emeritus from the Barreau du Quebec (Bar of Quebec).
MEREDITH, Heather
McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Toronto
(416) 601-8342
hmeredith@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nationwide-Canada)
Practice Areas: Practice focuses on commercial insolvency, restructuring, bankruptcy and related litigation. Experience in numerous complex Canadian corporate restructurings representing a wide variety of stakeholder groups, including debtors, secured creditors, court officers and landlords. Experience includes, the restructuring of 33 Yorkville, Hala, Clover, Rothmans, Benson and Hedges, U.S. Steel Canada, Bondfield Construction – related restructurings and financings, as well – Canada)
MENDELSOHN, Max
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MEREDITH, Heather
McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Toronto
(416) 601-8342
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Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nationwide-Canada)
Practice Areas: Practice focuses on commercial insolvency, restructuring, bankruptcy and related litigation. Experience in numerous complex Canadian corporate restructurings representing a wide variety of stakeholder groups, including debtors, secured creditors, court officers and landlords. Experience includes, the restructuring of 33 Yorkville, Hala, Clover, Rothmans, Benson and Hedges, U.S. Steel Canada, Bondfield Construction – related restructurings and financings, as well – Canada)
high-profile restructuring and insolvency matters and is highly regarded by clients and peers as an advisor who can devise optimal solutions for clients in complex domestic and international situations. Liz has advised on precedent-setting matters while representing clients, monitors, receivers, trustees, secured creditors, purchasers of assets from insolvent estates, across multiple industries, including automotive, cryptocurrencies, education, energy, healthcare, insurance, manufacturing, mining, pulp and paper, real estate, retail, telecommunications and transportation. She has also been appointed by the Court to act as representative and independent counsel in restructuring proceedings. Liz frequently appears before the Ontario Superior Court (Commercial List). She has also appeared before the Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Quebec Courts in restructuring matters. Most recently, Liz has been recognized as one of the leading restructuring advisors by national and international authorities including, Best Lawyers in Canada, Chambers Canada and Chambers Global, Canadian Legal EXPERT Directory, and Benchmark Canada Litigation. Liz was also recently recognized as a global female transaction professional in International Financial Law Review Women Leaders. These recognitions highlight Liz’s strength of expertise and her consistent focus and determination to exceed client expectations.

RENNER, Natalie
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto
416 367-7489
nrenner@dwpv.com
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide - Canada)
Profile: Natalie Renner is a broad commercial practice focusing on insolvency, corporate reorganizations, asset sales and acquisitions, creditor rights enforcement and proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. She also advises on banking, finance and corporate matters. Her clients – including financial institutions, corporations, strategic investors and accounting firms – appreciate Natalie’s business-minded solutions and expertise at identifying and resolving their important concerns. Natalie is a frequent lecturer on insolvency and commercial law matters at Osgoode Hall Law School, including for the Osgoode Professional Development and the Professional LLM programs. She teaches Osgoode’s Regulation of Canadian Cannabis Industry course and has taught the business law section of the CanBarPrep course. She also co-authors the Insolvency chapter of Boulton & Leake’s and Jacob’s Canadian Precedents of Practice. Natalie is a member of the Turnaround Management Association (NTD add director and D&I committee) and the International Women’s Insolvency and Restructuring Federation. Select Recognition: Chambers Canada; Lexpert Rising Stars.

REYNAAU, Joseph
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
514 397 3019
jreynau@stikeman.com
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Joseph Reynau is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. His practice focuses on restructuring, insolvency and commercial litigation and he regularly advises and represents debtors, secured lenders, court-appointed officers and purchasers in proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangements Act and the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. He is involved in Quebec-based, national and cross-border proceedings and has appeared before all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada. Joseph has participated in large-scale restructurings, liquidations, distressed asset sales and the litigation or arbitration of major commercial disputes in several industry areas, including airline and aircraft financing, banking, construction, equipment financing, energy, forests, products, gaming, hydroelectricity, information technology, manufacturing, oil and gas, real estate and retail. Joseph’s depth of experience in dispute resolution and insolvency informs the strategic advice he provides clients with respect to various types of commercial transactions.

RIEDEAU, Alain
Fasken, Montréal
+1 514 397 6758
arieuedeau@fasken.com
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Alain Riendeau is a partner of the Commercial Litigation section. He practices in the fields of civil and commercial litigation, with a focus on insolvency and corporate restructuring. Alain has been involved in many complex financial disputes and in most of the large restructurings that have taken place in Québec over the last three decades.

RIGAUD, Sylvain
Wood LLP, Montréal
+1 514 736-4871
srigaud@woods.qc.ca
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Sylvain Rigaud practises domestic and cross-border insolvency, bankruptcy and restructuring. He regularly advises debtor companies, as well as creditors, trustees and monitors. He has extensive experience appearing before all Quebec courts both at trial and appellate levels.

Career: Quebec 1990 (holds civil and common law degrees)

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association – Quebec Former president of the bankruptcy and insolvency section of the Quebec division Quebec Bar – Bankruptcy and Insolvency Committee Fasken Mason, Stanké & Rigaud, Insolvency Institute of Canada Institute de développement urbain du Québec Insol International Turnaround Management Association – American Bankruptcy Institute

ROGERS, Linc
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
416 357-4168
linc.rogers@blakes.com
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide - Canada)
Practice Areas: Linc acts as a principal advisor to key stakeholders in some of Canada’s most complex domestic and cross-border restructurings and distressed acquisitions. He is experienced in complex corporate reorganizations, financial restructurings, distressed M&A and debtor-in-possession financings. His clients include leading private equity and hedge funds, large commercial lenders, multinational corporations and prominent advisory firms acting in various court-appealed capacities.

Career: Linc is recognized as a leading lawyer in all major directories and publications.

Professional Memberships: Linc is a member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada and is on the board of directors of Annual Review of Insolvency Law Society Inc. In addition, he is currently serving on the board of directors of the Toronto chapter of the Turnaround Management Association. Linc is also a member of the corporate advisory board of the Canadian Association of Urban Financial Professionals (“CAUFP”) which is dedicated to the advancement of professionals of colour within the financial services industry.

Fasken, Montréal
Practice Areas:

RUBIN, Peter
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 631 3315
peter.rubin@blakes.com
Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide - Canada)
Profile: Peter Rubin is recognized in the areas of complex commercial insolvency, corporate restructuring, pensions and regulatory matters. Senior counsel to the to the Province of Ontario on the GM, Chrysler, Stelco, and Essar Algoma restructurings and GM IPO, to the liquidators of numerous financial institutions and to Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation on bank resolution issues.


Practice Areas:

Peter Rubin practices on restructurings and insolvency and complex commercial litigation matters. His R&I practice involves advising debtor companies, lender syndicates, secured and unsecured creditors, purchasers of distressed assets, debtor-in-possession lenders, and other parties affected by business insolvency issues. He has acted as independent counsel for monitors in reorganization cases, receivers and trustees in bankruptcy. Peter’s commercial litigation practice focuses on contractual disputes, tax appeals, tort claims, shareholder and securities litigation, equitable remedies, including fiduciary duties and creditors’ rights.

Career: Peter’s practice is national in scope and he has acted as debtor counsel as well as counsel to secured creditors in many of Canada’s largest insolvency matters. In addition to appearing in all levels of Court in British Columbia, Peter frequently appears in Ontario and Alberta on insolvency matters. He has also appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal, the Federal Court, the Tax Court of Canada, and numerous administrative tribunals, arbitrators and mediators.

Publications:

Peter has co-authored Continuing Legal Education (CLE) papers, frequently appears as a lecturer at insolvency conferences, and is a contributing author to a comprehensive text on government liability. He is also a regular guest lecturer at the Law Society’s professional legal training course.


Practice Areas:

Peter’s practice focuses on restructurings and insolvency and complex commercial litigation matters. His R&I practice involves advising debtor companies, lender syndicates, secured and unsecured creditors, purchasers of distressed assets, debtor-in-possession lenders, and other parties affected by business insolvency issues. He has acted as independent counsel for monitors in reorganization cases, receivers and trustees in bankruptcy. Peter’s commercial litigation practice focuses on contractual disputes, tax appeals, tort claims, shareholder and securities litigation, equitable remedies, including fiduciary duties and creditors’ rights.

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Publications:

Peter has co-authored Continuing Legal Education (CLE) papers, frequently appears as a lecturer at insolvency conferences, and is a contributing author to a comprehensive text on government liability. He is also a regular guest lecturer at the Law Society’s professional legal training course.
SANDLER, Tracey Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto 416.862.5890 tsandler@osler.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Tracey has over thirty years’ experience advising on many of the largest and most widely known insolvency and restructuring mandates, including landmark matters for Target, General Motors and Canwest. She practices corporate and commercial law with an emphasis on corporate recapitalizations, reorganizations, and restructurings and related transactions including acquisitions and divestitures. She acts as a trusted advisor to major debtor corporations, boards, lending conduits, bondholders and private equity sponsors, and also regularly advises court officers. Tracey is sought out for her expertise on cross-border proceedings and for her ability to provide pragmatic advice that is tailored to her clients’ business issues.

Professional Memberships: Insolvency Institute of Canada American Bankruptcy Institute, Member, Board of Directors; Business Law and Finance International Committee Turnaround Association (Toronto Chapter), Past President; Turnaround Management Association (U.S.), Board of Directors Turnaround Management Association 2017 Global Awards Committee, Member INSOL International, Women’s Association of Venture Capital, Member Women in Capital Markets Canada Bar Association.

Publications: Tracey writes and speaks extensively on restructuring matters. She is a contributing author to the LexisNexis Practice Advisor Canada Insolvency & Restructuring, Second Edition

Personal: Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.B.

SCHWILL, Robin B. Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto (416) 863-5502 rswhill@dwpv.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Head of Davies’ Financial Restructuring & Insolvency practice, Robin advises on corporate turnarounds, workouts and restructurings, distressed asset sales and acquisitions, debt on-in-possession financings, and secured and unsecured creditor rights enforcement. Known for his creative and focused advice, he acts on numerous integrated cross-border proceedings and represents debtors, boards, purchasers, secured and unsecured creditors, receivers, monitors and trustees in bankruptcy. Robin is a member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada, INSOL International and the Turnaround Management Association, as well as a past chair of the Ontario Bar Association’s Insolvency Law Section. He is also a periodic lecturer at Osgoode Hall Law School, where he lectures on the topics of secured transactions, reorganization and insolvency. Select Recognition: Chambers Canada; Chambers Global; IFLR1000; The Legal 500 Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Canada.

SHALVI, Aryo Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Aryo’s practice encompasses all aspects of commercial reorganizations, financial restructurings, distressed mergers and acquisitions, secured debt enforcement and insolvency matters, with a particular focus on complex and multifaceted cross-border restructuring mandates. Aryo regularly acts as counsel for secured creditors, debtors, court of officers and other key stakeholders in some of Canada’s most complex and high-profile domestic and cross-border restructurings and distressed acquisitions.

SLAVENS, Adam Torys LLP, Toronto 416.865.7333 aslaven@torys.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Adam’s commercially minded and rigorous counsel helps clients find solutions and realize goals in their restructuring and insolvency matters. Adam advises and represents creditors, investors and purchasers, restructuring corporations, equity holders and official court-ordered committees in the financial restructurings of distressed companies in out-of-court workouts and refinancings as well as formal proceedings under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act and arrangements under the Canada Business Corporations Act.

STAM, Jennifer Norton Rose Fullbright, Toronto +1 416 202 6707 jennifer.stam@nortonrosefullbright.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jennifer Stam is a restructuring and insolvency lawyer. Her practice focuses on commercial insolvency, corporate restructuring, corporate law, bankruptcy and financial services. Jennifer offers a broad range of services including in- and out-of-court restructurings, acquisitions, secured and unsecured financings and enforcement matters. She has acted as counsel for debtors, secured and unsecured lenders, purchasers and court officers in several complex national and international matters. Jennifer regularly publishes, teaches and speaks in this area of law. She is the 2020 president of the Toronto chapter of the Turnaround Management Association and an active member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada.

TARDIF, Alain McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Montreal 514-397-4274 atardif@mcCarthy.ca Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Alain N. Tardif is a partner in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group in Montreal. His practice focuses on domestic, cross-border and transnational corporate restructuring transactions, including all kinds of cross-border restructurings, out-of-court restructurings and workouts, strategic insolvency-based acquisitions, and near-insolvency investing scenarios. He has acted in a significant number of restructurings and reorganizations, leading representation of debtor companies, lenders, creditors, key stakeholders, private equity firms and strategic investors. He frequently assists the World Bank as an insolvency law expert, and as such, participated recently in missions in various countries in the Caribbean and Africa. His expertise and experience have led to regular invitations to speak to various organizations about insolvency issues and to present restructuring strategies tailored to the firm’s clients.

Career: Quebec Bar, 1992 Alain lectures at the Faculty of Law of the University of Montreal on the subject of commercial restructuring.

Professional Memberships: Member of the Canadian Turnaround Management Association, a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, and a member of INSOL International. In the past Alain sat on the committee for the accreditation of bankruptcy trustees and he has been president of the Canadian Bar Association, Bankruptcy and Insolvency Division (Quebec chapter).

TAYLOR, Ashley J Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto 1 416 869 5216 ataylor@stikeman.com Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Ashley Taylor is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group. A former Co-Head of the Restructuring & Insolvency Group, Ashley practises exclusively in the area of insolvency law and represents debtors, court-appointed officers, secured lenders and purchasers. He has frequently appeared in Commercial Matters before the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Appeal, focusing on Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act (CCAA) insolvencies, court-appointed receiverships and bankruptcies. He currently serves on the Associates’ Committee in the Toronto office. Before articling with Stikeman Elliott, Ashley clerked at the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

VAUCLAIR, Sylvain A Woods LLP, Montreal 514.982.4528 svaulcair@woods.qc.ca Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Sylvain Vauclair heads the insolvency and restructuring group of Woods LLP. Sylvain is an insolvency specialist with over 35 years of experience representing the full spectrum of stakeholders, including debtors, creditor committees, individual and ad hoc committees of bondholders, boards, CCAA monitors and bankruptcy trustees. In recent years, his practice has focused on restructuring matters. As a lead insolvency, restructuring and bankruptcy lawyer in Canada, Sylvain has been at the forefront of some of the most prominent cases. A hallmark of his work is his capability to grasp the nuances of the real-time litigation process in the most complex cases.


Professional Memberships: Sylvain is one of the few selected members of the Insolvency Institute of Canada. He lectures regularly on insolvency and restructuring issues.

WASSERORIY, Tushara McMullan LLP, Toronto 416.865.7262 tushara.wasseroriy@mcmillan.ca Featured in Restructuring/Insolvency (Nation-wide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Tushara is a partner in the Firm’s Restructuring and Insolvency Group. Her practice is focused on the transactional aspects of reorganizations under the Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act, receiverships, workouts, and distressed M&A transactions. She acts for a wide range of clients, including debtors, secured lenders, hedge funds, private equity firms, purchasers and court officers. Tushara has advised on numerous high-profile and complex domestic, cross-border and international restructuring proceedings. An experienced deal lawyer, Tushara also frequently represents private equity firms and financial institutions in a variety of financing transactions, including secured lending, leveraged buyouts, syndicated financing and debtor-in-possession (DIP) financings. In 2022, she became the secretary for the Insolvency Section of the International Bar Association. A dedicated promoter of diversity initiatives both inside and outside the firm, Tushara chairs McMullan’s Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Council. She also chairs McMullan’s Strategic Planning Group and is a member of the board of partners.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Retail
Nationwide

Retail

Lara Nathans (see p.388) has a strong track record assisting household-name brands with their Canadian expansion plans, as well as advising on a range of commercial issues. She is based in the firm’s Toronto office. “Lara is always available to address any issues we have and works with us on a number of commercial matters where her insight, legal knowledge and practical experience has been invaluable.”

Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

What the team is known for This top Canadian law firm has a highly regard retail group with a particularly strong reputation for both franchising and privacy. Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt demonstrates impressive strength in retail insolvency, as well as leasing, advertising and high-stakes disputes. It is well placed to assist multinational retailers with their Canadian operations, drawing on its experience in corporate and real property transactions, as well as e-commerce issues. The firm provides support to a wide variety of household-name brands, and has a strong record assisting leading American companies with their Canadian expansion programmes.

Strengths

“They have a very strong franchising practice and privacy, which is important to retailers.”

The Osler team is able to tailor their excellent advice as they understand our business and how we work.”

Work highlights Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt counselled Starbucks on its leasing agreements and negotiations, having negotiated 65 retail leases in 2021.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Andraya Frith (see p.192)’s client base of major retailers benefits from her expertise in franchising, as well as her knowledge of privacy, advertising and e-commerce. strengths: “She is focused on franchising and her reputation is excellent in these aspects.” Based in Toronto, Savvas Kotopoulos (see p.388) has notable experience in real estate transactions, including the acquisition of sites and negotiation of various leases for major Canadian retailers. He also assists with the management of real estate portfolios.

Stikeman Elliott LLP

What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott has a distinguished retail group with a strong real estate offering, assisting clients with commercial leasing, development and acquisitions across Canada. The group is equally well placed to advise on corporate transactions and financings, as well as matters concerning privacy, employment and advertising. The team also assists brands with store concession agreements, as well as competition and price-fixing matters.

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott acted as counsel to The Body Shop with investigations, dismissals of potential litigation and workplace policies.

Notable practitioners

Mario Paura (see p.388) has experience assisting retailers with a range of real estate matters, including sale-leaseback transactions. He heads up the Toronto office’s real estate team, as well as acting as co-head of the national group.

Miller Thomson LLP

What the team is known for Miller Thomson has a widely recognised retail industry group able to draw on the firm’s network of 12 offices to service clients across the country. It comprises real estate, IP, marketing, corporate and employment lawyers who act for a diverse clientele of established retailers and new market entrants. The firm possesses a strong track record in shopping mall leasing, warehousing and distribution, and regulatory matters, as well as advising on e-commerce and tax issues.

Strengths

Miller Thomson has a good marketing and advertising practice."

Work highlights Miller Thomson advised Home Depot with commercial leasing matters across Canada.

Notable practitioners

Toronto-based Perry Katz is the key contact for the firm’s retail group.

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Band 1

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault has a highly skilled retail and consumer markets group assisting clients with all aspects of their retail operations, including both transformational and day-to-day matters. The team draws on the firm’s wider expertise in M&A, IP, real property, privacy, technology and customs to support an impressive roster of luxury brands and multinational retail chains, as well as clients operating in the food and beverage sector. The firm is well placed to assist retailers with Canadian and international expansion plans. It has notable experience representing retail clients in commercial litigation, often involving issues of labour and employment and fraudulent practice.

Strengths “McCarthy Tétrault is an excellent firm, full service and national in scope.”

Work highlights Lara Nathans led a McCarthy Tétrault team in advising Costco on day-to-day operational matters, from commercial leasing to product compliance.

Notable practitioners

Leading Firms

Band 1

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Band 2

Miller Thomson LLP
Stikeman Elliott LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Nathans Lara McCarthy Tétrault LLP*

Band 2

Frith Andraya Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Kotsopoulos Savvas Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP*
Paura Mario Stikeman Elliott LLP*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.
Leaders’ Profiles in Retail

FRITH, Andraya
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
+1 416 862 4718
afrith@osler.com
Featured in Franchising (Nationwide – Canada), Retail (Nationwide – Canada)
See under Franchising for profile.

KOTSOPoulos, Savvas
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto
skotsopoulos@osler.com
Featured in Retail (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)
Practice Areas: Savvas’ expertise is in commercial real estate and includes all aspects of real property transactions, with a focus on acquisitions, dispositions, development, joint venture structuring, leasing and advising on legal issues facing owners and managers in connection with their operation and management of real estate portfolios. He regularly advises institutional owners/developers, domestic and foreign “in-bound” private investment groups and property/asset managers across a broad spectrum of real estate asset classes, most frequently on office, industrial, retail, multi-family, hotels and mixed-use developments. Along with his transactional practice, Savvas is well-versed in commercial leasing and represents tenants and landlords in complex lease negotiations. Savvas has also developed a specialty in representing domestic and international retailers in connection with all aspects of establishing and undertaking their business in Canada. Prior to joining Osler in 2021, Savvas led the Retail Group and Real Estate Transactions practices for several years at another leading Canadian national law firm.
Career: Ontario Bar, 2003
Professional Memberships: International Council of Shopping Centres (ICSC) - National Association of Office and Industrial Properties (NAIOP) - Hellenic-Canadian Board of Trade
Personal: Toronto Financial District Business Improvement Association, Board Member - Osgoode Hall, York University, LLB

NATHANS, Lara
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 8470
lnathans@mcccarthy.ca
Featured in Retail (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Lara is McCarthy Tétrault’s Industry Strategy Leader, responsible for leading the firm and its people to truly understand and align with our clients and their industries. As the founder of, and a leading practitioner in our Retail and Consumer Markets Group, Lara is a trusted advisor to consumer-facing businesses looking to establish or grow in the Canadian market. She advises global companies entering Canada (through M&A, e-commerce, bricks and mortar or a combination) on their market entry strategies and related legal issues. She regularly advises retail industry clients on operational issues, new channels, business lines and customer experiences, and growth across markets. Lara excels at negotiating M&A transactions, loyalty and credit card programs and commercial matters for retailers (including e-commerce and digital) and consumer facing businesses. She provides well-informed guidance on multifaceted strategic and operational issues.
Career: Ontario, 2002
Publications: Cross-Border, a Retailer’s Guide to Doing Business in Canada
Personal: Lara serves on the Supplier Advisory Committee of The Home Depot of Canada Foundation. She is a frequent speaker on issues facing retailers and brands, including at the World Retail Congress, Global Department Store Summit, Luxury Law Summit and our own Retail and Consumer Markets Summit.

PAURA, Mario
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
416-869-5638
mpaura@stikeman.com
Featured in Real Estate (Nationwide – Canada), Retail (Nationwide – Canada), Real Estate (Ontario)
See under Real Estate for profile.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Startups & Emerging Companies
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/stuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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### Startups & Emerging Companies Nationwide

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### Notable Practitioners

**Toronto-based Chad Bayne** (see p.392) is renowned for his deep expertise in the startup space. He continues to represent startup companies in investment rounds at various stages of their growth, as well as in acquisitions. "Chad Bayne is one of the most respected people in tech in Toronto. He's always working hard for his clients." Montréal-based Shahir Guindi, Ad E (see p.392) is routinely engaged in company and investor-side work, with an emphasis on life science, emerging tech and AI clients. "Shahir Guindi delivers top-notch client service and responsiveness. He has very good commercial awareness with a practical approach to matters presented to him." Mark Longo (see p.392) regularly provides guidance to emerging companies and venture capital funds in early and late-stage financing rounds. He co-chairs the firm's emerging and high-growth companies practice in Vancouver. "Mark is a pleasure to work with." "He is well regarded in the Vancouver market." Toronto-based André Perey (see p.392) focuses on M&A and financing of foreign and Canadian startups and growth stage companies. He advises clients from a diversified range of sectors including the software, digital media, online commerce and financial services industries. "André Perey is very responsive and efficient. "He's a great partner to work with as we grow our business." Vancouver-based Justin Young (see p.393) acts for a broad client base, which includes emerging technology companies, angel investors and venture capital funds. He has great experience in guiding startup companies through M&A transactions as well as financing rounds throughout their life-cycles. David Jameson (see p.392) has a fast-developing reputation for acting for emerging and high-growth companies in corporate formation and governance matters, as well as venture capital and private equity financing transactions. He is based in Toronto. "He's extremely knowledgeable and supportive." "He was our trusted adviser in every sense, and critical to getting our deal done on mutually agreed terms." "He's knowledgeable and reactive to my needs."

**Dentons Canada LLP**

What the team is known for Dentons is a global law firm recognised for its strong track record acting for emerging technology players in various stages of growth. Its Canada-based venture tech and emerging growth companies team boasts a broad client base and utilises its tech expertise to act for venture and angel investors as well as target companies. The group advises on shareholder agreements, IPOs, capital raising and M&A matters, with expertise across various sectors including fintech, virtual reality and artificial intelligence. It is additionally experienced in handling cross-border mandates.

**Notable Practitioners**

Michael Hollinger is a Toronto-based lawyer who draws upon his experience in a range of M&A and financing matters to advise startup companies as well as angel, seed and venture capital investors. "Michael is very savvy in startup matters and provides excellent service. He also works to ensure that the process is as smooth as possible." Ottawa-based Chase Irwin has experience acting on a range of transactions for company and investor-side clients, including seed financings, sales and acquisitions. "I’m very happy to be working closely with Chase. We see him as a trusted partner in our company." "Chase is reliable and efficient." Ottawa-based Andrea Johnson is a respected lawyer who frequently acts for an array of technology and emerging growth companies. She assists clients with investment from private equity and venture capital firms, as well as assisting with regulatory matters. "Andrea Johnson is an extremely responsive lawyer.
with a great deal of commercial and practical knowledge." "She's calm under pressure and responsive."

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken is highly regarded for its ability to serve early-stage companies throughout development, with noteworthy experience advising emerging technology companies and software developers. The firm’s startup and emerging company services practice also offers expertise to early-stage entrepreneurs, venture capital funds and private equity firms looking to invest in this space. It regularly handles seed and pre-seed financings as well as later-stage rounds, acting for both emerging companies and investors, and holds additional experience in debt financing as well as M&A transactions. The firm also handles related IP and tax matters, and is particularly well known for its key strengths in Vancouver and Montréal.

Strengths "The team at Fasken excels at practical ability to assist companies and reduce risk at various stages, from startup to multinational to exit."

"They are great to work with: it's easy to discuss matters with them. They are reliable and knowledgeable."

"They are fast, timely and have not once dropped the ball."

"In the early days, they helped us do what we needed to do from a legal perspective on a very tight budget."

"Fasken's emerging tech team has been there to support us every step of the way, from our first financings to now. They have been able to advise us and support us."

Work highlights A Fasken team assisted Galvanize with its USD1 billion acquisition by Diligent Corporation.

Notable practitioners Keith Spencer (see p.393)’s reputable practice sees him engaged on behalf of both startup and mature technology companies. He serves as counsel in the firm’s Vancouver office. "Keith Spencer has a loyal Vancouver following." Montréal-based Christian Jacques (see p.392) advises startup companies on financial transactions, and is highlighted for his work with venture capital and angel investors. "Christian is the corporate lawyer you need in your corner if you are a high-growth emerging tech startup. He has a strong business mindset." "He guided us from beginning to end. He’s a true partner in the journey." Alykhan Somani (see p.392) assists with transactions as well as financing involving high-growth companies from a variety of sectors. He is based in Vancouver. "Aly is our primary representative from the start of our business to where it is today. He has been a key driver of our growth from early stage, to late stage, and I sincerely see him as a partner of ours." "Aly Somani is a pleasure to work with. He’s very responsive."

Band 3

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is an established national law firm recognised for its significant expertise across a wide range of matters relating to the technology sector, counting software, online retail, fintech, artificial intelligence and blockchain companies among its clients. It acts for venture capital funds, private equity players and other institutional investors on financing matters, as well as providing advice to emerging companies on a wide range of IP issues, market entry issues and M&A transactions. The group benefits from its office in the Kitchener Waterloo area to form relationships with early-stage technology clients and accelerator programmes.

Notable practitioners Ottawa-based Lorraine Mastersmith is a key contact for the group.

LaBarge Weinstein LLP

What the team is known for LaBarge Weinstein is a distinguished boutique business law firm valued for its ability to provide bespoke services to venture capital firms, early-stage public companies, private equity funds and technology startups. It also represents startups and emerging companies in other industries including cannabis and gaming. The firm regularly advises on securities offerings, IPOs, corporate formation and M&A, among other areas of expertise. Headquartered in Ottawa, the firm also has offices in Toronto and Vancouver.

Notable practitioners Deborah Weinstein is a key contact for the firm.

Norton Rose Fulbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is a full-service law firm held in high regard for its international reach, advising early-stage companies on a range of M&A, financing and IP matters. It is recognised for its expertise across various speciality areas within life sciences and technology, including biotech, fintech and big data as well as cannabis. The emerging tech services group acts for a range of clients including investors, startups and scale-ups. It has developed a particular niche in its representation of AI and machine learning technology startups.

Strengths "The service level is always very good. If a prompt response is required, there is always a quick confirmation email or a phone call to let us know when they will be back to us."

Band 4

blue HF Legal LLP

What the team is known for blue HF legal is a business and technology law firm that is well regarded for its startups and emerging companies practice in Montréal. The team is noted for its capabilities in venture capital financing and equity investments as well as for its work on a range of corporate and commercial matters, including technology contracts.

Notable practitioners Montréal-based Julien Saulgrain is well respected for the legal assistance he provides to both high-growth companies and investors. "He has strong expertise and is both committed and available."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Toronto-based Jamie Firsten (see p.392) acts for emerging companies on financial transactions, including clients from a range of industries such as software and gaming, as well as investor-side clients. "He has a lot of get-up-and-go."

James Smith established Upside Venture Law in 2022. He practises in the area of venture financing and general M&A transactions for emerging companies. He’s based in Vancouver. "I see him on many, many deals."

Alykhan Somani (see p.393) of Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP acts for startups and emerging companies in many sectors, assisting with financing and incorporation issues. He is based in Toronto. "He is my go-to lawyer for transactional matters." "Alykhan is a trusted resource who provides timely and cost-effective services."
Leaders' Profiles in Startups & Emerging Companies

**BAYNE, Chad**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto +1 416 862 4708 cbayne@osler.com
Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** As a founder and Co-Chair of Osler's Emerging and High Growth Companies Practice Group, he advises a wide range of emerging and growth companies operating in the information technology, biotechnology, cleantech and industrial technology sectors, the venture capital funds and investors that finance them and the strategic acquirors who buy them. Chad practises corporate and securities law with a focus on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and corporate/commercial matters in the technology sector. He advises clients in connection with a variety of transactions including acquisitions and divestitures, venture capital, growth equity and private equity financings, joint ventures, strategic alliances and initial public offerings. Chad also plays a central role in Osler’s efforts in Creative Destruction Lab, Next 36/Next AI, Peerscale, C100 and League of Innovators.

**Career:** Chad was seconded to the legal department of the Canadian subsidiary of a major computer hardware supplier. Further, before becoming a lawyer, he worked as both a software and hardware designer and also founded his own software design and consulting company.

**Professional Memberships:**
Canadian Bar Association; Ontario Bar Association; Canadian Venture Capital Association

**Personal:** Ontario, 2002 University of Ottawa, LL.B.; University of Waterloo, B.A.Sc. (Computer Engineering)

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**BHARMAL, Ally**
Fasken, Vancouver

**Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada), Corporate/Commercial (British Columbia)**

**Practice Areas:** Ally Bharmal is a corporate finance lawyer and mergers and acquisitions corporate/commercial lawyer based in the Vancouver office. He provides advice for a variety of private companies, with an emphasis on the technology sector and the food, beverage and agri-tech sector. Ally assists in the area of corporate finance for technology and food and beverage companies, having acted on over one hundred venture capital or similar financing transactions with aggregate proceeds of over $360 million. His growing practice focuses on corporate and commercial business advice for a variety of clients, with an emphasis on the technology and food beverage and agri-tech sectors. Ally principally represents private companies on a wide range of transactions, including start-up and incorporation issues, shareholders' agreements, financing transactions (including debt and equity and venture capital), mergers and acquisitions, strategic transactions, and advice with respect to ongoing business matters. He has extensive experience with respect to Board governance, and often serves as corporate secretary for clients.

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**FIRSTEN, Jamie**
Goodmans LLP, Toronto (416) 597-4703 jfirsten@goodmans.ca

**Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)**

**Practice Areas:** Partner. Practice focuses on advising emerging companies in connection with venture financings, M&A, and corporate and corporate/commercial matters, with a main focus on technology companies. Within technology, Jamie is active in the enterprise software and e-sports space. He acts for startups as well as established private and public companies in a wide range of industries, including information technology, media, hospitality, manufacturing and industrial, retail and natural resources.

**Career:** Recognized in numerous publications including: Chambers Canada, The Legal 500 Canada, The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory and the Lexpert Special Edition: Technology and Health Sciences. In 2020, Jamie was honoured as one of Lexpert’s Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40. Member of the Goodmans team that acts as “legal counsel in residence” for the DMZ, a leading business incubator at Ryerson University, providing legal advice, mentorship, and networking opportunities to assist startups in maximizing their potential.

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**JACQUES, Christian**
Fasken, Montréal (514) 397 5919
jc jacques@fasken.com

**Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)**

**Practice Areas:** Christian Jacques co-chairs the Montreal Startup/Emerging Tech practice group since 2012. He specializes in angel/venture capital financings, mergers and acquisitions, public offerings, and for high-growth emerging companies. Christian’s clients range from start-up companies in the earliest stages to well-established public companies, as well as angels, private equity and venture capital groups. He also provides strategic counseling in a broad range of industries, including technology as a service, big data, virtual reality, augmented reality, internet of things, 3D printing, medtech, nanotechnology, artificial intelligence, neurotechnology, blockchain and cryptocurrency.

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**JAMIESON, David**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto

**Email:** cbayne@osler.com

**Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)**

**Practice Areas:** David is a partner in Osler's Emerging and High Growth Companies Practice Group in Toronto office. David's practice focuses on corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions and general corporate/commercial matters, with a particular emphasis on the representation of emerging and high growth companies (throughout their lifecycles), the venture capital, growth equity and private equity financings and a variety of acquisition and divestiture transaction structures on both the buy and sell side.

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**LONGO, Mark**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Vancouver +1 778 785 2746 mlongo@osler.com

**Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)**

**Practice Areas:** Mark is Co-Chair of Osler’s Emerging and High Growth Companies Group and founder and Managing Partner of Osler’s Vancouver office. Mark has 25 years of experience in corporate finance, M&A and technology law, and has held general counsel, corporate secretary and senior executive positions for multinational, private and publicly traded technology companies, including Intrinsyc Software International Inc. (TSX-listed), Star Data Systems Inc. (acquired by CGI Group) and Dataswire Communication Networks Inc. (acquired by First Data Corp.).

**Career:** In the three years immediately prior to joining Osler, Mark was a partner in the Vancouver office of a boutique law firm focused on the technology industry. Prior to that, Mark was a partner in the technology and corporate finance groups of a Vancouver-based law firm for over three years.

**Professional Memberships:**
Law Society of Ontario (1994); Law Society of British Columbia (2000); Ontario Bar Association; Canadian Bar Association; British Columbia Technology Industry Association (BCTIA); Victoria Advanced Technology Council (VIATEC), former Board of Director Chairman and Governor of Government Committee and VIATEC Foundation; Foresight CleanTech Accelerator Centre, Board of Directors

**Personal:** Queen’s University, LL.B. University of Western Ontario, Ivey School of Business, MBA McGill University, BA (Distinction)

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**PEREY, André**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Toronto

**Email:** chjacques@fasken.com

**Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)**

**Practice Areas:** André is a partner in the Emerging and High Growth Companies Practice in Osler’s Toronto office. His practice focuses on M&A, startups and venture capital financing. André advises a broad range of foreign and Canadian clients operating in various industries, including software, digital media, online commerce, financial services, retail, food & beverage and renewable energy. André represents emerging and growth stage businesses, and strategic and financial investors in and acquirers of such businesses, and he is involved in numerous local and national innovation, incubator and business accelerator initiatives. André regularly advises foreign companies investing in or establishing Canadian ventures and helps structure, negotiate and implement a variety of complex commercial contracts involving the development, licensing and acquisition of intellectual property and technology.

**Career:** André provides legal services to a broad range of entrepreneurs, media and technology start-ups and leading academic and commercial organizations in the region. André has been at the centre of some of the largest and most strategic M&A activity
in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) space and has acted for several leading academics in machine learning and AI transactions with global consumer internet companies and research institutes. André also plays a central role in Osler's efforts in Rotman's Creative Destruction Lab, NEXT Canada, Peerscale, C100 and the League of Innovators.

**Personal:** Ontario, 1996 Dalhousie University, LL.B. McGill University, B.A.

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**SOMANI, Aly**
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
asomani@cassels.com

Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Co-Chair of the High Growth & Venture Capital Group. Practice focuses on corporate and commercial law. Involved in venture financing, and merger and acquisition transactions involving both public and private companies. Offers particular expertise with high-growth companies and venture capital. Advises clients in a wide range of industries including technology, media & entertainment, hospitality, manufacturing, and retail. Experience working with clients on formation and financings, as well as in drafting shareholder, partnership, and joint venture agreements, as well as a variety of commercial agreements.

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**SPENCER, Keith**
Fasken, Vancouver
+1 604 631 4809
kspencer@fasken.com

Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** Keith Spencer is a leading information technology lawyer in British Columbia. As past Co-Leader of the firm’s Start-Up & Emerging Company Services group, he provides expert advice to start-up and mature private technology companies. Keith is the recipient of the BC Technology Industry Association’s Bill Thompson Lifetime Achievement Award for his exemplary efforts and his passion for entrepreneurs. He also serves on the Board of numerous emerging technology companies, where his practical guidance is appreciated.

**YOUNG, Justin**
Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Vancouver
778.785.2748
jyoung@osler.com

Featured in Startups & Emerging Companies (Nationwide – Canada)

**Practice Areas:** A partner in Osler’s Emerging and High Growth Companies practice group, Justin’s practice focuses on venture capital financings, mergers and acquisitions and corporate commercial matters for private technology companies. He has acted for hundreds of emerging technology companies across Canada and the US and has advised them on various commercial and strategic matters through their growth trajectory, including hundreds of venture capital and other private financings raising over $500 million since 2005. Justin regularly acts for venture capital funds as well as strategic and angel investors in financing transactions with Canadian technology companies. In addition to Justin’s venture practice, he has also advised clients on private and public M&A transactions.

**Professional Memberships:** Law Society of Ontario Law Society of British Columbia Victoria Advanced Technology Council (VIATEC) – Board; Open Angel Vancouver – Board; BC CEO Cleantech Alliance – Counsel; Creative Destruction Lab – Mentor

**Publications:** UBC Sauder School of Business – Guest Lecturer on Venture Finance

**Personal:** McGill University, B.A. (Distinction) University of Toronto, J.D. (Honours)
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Tax
How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness, astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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TAX: An Introduction
Contributed by Aird & Berlis LLP

Aird & Berlis LLP International Tax Measures Introduced in 2022
In recent years, Canada has demonstrated a commitment to international tax reform. In early 2022, the Government published draft legislation (the “Draft Legislation”) which implements some of the measures that were proposed in the Federal Budget in 2021 (“Budget 2021”) to better align Canada’s legislation with global norms. A couple months later, the Government delivered the Federal Budget for 2022 (“Budget 2022”), which further builds upon the minimum standards set out in the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (“BEPS”) Action Plan developed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (“OECD”). The following select measures are likely to have the greatest impact for non-resident individuals and multinational groups.

Excessive Interest and Financing Limitation
The Draft Legislation implements the limitation on excessive interest and financing that was previously announced in Budget 2021. The new rule limits deductible net interest expense to a fixed ratio of “tax EBITDA” (taxable income before interest expense, interest income, income tax, and deductions for depreciation and amortization). The interest barrier will be phased in, with the limit being 40% of tax EBITDA for taxation years beginning on or after January 1, 2023 and 30% of tax EBITDA for taxation years beginning on or after January 1, 2024.

There are some general exceptions to Canada’s excessive interest and financing limitation, but none that are sectoral-specific, which distinguishes Canada’s rule from interest barriers in other jurisdictions like the United States, Mexico and the United Kingdom. The exceptions in the Draft Legislation include, Canadian-controlled private corporations (“CCPCs”) that together with any associated corporations have taxable capital employed in Canada of less than C$15 million, groups of corporations and trusts for which net interest expense among Canadian members is C$250,000 or less, and stand-alone Canadian corporations and trusts and groups of Canadian corporations and trusts that meet certain criteria. The C$250,000 threshold may be increased following submissions from stakeholders on the Draft Legislation.

Mandatory Disclosure Rules
The Draft Legislation includes new mandatory disclosure rules that were first announced in Budget 2021. The changes, which are applicable to taxation years that begin after 2021, include:
- disclosure by each of the taxpayer, advisor and promoter of a “reportable transaction” where any one of the following hallmarks is present: (a) contingency fees; (b) confidential protection required by the promoter or tax advisor; and (c) contractual protection afforded to the taxpayer, advisor or promoter (but excluding normal commercial insurance from an arm’s length provider) (under the current rules, two hallmarks are required);
- a new “notifiable transaction” regime for designated transactions; Canada released a list of sample notifiable transactions that will require disclosure, including avoidance of Canada’s deemed realization rule for trusts, manipulation of bankrupt status to reduce a foreign amount in respect of a commercial obligation, and certain back-to-back lending arrangements; and
- reporting of uncertain tax treatments in an entity’s income tax filings, which targets public corporations and private corporations that choose to prepare financial statements in accordance with IFRS, and that meet an asset threshold of C$50 million.

The new regime will provide the Canada Revenue Agency with more information to assess on the basis of the general anti-avoidance rule (the “GAAR”), which, as announced in Budget 2022, is currently under review by the Department of Finance.

The Draft Legislation also includes provisions to implement new reporting requirements for trusts that will apply to taxation years that end after December 30, 2022. Under the new rules, a trust return must disclose all trustees, beneficiaries and settlors, subject to certain limited exceptions. The new rules will apply to “bare trusts” (which are trusts that act as agents for beneficiaries with respect to all dealings of trust property) and could extend to various nominee arrangements. These new trust rules are likely to result in a significant administrative burden for both taxpayers and the Canada Revenue Agency, as such arrangements are common in the real estate industry for various non-tax related reasons, including creditor protection.

Digital Services Tax and Global Minimum Tax
In Budget 2022, Canada announced its intention to move forward with the BEPS two-pillar plan for international tax reform agreed to by OECD/G20 members in October 2021. Under the first pillar, Canada is continuing to work with international partners to develop a multilateral convention and model rules for a digital services tax (“DST”). Canada had previously announced a domestic DST in the event that a multilateral convention implementing an international framework for the allocation of profit has not come into force. The domestic DST, if applicable, would not be deductible against Canadian income tax payable.

Under the second pillar (“Pillar Two”), Canada is adopting a global minimum tax for large multinational enterprises (“MNEs”) with annual revenues of €750 million or more. An MNE will generally be required to calculate the effective tax rate on its profits in each jurisdiction in which it operates. If the effective tax rate for a particular jurisdiction is below 15%, subject MNEs will be subject to a “top-up” tax that brings the effective tax rate on the profits in the particular jurisdiction up to the 15% minimum rate.

The corporate minimum tax is contrary to Canada’s existing taxation system, which encourages Canadian multinationals to have sub-
sidiaries in low-tax jurisdictions, provided the multinational is carrying on an active business. Nevertheless, Canada has agreed to cooperate with OECD/G20 members on implementing Pillar Two, which is a marker of Canada’s ongoing shift in international tax policy.

Exchange of Information on the Digital Economy
Budget 2022 proposes to implement the OECD model rules that require digital platform operators to collect and report information to tax administrations. These rules require “reporting platform operators” resident in Canada to determine the jurisdiction of residence of their “reportable sellers” for “relevant activities” which include sales of goods, personal services such as tutoring, manual labour, or delivery services, rental of real property or rental of a means of transportation. A reportable seller is generally a user who is registered on the reportable platform to conduct the relevant activities. The reporting platform operators will be required to disclose this information to the CRA. These requirements would apply to calendar years beginning after 2023.

Foreign Buyer Ban on Canadian Housing
In Budget 2022, the federal government announced its intention to introduce a two-year moratorium on foreign commercial enterprises and individuals who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents purchasing non-recreational residential property. This announcement follows the recent introduction of non-resident speculation tax in Ontario and British Columbia, and the introduction of a vacancy tax in Toronto and Vancouver. Looking forward, these initiatives may be curtailed in light of rising interest rates and the corresponding cooling of the housing market in Canada.

Changes Relevant to CCPCs in the Cross-Border M&A context
Budget 2022 contains measures to target the manipulation of a corporation’s status as a CCPC for the purpose of avoiding refundable tax on investment income by introducing the concept of “substantive CCPCs”. Among other types of planning, these changes are directed at curtailing the proliferation of “paragraph 111(4)(e) planning” in cross-border deals where a CCPC is sold to a non-resident purchaser. Under such plans, the seller is able to execute a share sale transaction while delivering a target company with stepped-up inside tax basis in depreciable property in a manner that leaves the seller and purchaser in effectively the same after-tax and commercial position as is the case in an ordinary share sale transaction which affects no such internal step-up. Budget 2022 intends to shut down these plans, subject to a transitional rule for agreements of purchase and sale that were entered into prior to April 7, 2022 (the date Budget 2022 was tabled) and close before the end of 2022.

Conclusion
The Draft Legislation and Budget 2022 propose ambitious tax measures, which are subject to change following consultations with stakeholders, the parliamentary process and best practices evolving around the world. Taxpayers that may be affected by any of these measures should watch the legal developments closely and seek guidance on how best to proceed in the evolving landscape.
team also has a solid tax litigation practice and benefits from the additional support offered by its tax group in New York.

**Strengths**

“The team is highly technical and at the same time able to provide practical advice.”

“They are a highly talented and creative team, with a strong client service focus. They are highly pragmatic and focused on solving problems and issues, not just identifying them.”

**Work highlights** A Davies, Ward, Phillips & Vineberg team led by Montréal-based partner Marie-Emmanuelle Vaillancourt assisted Cominar REIT with the tax aspects of its CAD5.7 billion sale to Iris Acquisition II.

**Notable practitioners**

John Ulmer (see p.408) is a highly esteemed tax attorney with notable expertise pertaining to international taxation, as well as advising on the tax aspects of private equity transactions. He is based in Toronto. “He is incredibly smart.”

Ian Crosbie (see p.403) is held in high regard for his handling of complex and high-value matters for a top roster of clients. He has considerable knowledge of the tax aspects of private equity matters. “John is very smart and can communicate difficult concepts with ease and in a no-nonsense way.”

Guy Du Pont (see p.403) is recognised as one of the country’s most highly regarded contentious tax lawyers. Based in Montréal, he is frequently sought out for representation in high-stakes litigation, investigations and audit files. “He is very good at what he does.”

Nathalie Goyette (see p.404) continues to impress for her representation of major mining companies and financial institutions in tax litigation matters. “She is very smart and can communicate difficult concepts with ease and in a non-nonsense way.”

**Work highlights** A Toronto-based Elie Roth (see p.407) has considerable experience advising on commercial transactions, including M&A, in sectors such as pharma, chemicals and tech. He also is well respected for his private wealth law practice. “He is an exceptional intellect, a pragmatic and creative problem solver; a delight to work with in all circumstances.”

Michael Lubetsky (see p.405) handles a range of contentious tax matters, including appeals. His clients include mining companies. Chris Anderson (see p.402) provides counsel on the tax aspects of various commercial transactions, including high-profile mergers. He is based in Toronto. “He is commercially driven and is able to provide practical advice in addressing complex tax matters.”

Brender Mark, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Colborne Michael, Thorntonsteins LLP

Gupta Ash (see p.404) provides counsel on the tax aspects of various commercial transactions, including high-profile mergers. He is based in Toronto. “He is commercially driven and is able to provide practical advice in addressing complex tax matters.”

Band 2

Alfred Fraid, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Crosbie R. Ian, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Juneja Raj, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Lorito John, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Marley Patrick, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Sherman Mitchell, Goodman LLP

Smit Carrie, Goodman LLP

Wortzman Jared, Torys LLP

Band 3

Bauer Thomas, Bennett Jones LLP

Cardarelli Corrado, Torys LLP

Moch Darcy, Bennett Jones LLP

Nikalakakis Angelo, EY Law LLP

Roth Elie, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Band 3

Bernstein Jack, Aird & Berlis LLP

Bowman Alan, Goodman LLP

Johnston Nigel, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Kopstein Robert A, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Kraus Dean A, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Nijhawan Anu, Bennett Jones LLP

Northup Jon, Goodman LLP

Stepak Paul, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Suzaree Steve, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Band 4

Brender Mark, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Colborne Michael, Thorntonsteins LLP

Gupta Ash (see p.404)

Johnson Gregory M, Bennett Jones LLP

Mathieu Frank, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Penny Kathleen V, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Ranger Alain, Fasken

Richards Gabrielle M, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Rowe Edward, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Shafer Jeffrey, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Tax

Leading Firms

Band 1: Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Band 2: Bennett Jones LLP, Goodmans LLP, McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Stikeman Elliott LLP, Torys LLP

Band 3: Felesky Flynn LLP, Norton Rose Fulbright, Thorntonsteins LLP

Band 4: Aird & Berlis LLP, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Dentons Canada LLP, Fasken

Band 5: Baker McKenzie, Deloitte Legal Canada LLP, DLA Piper (Canada) LLP, EY Law LLP, Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP, KPMG Law LLP, McMillan LLP, PwC Law LLP

* Indicates individual with profile.

= Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

**Tax Senior Statespeople**

Cannon Douglas, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

**Leading Individuals**

Band 1

Ahmed Fraid, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Crosbie R. Ian, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Juneja Raj, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Lorito John, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Marley Patrick, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Sherman Mitchell, Goodman LLP

Smit Carrie, Goodman LLP

Wortzman Jared, Torys LLP

Band 2

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Penny Kathleen V, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Ranger Alain, Fasken

Richards Gabrielle M, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Rowe Edward, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Shafer Jeffrey, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Trossman Jeffrey C, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Ulmer John M, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Band 5

Anderson Brett, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Anderson Chris, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Bloom Brian, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Carenza Paul, Gowling WLG Canada LLP

Freeman Jarrett, Goodman LLP

Friedman Michael, McMillan LLP

Fritz Kevin, DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

Gamble Ian, Thorntonsteins LLP

Gibney Paul, Thorntonsteins LLP

Goguen Siobhan, Fasken Ryan LLP

Gucciardo Francesco, Aird & Berlis LLP

Jaddi Mark, Dentons Canada LLP

Kandev Michael, Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP

Krahn Reinhold, Lawson Lundell LLP (ORL)

Legge Dion, Norton Rose Fulbright

Maurice Craig, Torys LLP

McCay Patrick, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Morand Stefanie, McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Nevsky Larry, Dentons Canada LLP

Oliver Adrienne F, Norton Rose Fulbright

Pantarat Alex, Baker McKenzie

Spino Andrew, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Thivierge Monan, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Tobin John J, Torys LLP

Vaillancourt Marie-Emmanuelle, Davies Ward Phillips

Wong Andrew, Torys LLP

Wong Andrew, Torys LLP

Up-and-coming individuals

D’Avignon Julie, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Gheorghiu D’ Avignon, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Manon Jankovic, Goodmans LLP

Thivierge Manon, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Tobin John J, Torys LLP

Vaillancourt Marie-Emmanuelle, Davies Ward Phillips

Wong Andrew, Torys LLP

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Gheorghiu D’ Avignon, Stikeman Elliott LLP

Manon Jankovic, Goodmans LLP

Thivierge Manon, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

Tobin John J, Torys LLP

Vaillancourt Marie-Emmanuelle, Davies Ward Phillips

Wong Andrew, Torys LLP

Wong Andrew, Torys LLP
Thomas Bauer (see p.406) remains one of Canada’s pre-eminent tax lawyers. A Bennett Jones tax team led by Michael Lear provides tax advice to its clients. Bennett Jones is a firm with a long history of providing excellent tax services. Experienced lawyer who regularly advises clients on sales-tax-related issues.

**Notable practitioners**

Al Meghji (see p.406) is a well-respected tax lawyer with significant experience in complex corporate restructuring mandates. He is based in Toronto. His practice on issues spanning the breadth of corporate and securities law.

**Strengths:**
- “The team always provides timely advice and assistance to the situation at hand.”
- “The team always provides timely advice and assistance to the situation at hand.”
- “They move in real time and provide effective solutions under extreme pressure.”
- “They move in real time and provide effective solutions under extreme pressure.”

**Goodmans LLP**

What the team is known for Goodman’s is a Toronto law firm with a dynamic tax structuring team that is particularly well regarded for its significant expertise in domestic and cross-border M&A matters. The team is also well respected for its tax planning advice on capital markets and private equity investment deals, and also acts on corporate restructuring work. It is known for its significant experience in the energy, financial services, mining and real estate sectors.

**Strengths:**
- “They have an extraordinary tax-planning practice.”

**Notable practitioners**

Mitchell Sherman (see p.407) continues to be regarded as a leading transactional tax lawyer, advising on an impressive number of high-profile, cross-border deals. He is a very smart and experienced tax practitioner.

**Carrie Smit** (see p.407) stands out for her elite-level tax advice on complex capital markets transactions and high-stakes corporate restructuring mandates. She has also been engaged in significant cross-border M&A deals. She is “Canard’s foremost expert.”

**Alison Bowman** (see p.407) is an experienced tax lawyer who advises on a range of M&A transactions with a notable focus on the mining sector. He has also worked on several major restructuring files.

**Jon Northup** (see p.406) offers considerable experience advising on the tax aspects of corporate transactions and has a particular focus on the REIT sector. He has also solid track record advising on financing agreements and the formation of investment funds.

**Jarrett Freeman** (see p.404) is rapidly developing his reputation in the tax field. He is held in particularly high regard for his work on corporate transactions.

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault possesses a robust tax practice offering national reach out of its Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Montréal offices. The team provides tax controversy and litigation support, as well as corporate, sales and commodity tax advice.

**Strengths:**
- “They move in real time and provide effective solutions under extreme pressure.”
- “They are extremely generous in taking the time to talk..."
through complex issues, and do a great job of working with the time frames. He is technically very strong, creative and pleasant to deal with. He is very proactive, and has a great understanding of the issues our business is facing. He offers excellent advice and is a pleasure to deal with.

Torys LLP

What the team is known for Torys possesses a solid tax team with strong capabilities in the financial services sector. Its Toronto and Calgary-based tax lawyers regularly advise on the tax aspects of prominent transactions handled by the firm’s standout corporate practice. The firm is also known for its large tax advisory group, including its robust cross-border tax planning expertise bolstered by its New York office. It is additionally well regarded for its strength in tax controversy and litigation.

Strengths “The team was attentive to the commercial and tax objectives and assisted the client with their specialty knowledge in finding a sensible solution.” “They bring a team approach to complex matters to get the best result for their clients.”

Work highlights A Torys tax team led by Toronto-based partner Jared Wortsman advised IFM and Ontario Teachers’ on their CAD2.8 billion acquisition of the Canadian operations of Enwave.

Notable practitioners

Jerald Wortsman (see p.409) enjoys an outstanding reputation in the Canadian tax market. He is particularly noted for his strong relationships across the financial services sector, from high-street banks to a host of private investors, including REITs and pension funds. Based in Toronto, he is the head of the firm’s tax practice. “He is a leader in the tax community. He is a very bright and thoughtful tax practitioner.”

Corrado Cardarelli (see p.403) provides counsel on tax structures and reorganizations, as well as commercial transactions. He is based in Toronto. “He is an unparalleled technical expert and source of knowledge in his field.” “He is available, responsive and puts in the effort to understand our needs.”

Gwen Watson (see p.408) impresses for her role as lead tax adviser on a number of transformative agreements, including acquisitions and corporate reorganizations. She is based in Toronto, and was recently the firm’s tax lead in advising Norbord on its CAD4 billion merger with West Fraser Timber. “She’s a great technical mind. She quickly analyses facts and finds creative ways to apply the law.”

Calgary-based Craig Maurice (see p.406) acts as a tax adviser across a range of different transactions, including acquisitions, investments and project finance, as well as corporate restructuring. “He is an excellent transactional lawyer.”

Toronto-based John Tobin (see p.408) advises on acquisitions, reorganizations and securities transactions, as well as contentious mandates concerning the interpretation of tax regulations. “He is a smart lawyer.”

Andrew Wong (see p.409) regularly leads on tax aspects of complex transactions. He is experienced in handling deals such as M&A. “Andrew is very responsive and available to serve our needs. He has a very strong commercial acumen and provides solutions that are appropriate to our organization and level of sophistication.”

Band 3

Fleesky Flynn LLP

What the team is known for Fleesky Flynn is an impressive tax boutique with offices in Calgary, Edmonton and Saskatoon. The firm covers a range of areas including M&A, reorganizations, corporate, commodity and international tax. The team is renowned for its offering of domestic tax planning, with additional expertise in tax litigation. It acts for a wide range of clients, particularly in the resources sector.

Work highlights A Fleesky Flynn team led by Calgary-based Donald Biberdorf advised Perpetual Energy on its spin-off of Rubellite Energy.

Notable practitioners

Siobhan Goguen is noted for her skills in a range of tax matters. She often works on cross-border transactions. “Siobhan is a very accomplished international tax lawyer.”

Norton Rose Fullbright

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fullbright is an international firm with a solid Canadian tax practice featuring considerable national reach. With offices in the country’s major business centres, the
tax department offers seamless multi-jurisdictional advice across all manner of corporate and transactional tax issues. Tax litigation is a further area of strength for the team nationwide. It maintains a strong presence in the resources sector. The Vancouver office is known for a focus on private company tax planning.

Strengths
“They have a very sophisticated practice that provides us with deep bench strength in the areas we work with them on.”
“The team has a strong ability to draw conclusions from technical requirements and apply to the facts and circumstances related to our activities.”
“I appreciate the team aspect of Norton Rose Fulbright, and know that whenever something comes up, the team will make sure someone is available to us at all times.”

Work highlights A Norton Rose Fulbright team led by Calgary-based Dion Legge advised Benevity on its sale to Hg Capital.

Notable practitioners
Based out of Montréal, Dominic Kelley (see p.402) maintains a notable standing for his contentious tax work, particularly in the province of Québec. He is active on rectification cases and disputes relating to tax credits. Strengths: “He is a very talented and methodical litigator.” Calgary-based Dion Legge (see p.405) provides broad transactional tax support to clients hailing from an array of industries, including pharmaceuticals, technology and energy. Strengths: “I hold his opinion and advice in very high regard.”

Toronto-based Adrienne Oliver (see p.406) focuses her practice on tax planning as well as transactional tax counsel, including acquisitions and restructurings. Strengths: “Adrienne has an extremely sharp legal mind and would be my first choice for sophisticated tax matters. She works to understand our goals and risk tolerance, and offers practical advice to address them.”

Thorsteenssons LLP
What the team is known for Thorsteinsons features a well-respected group of tax specialists with a robust presence in Vancouver and Toronto, and is well known for its tax expertise in the mining sector. The firm receives acclaim for its very active tax controversy and litigation practice. It offers further strength for private clients in the high net worth arena.

Strengths
“They are very well respected in both planning and litigation.”

Notable practitioners
Matthew Williams (see p.408) has an impressive reputation for his tax litigation work, particularly on tax controversy cases. He is based in Toronto.
Strengths: “He is excellent and is active on cutting-edge files.” Toronto-based Michael Colborne (see p.403) advises on tax planning and transactional, with particular activity in the natural resources sector. Strengths: “He is an excellent lawyer.”
Vancouver-based Ian Gamble (see p.404) provides tax counsel to a broad array of clients, in sectors including natural resources and telecoms.
Strengths: “He is careful, smart, hard-working and practical.”
Toronto-based Paul Gibney (see p.404) is well known in the market for his work on corporate tax issues and tax planning. He regularly advises private individuals, as well as corporate clients.

Band 4
Aird & Berlis LLP
What the team is known for Aird & Berlis is a popular choice among multinational companies for international tax planning, cross-border M&A, financings and restructurings. The firm offers a depth of knowledge in a number of tax law areas, including dispute resolution, and regularly acts for clients in the finance, energy and mining sectors. Based in Toronto, the firm is recognised for its national reach.

Strengths
“They are very good at breaking down complex issues into easy-to-understand language.”
“One of the many impressive characteristics of this tax litigation team is their ability to foresee and plan for possible unexpected hurdles during a large-scale tax litigation matter.”

Work highlights An Aird & Berlis team led by Toronto-based Christopher Slade appeared in a Tax Court of Canada appeal for Fisher Canada Holding ULC, a Canadian affiliate of Thermo Fisher Scientific. The case centred around whether cross-border distributions totalling approximately CAD400 million were returns of capital or, as alleged by the Canada Revenue Agency, dividends subject to non-resident withholding tax under the Income Tax Act.

Notable practitioners
Jack Bernstein chairs the firm’s international tax practice and assists clients with tax planning and transactional mandates. He is admitted to both the Quebec and Ontario Bars. Strengths: “Jack knows how to address a tax law issue with clients and ensure they understand what’s going on; a very important skill in a world of ever more complex rules.”
Barbara Worndl is a well-regarded and longstanding figure in the Canadian tax market. She advises clients on various transactions, with a particular focus on REITs and in the real estate sector more generally.
Strengths: “She is incredibly creative and responsive.”
“We are extremely satisfied with her depth and breadth of knowledge, service, and innate understanding and appreciation of financial and commercial complex transactions.”
Francesco Gucciardi gains plaudits for his tax expertise as it relates to complex transactions. Strengths: “He is one of the most responsive lawyers I have worked with.”
“He is a smart and knowledgeable lawyer who works on sophisticated and technical matters.”
Neil Bass is a respected lawyer who handles a range of indirect tax matters, including GST and HST-related work.
Strengths: “Neil is always available for us whenever we need him. He understands complex issues and knows our business well enough to give us practical advice that is easy to understand.”
“We are very thankful to have his expertise and sound judgement.”

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais provides national tax support across a number of sectors, including energy, mining, employee benefits and investment funds. The firm offers additional expertise in sales and commodity taxation, inbound and outbound investments and tax litigation. The tax team is well versed in advising financial services sector clients and REITs. Other clients include energy and real estate companies.

Strengths
“They have continually performed to the highest standards in all areas.”
“The team cares about our success.”

Work highlights A Borden Ladner Gervais team led by Toronto-based Natasha Miklaucic advised VNDLY Canada Technologies on its USD$10 million sale to Workday.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Steve Suarez (see p.408) provides counsel on corporate tax and transactions, as well as business reorganisations. He possesses notable experience in the infrastructure and mining industries. Strengths: “He is very knowledgeable and experienced.”
“His tax expertise is exemplary, and I think very highly of him.”

Dentons Canada LLP
What the team is known for The tax team at Dentons Canada advises on a wide variety of corporate transactions, such as restructurings, tax planning and IPOs. It also operates a strong sales and commodity tax practice, and is active in tax litigation. The firm acts for clients hailing from a range of industries including mining, real estate and entertainment. It is recognised for its active national practice, particularly in Western Canada.

Strengths
“The Dentons Canada team was always responsive and available when we needed them.”
“Dentons have handled complex matters for us and managed to find practical solutions.”

Work highlights A Dentons Canada team led by Toronto-based partner Mark Jadd advised The Baupost Group and Goldfinch Partners as local counsel on their USD910 million carve-out acquisition of Western Union Business Solutions from The Western Union Company.

Notable practitioners
Mark Jadd advises on the tax aspects of commercial transactions, including cross-border acquisitions. He is based in Toronto. “He is excellent on working through cross-border tax issues.” “Mark has a deep knowledge of Canadian and international tax and is able to deliver practical and timely advice.”
Larry Nevsky operates a notable Toronto-based transactional tax practice, advising on numerous cross-border acquisitions, including significant deals in the technology, pharmaceutical and fintech sectors. “He is a very strong lawyer who is a reasoned and methodical thinker.”

Fasken
What the team is known for Fasken’s tax department is noted for its expertise in corporate tax, international tax planning and tax dispute resolution. The firm has impressive geographical reach, with offices across Canada’s main business centres and a significant international presence. The group is particularly active in the energy and financial services sectors. It is notable for providing tax support to startups and emerging companies.

Strengths
“The Fasken team is extremely responsive. I am always impressed by the level of service we receive.”
“At every turn in our transaction, Fasken was able to deliver specific expertise with relevant experience to the given issue.”

Work highlights A Fasken tax team led by Toronto-based partner Martin Legault advised Taiga Motors on the Canadian tax implications of its reverse merger with Canaccord Genuity Growth II.
Notable practitioners
Montreal-based Alain Ranger (see p.407) is well-known and well-respected in the market. He primarily assists clients with the tax considerations of transactions, including M&A and refinancings.

Strengths: “He is technically strong but can also speak to issues at a level that does not require a technical background to understand.” Practice group leader Christopher Steeves (see p.407) impresses for his strong, transactional tax practice, particularly for his work on private equity investments, mergers and the acquisition of distressed assets. He is based in Toronto. Strengths: “Christopher is highly responsive, technically robust and provides practical and commercially savvy tax advice.”

Band 5
Baker McKenzie
What the team is known for Baker McKenzie is a high-profile multinational law firm with strong tax capabilities in Canada. The firm is particularly respected for its international coordination and handling of cross-border mandates. Its lawyers provide counsel on various contentious matters, including controversies, as well as tax planning and transactions. The team advises a broad range of clients including manufacturers and technology companies.

Strengths
“The firm has been able to simply and expertly digest legislation and requirements, and apply them to our situation in a practical and understandable way.”

“Both the depth and breadth of tax knowledge is apparent, with the ability to quickly add to the adviser team should more specialised views be required.”

“The team was very well prepared and knowledgeable about all relevant Canadian tax issues.”

Work highlights A Baker McKenzie tax team, led by Toronto-based partner Peter Clark, represented Embracer through its subsidiary DECA Games in its acquisition of IUGO Mobile Entertainment and Ashura’s acquisition of IUGO Mobile Entertainment and A Thinking Ape Entertainment.

Notable practitioners
Jacques Bernier is a highly regarded tax litigator with experience in cross-border controversies. Based in Toronto, he leads Baker McKenzie’s Canadian tax practice. His clients include prominent blue-chip clients from the pharmaceutical and technology sectors, among others. Strengths: “He is a very experienced tax lawyer.” “He is an excellent negotiator and strategist.” Alex Pankratz is recommended for his expertise in tax planning and transactional matters. He has over 20 years of experience in the field. Strengths: “Alex is a very skilled tax professional.” “It was truly a pleasure dealing with Alex – his vast knowledge of the subject matter made the somewhat daunting issues much easier to manage.”

Deloitte Legal Canada LLP
What the team is known for Deloitte Legal Canada has strong skills in a host of tax issues. The team is adept at advising on tax planning matters, in addition to tax controversy and dispute work. It represents clients from a range of sectors, including banking, energy and aerospace.

Strengths
“Their advice was to the point and very efficient.”

“This is a firm with deep technical expertise and creativity, which makes for extremely competent advisers.”

Work highlights A Deloitte Legal Canada team led by Calgary-based Joel Scheuerman advised Pier 1 Imports on a customs valuation dispute against the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). The matter centred around the applicable valuation method for the client’s imports to Canada, and whether the CBSA was required to follow a settlement agreement that dealt with these valuation methods.

Notable practitioners
Olivier Fournier (see p.403) has a strong tax litigation practice that sees him work on transfer pricing and tax disputes, as well as other matters. His clients include Fortune 500 companies. Strengths: “In a very complex situation, Olivier was able to find a way to build the case.” “He is a highly skilled tax litigator who has great strategic skills.”

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP
What the team is known for The team at DLA Piper Canada is adept at handling a range of complex tax matters. Its lawyers regularly handle tax planning matters, as well as tax disputes, often on behalf of high-profile Canadian and international entities. The firm’s expertise covers transactions such as M&A, debt restructurings and joint ventures.

Work highlights A DLA Piper Canada team led by Toronto-based Kevin Fritz advised Service-Now on its USD230 million acquisition of Element AI.

Notable practitioners
Adrienne Woodyard focuses on tax litigation work. She is experienced in representing clients before the Federal Court of Appeals. Kevin Fritz has strong skills in a range of tax matters. He often works on transactions such as M&A. “He is a capable and practical tax lawyer.”

EY Law LLP
What the team is known for EY Law LLP possesses a large group of tax specialists, offering expertise in all areas of taxation across a broad spectrum of industries, such as financial services, communications, government and resources. The team’s expertise includes sales and indirect tax, M&A, controversy and international tax, with a recent surge in litigious capabilities. The firm has offices across the country and benefits from its alliance with the accounting arm of Ernst & Young in Canada.

Notable practitioners
Angelo Nikolakakis is best known for his international tax expertise, particularly in relation to cross-border transactions. He is based in Montreal. “He is the leading expert on outbound international tax on foreign affiliate taxation. He is an exceptional lawyer to work with.” “He is very knowledgeable.”

David Sandler is based in Toronto, from where he leads EY Law’s tax controversy practice and represents his clients in tax disputes before various courts and authorities. His experience includes advising on GAAR and transfer pricing. “He is a very thorough and detailed lawyer.”

David Robertson handles a range of indirect tax matters, including sales tax-related work. His clients include Fortune 500 companies.

Strengths
They have been extremely timely and responsive. They have made us feel like their most important client.”

“The team was very knowledgeable and truly added value by bringing in subject matter experts when required.”

“The advice provided has been of the highest quality and is always provided very promptly.”

Work highlights A Gowling WLG team led by Toronto-based Paul Carena advised Yoo on its sale of substantially all its assets to US-based Affirm Holdings.

Notable practitioners
Ash Gupta regularly assists clients with tax structuring and planning, with particular proficiency in cross-border investment agreements. He is based in Toronto. “He is intellectually very strong, extremely practical, and understands client service.” “He is excellent in cross-border work.”

John Sorensen has solid expertise in handling tax disputes. He is experienced in handling cross-border cases. “John is an extremely talented lawyer from a technical perspective, but he also brings excellent commercial vision to ensure we are pursuing the best strategy.”

Paul Carena is recommended for his work on transactional matters such as M&A. His clients include utility companies. “Paul Carena is a consummate tax partner who possesses deep knowledge of the Canadian tax regime and combines this with commercial awareness to deliver high-quality advice for clients.”

Laura Gherghe is a rising star in the tax field. She regularly works on tax aspects of M&A and capital markets transactions. “She is highly technical, but she also has excellent business sense and is a pleasure to work with.”

KPMG Law LLP
What the team is known for KPMG Law benefits from a dynamic team of tax experts, with a particularly impressive and growing reputation in the field of tax controversy and litigation. The Toronto-based team also provides transactional advice and tax planning support.

Strengths
“The KPMG Law team offers very thorough tax advice, sound judgement and client focus.”

“The group takes the time to understand our business and process and ensures the workflow is adapted to meet your needs.”

Work highlights A KPMG Law team led by Toronto-based Justin Kutyan appeared before the Tax Court of Canada on behalf of the Estate of Pasquale Paletta with respect to complex foreign currency derivative contracts traded in the over-the-counter market.

Notable practitioners
Justin Kutyan (see p.405) stands out for his impressive track record in tax controversy and litigation. He is noted for his advice to a strong roster of clients in the technology and financial sectors.

McMillan LLP
What the team is known for McMillan is a law firm with notable reach across Canada with tax practices in a number of major cities. The group provides a broad spectrum of advice to clients on both domestic and cross-border taxation, including M&A deals, financings and transfer pricing. It is also recognised for its solid tax litigation practice. Clients include financial institutions, and companies involved in the oil and gas, technology and automotive sectors.
AHMED, Firoz
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Firoz specializes in the taxation of mergers and acquisitions, corporate reorganizations, debt restructurings, partnership arrangements and international taxation. He has written articles and presented papers on a number of income tax subjects for the International Tax Review, Journal of International Taxation, Canadian Tax Journal and the Tax Executives Institute.
Professional Memberships: Canadian Tax Foundation, International Fiscal Association, Canadian Bar Association
Personal: Ontario, 1986 Queen’s University of Law. Member of the board of directors of Pro Bono Law Alberta.

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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A partner in the tax practice, Chris acts as lead tax counsel for a wide range of clients and industries, including private equity, infrastructure and hedge funds, financial institutions and pension funds, Canadian and international mining companies and high-net-worth individuals, including a number of Canada’s most successful professional athletes and entertainers. He has significant depth and breadth of experience in all aspects of tax planning, including in cross-border transactions, private and public mergers & acquisitions, reorganizations, debt restructurings, insolvency proceedings, equity compensation plans and spinoffs. Chris also represents taxpayers in disputes with the Canada Revenue Agency and provincial authorities. He chaired the Law Society of Ontario’s Taxation of Real Estate Transactions Conference and regularly speaks at conferences for the Canadian Tax Foundation, the Law Society of Ontario and the International Fiscal Association. Chris is a co-author of the textbook Canadian Taxation of Trusts. Select Recognition: The Best Lawyers in Canada; The Legal 500 Canada; The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; Lexpert Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40.

BELLEY, Dominic
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Dominic Belley is a tax litigator and he is co-chair of Norton Rose Fullbright’s Canadian tax team. He has handled matters against federal and provincial tax authorities in civil, commercial, criminal and constitutional matters before the Court of Quebec, the Quebec Superior Court, the Quebec Court of Appeal, the BC Supreme Court, the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, the Tax Court of Canada, the Federal Court and the Federal Court of Appeal. Dominic has argued four cases before the Supreme Court of Canada as lead counsel for the appellant, the respondent and the intervener. In 20 years of practice, Dominic has argued over 200 cases on behalf of clients in 7 out of 10 Canadian provinces. His areas of focus include income tax, GST, fuel tax, tobacco tax, Aboriginal tax, land transfer duties, collection measures, protection of tax information, judicial review, pension plans, unclaimed property and rectifications.

BOWMAN, Alan
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Alan Bowman is a partner in the Tax Group at Goodmans. Alan’s practice focuses on all aspects of income taxation that arise in corporate and commercial transactions with a particular focus on the mining industry. He advises public and private clients on M&A, debt and equity financing, corporate reorganizations, debt restructurings and international tax planning.
Career: Alan is recognized by Chambers Canada, Chambers Global, The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory and Best Lawyers in Canada for tax.
Professional Memberships: Member of the LSO, CBA, CTF, and IFA.
Prize-winning collaborator is a distinguished practitioner with a particular emphasis on cross-border transactions and the application of tax strategies in the context of international business. His extensive experience in corporate, M&A, and reorganization matters is complemented by a deep understanding of taxation, including the complexities of international tax law. He has served in prominent roles within the legal community, including as a judicial law clerk at the Tax Court of Canada and the Québec Superior Court. He is a member of the Québec Bar Association, the Tax Foundation (Chair of the Board of Directors), and the Order of Merit of the University of Québec. Olivier is a Lexpert ranked lawyer both in Tax and Litigation: Litigation (Band 1). He has been listed in Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation广西-Canada and recognized as one of Canada’s leading litigation counsel. Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers; Selected for The Best Lawyers in Canada's Toronto Tax Law Lawyer of the Year 2021, Montréal.

DUPONT, Guy
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Featured in Litigation (Québec), Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Guy is repeatedly recognized as one of Canada’s leading litigation counsel. Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers; Elected member, American Law Institute (one of very few Canadians to be so honored since 1923); Member of the Québec Bar, Ontario; French & English Barbados; Lawyer Emeritus Distinction (Barreau du Québec); Order of Merit from University of Ottawa; Recipient of Tax Court of Canada Medal for outstanding services to the Court and of Benchmark Canada’s Hall of Fame Award. Practices complex, high-stakes litigation involving a wide range of areas and has appeared at all levels of trial/appellate courts in Canada, including Tax Court of Canada, both levels of Federal Court and Supreme Court of Canada, in a number of leading cases, in a wide range of practice fields, including taxation, class actions, competition, white-collar and constitutional law. As lead counsel, successfully argued BÇE Inc.'s appeal before the Supreme Court with respect to a $52 billion takeover by Teachers’ Pension Plan. Most important commercial case in Canada. Select Recognition: Chambers Global, Tax: Litigation (Band 1); Dispute Resolution: Litigation: The Legal 500 Canada; Benchmark Canada as Top 50 Trial Lawyers in Canada (2017-2021); Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation; Best Lawyers as Appellate Practice Lawyer of the Year 2021, Montréal.

Fournier, Olivier
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Olivier leads the Tax Controversy and Litigation practise of Deloitte Legal Canada LLP. Olivier practises tax law with a focus on tax litigation and tax controversy, from the audit and objection stages to tax appeals before the courts. He has extensive experience in resolving tax disputes, both in and out of Court, and engages in managing complex tax audits, ensuring that the tax authorities operate within the lawful parameters regarding demand for and disclosure of documents and correcting non-compliance issues. He also has had significant exposure to a variety of tax issues arising in domestic and international mergers and acquisitions.

Career: He has acted in matters before the Tax Court of Canada, the Court of Quebec, the Superior Court of Québec, the Court of Appeal of Québec, the Federal Court and the Federal Court of Appeal, the Quebec Court of Queen's Bench, etc. Olivier is a Lexpert ranked lawyer both in Tax Litigation and in Corporate Tax. He is an active speaker, writer and presenter at various conferences and seminars and is a governor of the Canadian Tax Foundation (CTF). Olivier was called to the Bar of Québec in 2006, after receiving an MBA from the University of Ottawa (2005), and an LL.L., 2005 magna cum laude, and a B.Sc. (Biology), 2002 from the University of
of Ottawa. Oliver was also admitted to the Law Society of Ontario in 2021.

FREEMAN, Jarrett
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Partner in the Tax Group. Practice encompasses all aspects of income taxation that arise in corporate and commercial transactions, with an emphasis on merger and acquisition, corporate finance and real estate transactions both domestically and internationally. Also has extensive experience advising real estate investment trusts (REITs), private equity funds and other yield-oriented issuers on tax matters.

Career: Recognized a leading tax practitioner by numerous publications including Outstanding Tax Lawyers in Canada and The Legal 500 Canada. In 2017 Jarrett was honoured as one of Lexpert’s Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Ontario, Canadian Tax Foundation, Canadian Bar Association

Publications: Author of a number of articles and speaker on a variety of income tax matters, including the taxation of REITs and the SIFT rules.

Personal: Works closely with the Joint Committee of Taxation in connection with REIT and land transfer tax matters.

FRIEDMAN, Michael
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael leads McMillan’s National Tax group and stands as one of Canada’s leading tax lawyers. Michael’s practice focuses on a diverse range of domestic and international tax matters with specialized expertise in the planning and structuring of domestic and multi-national commercial acquisitions, diversifications, reorganizations and business combinations. Michael is also widely recognized for his expertise assisting in structuring (i) transfer pricing matters, and (ii) the taxation of investment funds and structured products. Michael serves as tax counsel to a large proportion of the alternative investment funds in Canada. Michael has been recognized as a Recommended Practitioner by the Legal 500 and a Leading Tax Advisor by the International Tax Review. Michael has also enjoyed great success resorting tax disputes for clients with both the Canada Revenue Agency and the provincial revenue authorities. He has appeared before both the Tax Court of Canada and the Federal Court of Appeal. Michael is a prolific writer and has authored over 100 tax publications, is regularly quoted in the Canadian print media, and appears on the national television networks to comment on tax matter.

GAMBLE, Ian
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Ian’s practice focuses on all aspects of corporate and international taxation, and includes advisory services, CRA audit representation, and tax litigation.

Career: Ian has over 30 years’ experience in representing a wide range of public and private companies, trusts and individuals in telecommunication, real estate, forestry, energy, and marine sectors.


Publications: Ian is the author of Taxation of Canadian Mining (Carswell) and co-author of The Foreign Affiliate Rules (Wolters Kluwer). Ian has also been recognized as a leading tax lawyer in Canada by Best Lawyers in Canada, Guide to the World’s Leading Tax Advisers, Who’s Who Legal, Corporate Tax, and several Lexport publications.

GIBNEY, Paul
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Paul’s practice is restricted to corporate tax planning, estate planning, international taxation, taxpayer representation and litigation. His focus is mainly private clients, both domestic and international.

Career: Paul Gibney is a senior partner in the Toronto office of Thorsteinssons LLP. Tax Lawyers. He received his B. Comm. from the University of British Columbia and his LL.B. from the University of Toronto. Paul is called to the bar in both Ontario and British Columbia. In 1996 and 1997, Paul spent eighteen months in Ottawa where he was the Policy Advisor to the Minister of National Revenue.

Publications: Paul has spoken on taxation matters at numerous conferences including the annual Canadian Tax Foundation Conference, the annual CBA Tax Law for Lawyers Conference, the annual Canadian STEP National Conference, the STEP Caribbean Conference and the International Bar Association. He is a contributor to various tax publications and has been an instructor for the Law Society of Upper Canada’s Bar Admission Course and the Ontario Institute of Chartered Accountants. Paul is also an advisor and director of numerous private foundations.

GOYETTE, Nathalie
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Nathalie is a partner in the Tax and Tax Disputes practice. She helps clients manage and resolve audit and appeal disputes with provincial and federal tax authorities. She has extensive experience representing corporate and individual clients on all aspects of tax litigation, including tax income, goods and services tax, provincial sales tax, tax avoidance and mining tax. She has earned the trust of clients as varied as multinationals, corporations, closely held businesses, high-net-worth individuals, trusts and estates. She also worked as a senior tax lawyer for the Federal Department of Justice. She was a member of the Rules Committee of the Tax Court of Canada for a decade and past member of its Judicial Advisory Committee. She now chairs the Canadian Bar Association’s Bench & Bar Committee with the Tax Court of Canada. She has received the Order of Merit of the Government of Ontario’s Civil List. Nathalie is a frequent speaker at national and international tax seminars and has authored numerous publications, including a book on tax treaty abuse. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; The Lexpert/ American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert Special Edition: Litigation; Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory; Best Lawyers in Canada.

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Featured in Tax (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Zvi’s practice involves all areas of sales and commodity tax, with a focus on planning and dispute resolution in connection with VAT, goods and services tax, harmonized sales tax, provincial sales tax, insurance premium tax, excise taxes and duties, and carbon tax matters including corporate tax planning, estate planning, international taxation, taxpayer representation and litigation. His focus is mainly private clients, both domestic and international.

Career: Zvi has more than 20 years’ experience advising clients on their most complicated tax planning or tax disputes matters. Zvi is an advisor that provides creative solutions in a way clients can understand and is one of Canada’s most prominent tax lawyers. Zvi plays an integral role in many of Canada’s largest transactions and largest tax disputes with the Canada Revenue Agency. He develops creative solutions for complex tax problems and works closely with leading private and public companies, pension funds and private equity firms on all aspects of their domestic and international tax planning. His experience crosses industries and borders, and includes corporate finance, M&A, tax disputes, and asset management industry (domestic and foreign), private equity, the creation of new financial products, the taxation of renewable energy projects and corporate income tax issues.

Career: Member of Editorial Board of ‘Canada Tax Service’ (Carswell); Ontario Bar; and Serbo-Croat.

JANKOVIC, V. Daniel
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide - Canada)

Practice Areas: Dan has a combined tax planning and tax disputes/litigation practice. Dan practises corporate income tax law and advises on domestic and international tax planning matters, with a particular focus on M&A, corporate reorganizations, financings, debt restructuring, resource taxation and investments by private equity and pension funds. He also advises international clients looking to invest, commence or acquire business operations in Canada, especially in the oil and gas, renewable and emerging energy, technology, infrastructure and service industry sectors. He has provided structured advice in respect of numerous complex and customized joint venture and partnership arrangements. Dan frequently represents domestic and international clients in tax disputes with Canadian revenue authorities. His practice encompasses all stages of tax dispute resolution, from dealing with tax authorities and litigating in court. Dan is fluent in French and Serbo-Croat.
KANDEV, Michael Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto  416.841.6556 mkandev@dwpv.com  Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Michael is a partner in the Tax, M&A, Private Equity and Private Client practice. He has a broad practice with a particular focus on cross-border taxation. Clients turn to him for meticulous and innovative tax advice. He works with major Canadian, US and other publicly traded companies, private equity and hedge funds, as well as tax-exempt institutions on investments, divestments, financings, fund formations, mergers & acquisitions, reorganizations and estate and resource projects. Michael provides counsel on disputes with tax authorities and has particular expertise in international tax issues including transfer pricing matters. He also advises individuals on estate planning, personal trusts, and immigration and emigration matters.

A frequent speaker at tax conferences in Canada and abroad, Michael has also published extensively in a variety of tax periodicals. He is a counsellor and second vice-president of the Canadian Branch of the International Fiscal Association. He is a contributing editor to Wolters Kluwer International Tax Journal. Select Recognition: The Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexpert Special Edition: Finance and M&A; Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Cana...
tax authorities. Martha brings extensive knowledge and experience to a wide range of tax issues, including transfer pricing, tax avoidance, foreign tax credits, residence for tax purposes, employee benefits, and goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax. She also regularly advises clients on a variety of administrative and procedural matters.

MARLEY, Patrick
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Patrick is the Co-Chair of Osler’s Tax group. Patrick advises on tax issues associated with international tax planning, domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, corporate reorganizations, corporate finance and various other areas of tax. He has significant experience representing clients in various industries including financial services, mining, oil and gas, telecommunications, manufacturing and technology. Patrick has appeared before the Canadian House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance and the Canadian Senate Banking Committee as an expert on international tax matters.

Career: Prior to joining Osler, Patrick worked in the Canadian Department of Finance where he was extensively involved in drafting legislation and formulating tax policy related to foreign affiliates, foreign source income and foreign investments.

Professional Memberships: International Fiscal Association, Canadian Branch 1st Vice President; Canadian Tax Foundation; American Bar Association, International Taxation Section; Past Co-Chair on Taxation Committee; New York University, International Tax Program Practice Council; Ontario Bar Association, New York Bar Association

Publications: Patrick is a contributing editor for Tax Management Business Operations in Canada, and is a regular contributor to Tax Management International Journal. CCH’s Interpretation of OECD Transfer Pricing Guidelines Appears Inconsistent with Canadian Law – Tax Management International Journal, October 12, 2018

Personal: New York University, LL.M., University of Western Ontario, LL.B.

MATHIEU, Frank
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Frank Mathieu is a partner and Head of the Montreal office’s Tax Group. His practice focuses on all areas of Canadian income tax law, including complex tax aspects of public and private mergers & acquisitions, strategic investments and joint ventures, and corporate reorganizations and restructurings in a domestic and cross-border context. With over 18 years of expertise, Frank is often sought after by foreign clients and counsel, including private equity funds, for his knowledgeable tax structuring advice on Canadian investments by foreign entities. Frank is recognized as a leading tax lawyer in Canada by the legal industry’s most prominent directories, including Chambers and Lexpert. He is also a frequent lecturer and speaker at various industry conferences.

MAURICE, Craig
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Craig is a leading tax lawyer with broad experience in M&A and financing transactions, particularly in the energy, resources and private equity industries. Craig brings extensive experience advising on the tax aspects of domestic and international M&A and financing transactions, with a focus on the energy and resources sectors. His work includes advising clients in traditional oil and gas, mining, oil sands projects and in the midstream sector. Craig also advises junior and senior clients on financings, with particular experience in financings using flow-through shares. Clients also regularly seek his advice on the tax implications of inbound and outbound private equity investment.

MCCAY, Patrick
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Patrick McCay is a partner in the Toronto office specializing in tax law. He creates value for clients by providing strategic and pragmatic tax advice and provides planning to address complex tax transactions and structuring challenges. Patrick has significant experience with M&A, corporate finance, capital markets, REITs, private equity transactions as well as do-mestic and cross-border reorganizations.


Professional Memberships: Member of Canadian Tax Foundation (CTF); International Fiscal Association (IFA); the Canadian Bar Association (CBA); the Canadian Bar Association (CBA); the American Bar Association; the American Society of International Taxation; the American Association of Corporate Instructors (AAACI); and the American Bar Association.

Publications: He has lectured in tax law at the University of Western Ontario. He speaks on tax matters for the Canadian Tax Foundation; the Ontario Bar Association; the American Bar Association; IFA and at other forums.

MEGHI, Al
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: As a partner and head of the tax controversy practice at Osler, Al Meghi is widely regarded as Canada’s preeminent tax litigation lawyer, holding an outstanding record of success in complex tax litigation matters in various courts. Al is supported by Osler’s tax group, which is consistently ranked as one of Canada’s largest and most sophisticated tax practices.

Career: Al has been lead counsel in many of Canada’s most important and high-profile tax cases. He has appeared in the Supreme Court of Canada more frequently than any other Canadian tax litigator and has successfully argued a number of landmark tax cases in that court, including Shell Canada (widely regarded as the leading authority on economic substance and tax avoidance), Canada Trustco (that defined the scope of the Canadian GAAR); and GlaxoSmithKline (the first and only transfer pricing case heard by the Supreme Court of Canada). Al is a CPA, a graduate of Harvard Law School (LLM) and a member of the Bars in Alberta and Ontario.


MIHALOVICH, Pooja
McCarthy Tetrault LLP, Toronto
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Pooja specializes in advising on tax litigation and dispute resolution matters. She has appeared in over 100 tax cases at all levels of Court, and routinely represents clients in disputes before the Canadian tax authorities. In addition to tax controversy matters, her practice also includes advising on general corporate tax matters, and on the Canadian tax issues particular to insurance organizations. Pooja is currently a Governor of the Canadian Tax Foundation and a member of the Tax Court Bench and Bar Committee. She also serves as Secretary of The Advocates’ Society’s Tax Litigation Practice Group. Pooja is an adjunct professor at Queens University, Faculty of Law. She has also lectured at McGill University and the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law. Pooja has authored articles on a wide variety of topics regarding federal income tax matters, and is a contributing editor of Tax Litigation and the Toronto Law Journal. Personal: University of Waterloo, M.Tax University of Western Ontario, LL.B., University of Toronto, B.C.S. (Hons.)

MORAND, Stefanie
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Stefanie is a partner in our Tax Group in Toronto and the tax representative on McCarthy Tetrault LLP’s National Opinions Committee. She maintains an income tax planning practice, with a focus on the tax-related aspects of domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions (public and private), corporate reorganizations, real estate transactions and financings. She also frequently acts on tax structuring matters for pension plans, with a focus on the tax aspects of business operations.


Professional Memberships: Member of the Board of Governors of the Canadian Tax Foundation, and member of each of the International Fiscal Association, Canadian Bar Association and Ontario Bar Association.

Publications: Stefanie has appeared as a lecturer at numerous conferences, seminars and courses (including the Tax Executives Institute North American Conference, the Pension Investment Conference, the Tax Foundation of Canada, the Tax Foundation of Canada (IPAD) Tax Forum, the University of Windsor Law School, and a member of the Tax Court Bench and Bar Committee, and multiple Canadian Tax Foundation national and provincial conferences), and has written and commented widely on income tax matters generally. She is also a guest lecturer at Osgoode Hall Law School and a sessional instructor for the University of Windsor Law School, and a member of the Canada Tax Service Editorial Board.

NIXON, Margaret
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Toronto
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Margaret Nixon is a partner in the Tax Group practicing in the areas of tax controversy and tax litigation. She represents corporations and individuals in tax disputes with the Canada Revenue Agency and provincial tax authorities, and has successfully represented clients at the audit and appeals levels and in litigation proceedings in the Tax Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal, the Federal Court and the Ontario Superior Court. Margaret has successfully resolved disputes involving a broad range of tax issues including transfer pricing, the general anti-avoidance rule, tax treaties, foreign tax credits, withholding tax, corporate tax matters, international tax law, and tax avoidance); Canada Trustco, a graduate of Harvard Law School (LLM) and a member of the Bars in Alberta and Ontario.


OLIVER, Adrienne F
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Adrienne Oliver is a partner in Norton Rose Fullbright's national Tax Controversy Group. She represents clients in tax disputes with the Canada Revenue Agency and the provinces, including disputes related to going public in Canada and the efficient structuring of income securities.
Practitioner Areas: Adrian Oliver’s practice involves all aspects of tax planning and implementation, primarily in the corporate tax field. She has participated in structuring major public and private transactions, reorganizations and financings, and has also acquired significant experience in international tax planning and public capital market transactions. Ms. Oliver has acted for clients in a diverse range of industries, including some of Canada’s most respected corporations. She has recently acted in take-over, spinoff, joint venture and restructuring transactions. In addition, Ms. Oliver has acted for major North American financial institutions and other issuers in connection with both domestic and cross-border debt or equity securities offerings. Ms. Oliver is the Toronto chair of the business law group.

PENNY, Kathleen V
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Kathleen practices income tax law with a focus on domestic and international corporate taxation, including mergers and acquisitions, corporate reorganizations, financings and restructurings, infrastructure projects, private equity, real estate funds and pension fund investments. She regularly advises pension funds on their private equity, infrastructure, energy, hedge fund, real estate and other investments, both in Canada and abroad. Her international client base involves her in transfer pricing matters including establishment of tax-efficient structures and compliance, and she assists clients with the resolution of Canadian domestic tax audits and disputes.

Publications: Kathleen has authored various articles on taxation and speaks at tax conferences.

RANGER, Alain
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Alain Ranger has been practising tax law for more than 30 years, more specifically tax law as it relates to corporate and business law. Over the years, Alain has developed a reputation for expertise in a variety of areas, including mergers and acquisitions, cross-border transactions, corporate restructurings, foreign investments, structured financings, and corporate tax.

RICHARDS, Gabrielle M R
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: A partner in the Tax practice, Elie advises on all aspects of domestic and international taxation, including corporate reorganizations, mergers & acquisitions, and corporate finance. He frequently consults on cross-border transactions, structuring non-resident investment by Canadian multinational entities. He advises taxpayers on tax audit matters and has been highly successful in representing taxpayers in tax litigation proceedings at various levels of court. He also acts as counsel to charitable and non-profit organizations. An Adjunct Professor of law at Dsgoo Island Law School, Elie teaches international taxation and taxation of real estate transactions. He speaks frequently at legal conferences on taxation issues and is the lead co-author of the textbook Canadian Taxation of Trusts (ETC, 2016). Elie is an academician and council member of the International Academy of Estate and Trust Law, where he sits on the Taxation Committee, and an International Fellow of ACTEC. He has also been designated a Derivatives Market Specialist by the Canadian Securities Institute. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; Chambers High Net Worth Guide; Lexexec Special Edition: Finance and M&A; Who’s Who Legal and Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada.

ROWE, Edward
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Edward is Co-Chair of Osler’s Tax group and is a Partner in the Calgary office. His practice focuses on corporate and international tax planning, regularly advising Canadian and foreign-based multi-national groups on a variety of matters, including inbound and outbound investment and financing, mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, and natural resource taxation. His tax practice also includes the settlement of tax disputes, including GAAR (General Anti-Avoidance Rule) assessments with the Canada Revenue Agency, including Canadian Competent Authority, and he has acted as counsel in leading tax cases before all levels of courts.

Career: Supreme Court of Canada clerk, 1995; Special Advisor, Tax Policy Branch, Department of Finance, 2002.

Professional Memberships: International Fiscal Association – Canada; Canadian Tax Foundation; Canadian Petroleum Law Society; Law Society of Alberta; Law Society of Ontario

SHAFER, Jeffrey
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Jeffrey practises in all areas of Canadian domestic and cross-border income tax law, with a particular focus on mergers and acquisitions, international transfer pricing, private equity investment, domestic and international corporate and trust reorganizations, and the taxation of various investment vehicles. His practice also includes acting for taxpayers at all levels in the tax appeals process.

Professional Memberships: Jeffrey is a member of the International Fiscal Association and the Canadian Tax Foundation. He speaks and writes regularly about Canadian domestic and cross-border income tax issues.

SHERMAN, Mitchell
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Partner in the Tax Group at Goodmans. His taxation practice encompasses all aspects of income taxation that arise in corporate and commercial transactions, with an emphasis on cross-border mergers and acquisitions, private equity investments, corporate reorganizations, real estate, domestic and international tax financings and debt structurings


Professional Memberships: Law Society of Ontario Joint Committee on Taxation, Canadian Tax Foundation

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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Andrew regularly advises on complex transformational transactions for public and private companies, and is a trusted Canadian tax advisor to domestic and foreign clients alike. Andrew is particularly well known for his expertise in matters involving REITs and other real estate investment vehicles, linked notes and other structured products, and tax insurances. Andrew is a member of the partnership committee and legal personnel committee at Blakes, and is the Regional Vice-Chair, North America for the Lex Mundi Tax Practice Group.

STEVE, Christopher J
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Christopher Steeves is the leader of the firm’s tax group and is a member of the firm’s Partnership Board. Frequently advising Canadian businesses in corporate restructurings and acquisitions, Christopher also assists with income tax aspects of complex domestic and cross-border financings, and financial instruments including derivatives, securities lending and collective investment funds.

STEPAK, Paul
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practitioner Areas: Paul is the National Practice Group Leader for the Blake’s Tax group. Paul practices corporate and partnership income taxation, including advising on domestic tax, cross-border tax planning, private and public M&A’s, private equity and Canadian pension funds’
investments, reorganizations, capital markets transactions, financings, and taxation of mutual funds, partnerships and other investment vehicles. Cross-border inbound stock, debt securities, and royalty funds and their portfolio companies, is a significant component of his practice. Paul also has experience assisting clients with the resolution of Canadian federal and provincial tax audits and appeals at all stages.

Professional Memberships: Paul is a member of the International Fiscal Association, the Canadian Bar Association, and a member of the Canadian Tax Foundation.

Publications: Paul frequently writes and speaks on domestic and international tax issues.

SUAREZ, Steve
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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Taxation of M&A, cross-border investment, and corporate reorganizations; resolving controversies with tax authorities. Acted for Atlas-Cop- co on Eppicon spinoff; Dow Chemical on MEGlobal sale; Government of Canada on purchase of Trans Mountain Pipeline; Hol- ly Frontier on acquisition of Petro-Canada Lubricants; Seagram on acquisition by Vivendi; Adolph Cosers on Molson merger; Inco on acquisition by Vale.

Career: Co-Chair (Taxation & Econom- ics), Canadian Chamber of Commerce; Co-Chair, Toronto Centre Canada Revenue Agency Consultation Group; Councillor, International Fiscal Association (Canadian Branch); Former Chair (Tax), CBAD Ontario Bar (1990). New York Bar (1993); Solicitor, England & Wales (1994).


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Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Manon Thivierge focuses her practice on domestic and cross-border tax law and on tax planning and corporate reorganizations in particular. She regularly advises corporations, individuals and financial institutions on the tax consequences and issues related to mergers and acquisitions, financings, reorganizations and compensation of directors and officers as well as on estate planning. She also interacts with the tax authorities, requesting and obtaining the tax rulings necessary in complex transac- tions, and even proposing amendments to tax legislation.

Career: Ms. Thivierge is a lecturer of the course “Estate Planning” in the Master’s Program in Taxation at HEC Montréal. Ms. Thivierge is the author of numer- ous publications on tax matters, and frequently speaks on this subject. She has been active in professional associations, including: President of the Executive Committee of APFF (Association de planifica- tion fiscale et financière) Former Chair of the Canadian Tax Foundation (2001) and a former Governor (1993-1996 and 1998-2002) Former President of the tax section of the Canadian Bar Association for the province of Quebec (1995-1998)

Former member of the joint committee on taxation of the Canadian Bar Association and of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants Former member of the Can- ada Revenue Agency’s National Advisory Committee on Taxation and Trust and Estate Practitioner by the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)

TOBIN, John J
Torly’s LLP, Toronto +1 416 865 7999
joe@torly's.com
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Offering creative advice and skilled advocacy, John is a leading tax lawyer in Canada with extensive experience advising businesses in tax matters including: President of the Executive Committee of the Canadian Tax Foundation (2001) Former Chair of the National Tax Court Bench and a member of the editorial board of the journal Tax Litigation. He previously served as an appellate judicial clerk and was a tax litigator with the Department of Justice.

TROSSMAN, Jeffrey C.
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 4290
jeffrey.trossman@blakes.com
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Serves as Senior coun- sel in the Blakes Tax group; previously led the group as National Practice Group Leader for over 15 years. Jeffrey provides strategic tax advice and assists clients in managing tax audits and resolving tax disputes at all levels in the audit and ap- peals process. Jeffrey is committed and respected by advisers and governmental officials in the Canadian and international tax communities.

Professional Memberships: Former Chair of the Canadian Tax Court Bench and a member of the executive committee. Select Recognition: The Legal 500 Canada;


ULMER, John M
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Toronto +1 416 863 5505
julmer@dwpv.com
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A senior tax partner with extensive domestic and international tax knowledge, John advises on the tax aspects of domestic and international businesses, investments and real estate companies, REITs, funds and other multinationals. John is a pioneer in the establishment of cross-border REITs. He frequently advises international banks and corporations on investing in Canada.

Career: John co-edited Essays on Tax Treaties: A Tribute to David A. Ward, the co-author of Ward’s Tax Law and Planning and a contributor to Taxation of Companies on Capital Gains on Shares under Domestic Law, EU Law and Tax Treaties; Select Recognition: Chambers Global; Tax Directors Handbook’s TDH250; The Legal 500 Canada; The Best Lawyers in Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Canada; Who’s Who: Corporate Tax.

VAILLANCOURT, Marie-Emmanuelle
Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, Montreal +1 514 841 6543
mevaillancourt@dwpv.com
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: A partner and coordina- tor of the Tax practice in Davies’ Montreal office, Marie-Emmanuelle works closely with clients, primarily in Canada and the United States, on all aspects of their domes- tic and international tax planning. She advises clients on tax matters across a broad range of critical business activities, including corporate reorganizations, merg- ers & acquisitions, real estate, financings and restructurings. She regularly acts for public and private companies and their shareholders, as well as pension and investment funds. Marie-Emmanuelle also has significant expertise in advising high-net-worth clients on their estate tax planning and trust matters. From 2004 to 2006, she practised at a leading inter- national law firm in Geneva, Switzerland, where she focused on international tax, estate planning and immigration/emigra- tion solutions. She is a frequent lecturer and speaker and is actively involved with the International Fiscal Association, the Association de planification fiscale et financière and the Canadian Tax Foundation, in respect of which she sits on the board of governors and is member of the executive committee. Select Recognition: The Legal 500 Canada; The Lexpert/ American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada; Lexology Special Edition: Finance and M&A; The Best Law- yers in Canada.

WATSON, Gwen
Torly’s LLP, Toronto +1 416 869 8720
gwatson@torly's.com
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: With extensive experi- ence and a practical mindset, Gwen gives clients strategic insight and guidance on their challenging and complex tax matters. Gwen provides comprehensive income tax advice to corporations, with particular emphasis on cross-border planning and corporate reorganizations, including butterfly and bump transactions. Highly experienced in complex transactions, Gwen regularly advises on the income tax aspects of international mergers and acquisitions, foreign affiliate rules. Select Recognition: Chambers Global; Tax Directors Handbook’s TDH250; The Legal 500 Canada; Who’s Who Legal: Canada; Who’s Who: Corporate Tax.

WILLIAMS, Matthew
Thorsteinssons LLP, Toronto +1 416 864 9104
mgwilliams@thor.ca
Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Matthew’s practice is focused on tax litigation. Matthew has extensive experience in domestic and international matters with particular focus on the application of Canada’s general anti-avoidance rules.

Career: Matthew leads the firm’s Toronto tax litigation group. Matthew has been in- volved in a number of landmark Canadian tax cases and has been widely recognized as a leader in tax dispute resolution. Matthew has appeared before all levels of court in Canada including the Supreme Court of Canada. Matthew’s clients include private equity funds, mult-national corporations, trusts, and high-net-worth individuals. Matthew is an editor of Tax Litigation Quarterly.


Publications: Matthew has been recognized as a leading tax dispute resolution lawyer in the International Tax
Review, named among The Best Lawyers in Canada by Best Lawyers International (including being named Lawyer of the Year 2022 for Tax Law in Toronto, Ontario), and is peer rated by Martindale-Hubbell as a “preeminent lawyer”. Matthew has been recognized by Lexpert as a Most Frequently Recommended Corporate Tax Litigator and was included in the 2021 Lexpert Special Edition on Canada’s Leading Litigation Lawyers.

**WONG, Andrew**
Torys LLP, Toronto
416.865.8187
awong@torys.com

*Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)*
**Practice Areas:** Adept at bringing practicable outcomes to complex tax issues, Andrew is a skilled tax lawyer with extensive deal experience that spans industries. Andrew regularly advises on Canadian tax issues relating to mergers, acquisitions, reorganizations and financings, representing clients in a broad range of industries, including financial services, real estate, energy and mining. His background in accounting and extensive experience in Canadian tax matters make him particularly skilled at structuring tax solutions for transactions of all levels of complexity.

**WORTSMAN, Jerald M**
Torys LLP, Toronto
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jwortsman@torys.com

*Featured in Tax (Nationwide – Canada)*
**Practice Areas:** Jerald is known as one of Canada’s leading tax lawyers, with an established track record of developing sophisticated solutions that guide clients through their most challenging and complex tax matters. Head of the firm’s Tax Practice, Jerald gives clients strategic tax counsel across business transactions and financings. His work includes domestic and international corporate tax planning, with an emphasis on complex, large-scale and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, reorganizations and corporate finance. He has significant experience advising domestic and international financial institutions. Jerald regularly works with clients on Canadian and cross-border acquisitions, divestitures and restructurings, and inbound and outbound investments and multinational group structures. He also brings a wealth of tax experience to the structuring and issuance of various financial instruments and other capital markets activity.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Telecoms, Media & Broadcasting
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

Contents:
Telecommunications & Broadcasting Nationwide p.411
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Leading Individuals p.414

Telecommunications & Broadcasting Nationwide

Leading Firms

Band 1
Fasken
McCarthy Tétrault LLP

Band 2
Dentons Canada LLP
Goodmans LLP

Band 3
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
Stikeman Elliott LLP

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Karen Gregory Dentons Canada LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1
Buchanan Grant McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Song Y Monica Dentons Canada LLP

Band 2
McAllister Monique Goodmans LLP*
Milton Leslie Fasken*
Zolt Stephen Ard & Beris LLP (ORL) 0

Band 3
Elder David Stikeman Elliott LLP*
Fortune Joel Joel R Fortune Professional Corporation (ORL) 0
Kerr Wilson Jay Fasken*
Koch Michael Goodmans LLP*
Patterson Margot Dentons Canada LLP
Prescott Scott Fasken*

Band 4
Honda Sunny Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP *
Kain Brandon McCarthy Tétrault LLP*
Miller Barbara Fasken*
Rose Keith McCarthy Tétrault LLP*

* Indicates individual with profile.
0 (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Fasken

What the team is known for
Fasken is renowned for its leading expertise across a wide spectrum of telecommunications and broadcasting matters, primarily from its Toronto and Ottawa offices. The firm advises a prestigious portfolio of media clients on communications regulatory issues and attracts praise for its strong track record before the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) and the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED). Its technology, media and telecommunications team offers notable experience of digital media and internet access issues, distribution and licensing, as well as corporate transactions. It also advises on matters relating to spectrum and wireless services and communications infrastructure. It is increasingly active on cross-border issues, advising clients on international markets. The lawyers offer litigation support including experience before the Supreme Court of Canada, Federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court and Copyright Board of Canada.

Strengths "Whenever we have a troublesome issue we always ask Fasken.
"They have provided exceptional service and quick to respond to requests for service.
"What we appreciate is the level of expertise, calm demeanour and responsiveness.

Work highlights A Fasken team led by Barbara Miller assisted Myriota with its acquisition of four satellites, a global ground station network and related spectrum and radio licences from exactEarth.

Notable practitioners

Leslie Milton (see p.415) is an Ottawa-based communications lawyer who is adept at representing clients before the CRTC in all manner of licensing and network access issues. Her experience also encompasses a range of regulatory matters. “She’s fabulous, extremely smart, understands business and has a great background in economics.” “I have only great things to say about her.” Jay Kerr-Wilson (see p.415) is widely recognised for his expertise in copyright matters affecting internet service providers and broadcasters. He is based in Ottawa where he is co-head of Fasken’s technology, media and telecommunications industry group. “I appreciate Jay’s advice, practicality, commercial awareness and proactivity.” “He has good awareness of industry interests and priorities.” Scott Prescott (see p.415) of Fasken is recognised for his experience advising clients on CRTC matters, often involving broadcasting, licensing and regulatory compliance. He is based in Ottawa. “He is incredibly smart and attentive to our needs. His work is always of the highest quality.” Barbara Miller (see p.415) is a well-regarded lawyer based in the Toronto office of Fasken. She represents clients in the telecoms, media and broadcasting sectors in a broad range of regulatory, corporate and commercial matters. “We have a great working relationship with Barbara and a high level of trust in her advice and direction.”

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for
McCarthy Tétrault is a highly regarded national law firm with leading capabilities across the telecommunications sector, including an emphasis on high-profile transactional mandates. Based primarily in Toronto, the communications department also advises on regulatory issues, including CRTC licensing hearings and related litigation, as well as offering policy advice on internet communications and copyright matters. It advises an array of clients from the technology, telecoms, digital media and broadcasting fields.

The firm’s litigation team is experienced in handling related appellate litigation, regulatory law cases and class actions. It offers experience before all levels of the courts including the Supreme Court of Canada.

Strengths “There is a superb depth of knowledge to the team.” “They know how to run a file and they are responsive. Their advocacy is excellent – they pick the best arguments and make them effectively.”

Work highlights A McCarthy team advised US-based Loral Space & Communications on the completion of its merger with Telesat Canada.

Notable practitioners

Grant Buchanan (see p.414) is a distinguished lawyer based in Toronto who acts for a broad client base of radio and satellite providers across a broad spectrum of regulatory and corporate matters. He also has extensive experience in assisting clients with their interactions with government bodies. “Grant is an experienced broadcasting lawyer.” Brandon Kain (see p.415) is a litigation specialist based in McCarthy’s Toronto office. He often represents clients in disputes involving telecommunications issues such as internet rates and broadcasting rights. “Brandon is very thorough and responsive.” “He is an excellent researcher and litigator.” Keith Rose (see p.416) is a Toronto-based lawyer who has considerable experience in the telecommunications industry. He regularly advises clients on satellite communications and privacy, spectrum and connectivity issues in the broader telecommunications space. He also assists with regulatory compliance and approvals. “He brings technological expertise as well as legal expertise to matters and is an astute negotiator.”

Band 2

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for
Dentons Canada’s well-established telecommunications and broadcasting practice based largely in Ottawa specialises in telecommunications and radio spectrum regulation, including advising on CRTC and ISED proceedings. The firm is regularly engaged on broadcasting
issues and large M&A and financing transactions in the communications industry. The team also advises leading names on copyright, privacy and contracts matters. It is highly active in the satellite space, and also has experience advising in the cloud-based IP and wireless areas. Its client base includes domestic and international streaming service providers, telecommunications companies and technology companies.

**Strengths** “Dentons has accommodated fast turnarounds and its lawyers have made themselves available when urgent matters arise.” “They provide excellent guidance in navigating a complex regulatory environment.”

**Work highlights** Dentons advised Investissement Québec on its CAD600 million investment in Telesat Canada’s Low Earth Orbit satellite constellation.

**Notable practitioners**

**Gregory Kane** KC has a broad-based telecommunications practice, which includes supporting clients on transactional matters, as well as providing advice on many regulatory issues such as CRTC 911 obligations. Based in Ottawa, he is of counsel in the firm’s communications and government affairs and public policy practice groups. “Greg Kane provides top-notch service and expertise.”

**Monica Song** is an acclaimed Ottawa-based lawyer who has a strong track record assisting telecommunications companies with Canadian entry strategies, as well as advising on corporate matters, financing, licensing and regulatory issues. “Monica is incredibly knowledgeable and helpful in assisting with our matters. We have yet to run into a problem she hasn’t been able to advise us on.” “Monica has been a terrific business partner and has provided us with extremely valuable insight and counsel.” Margot Patterson routinely represents a variety of media and broadcasting companies, including online streaming services, and has particular experience advising on regulatory concerns. Clients benefit from her additional knowledge of advertising and IP law. She is of counsel in the firm’s Ottawa office. “Margot Patterson delivers great value and maintains a solid understanding of her clients’ business objectives.”

**Goodmans LLP**

**What the team is known for** Goodmans wins recognition for its handling of complex transactional mandates relating to broadcasting and communications from its Toronto office. The firm represents a broad range of clients including sports and radio broadcasters, internet services and satellite television providers. Its communications lawyers also have notable expertise in broadcasting regulatory matters and frequently appear before the CRTC as well as the Federal Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada.

**Strengths** “Goodmans is a very business-oriented and solution-oriented firm. Its people are fantastic, they are very commercial.”

**Work highlights** Goodmans advised Rogers Communications on its proposed CAD26 billion acquisition of Shaw Communications.

**Notable practitioners**

**Monique McAlister** (see p.415) is a highly regarded lawyer based in Toronto. She is well regarded for her experience assisting media clients with various broadcasting issues, including programme licensing and regulatory matters. “Monique is incredibly knowledgeable - she gives sensible, commercial advice and drills down to what’s important.”

**Michael Koch** (see p.415) is an adept lawyer in the telecommunications sector who is based in Toronto. He assists a range of service providers with corporate, commercial and regulatory matters and has further experience advising on legislative changes to the Broadcasting Act.

### Band 3

**Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP**

**What the team is known for** Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a highly regarded national firm that assists Canadian and international telecommunications services and equipment companies, satellite and terrestrial broadcasters and media organisations on a range of regulatory, corporate, commercial and financing matters. The team also regularly advises clients on compliance with regulations and enquiries relating to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) and Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED).

**Strengths** “Their very experienced and deep bench allows them to handle very complex and uncommon situations.” “We rely on Blakes for very specialised advice in critical situations.” “Everyone we have worked with at Blakes provides practical and context-sensitive legal advice.”

**Work highlights** Blake, Cassels & Graydon advised GHGSat, a satellite company that monitors greenhouse gases, on raising CAD45 million for the expansion of its satellite and aircraft sensor capacity.

**Notable practitioners**

**Stephen Zolf** is an experienced Toronto-based lawyer who advises clients on telecommunications and broadcasting regulatory issues, as well as ancillary commercial and competition matters. “Stephen is capable of very quickly understanding very complex commercial issues in a complicated and unique regulatory environment.”

**Stikeman Elliott LLP**

**What the team is known for** Stikeman Elliott is an esteemed firm that often advises on transactions in the media and telecommunications sector, and has additional expertise in related regulatory issues. Its communication team is frequently involved in cross-border transactions between Canada and the USA. The firm furthermore assists with capital markets and financing issues for telecommunications and satellite companies. It also attracts praise for its experience handling CRTC issues and privacy matters and has recognised capabilities in industry disputes. The team is able to draw on lawyers who are expert in this sector from across its Toronto, Ottawa and Montréal offices.

**Work highlights** Stikeman Elliott acted as Canadian counsel to global private equity company I Squared Capital on its USD2.15 billion acquisition of the infrastructure of GTT Communications.

**Notable practitioners**

**David Elder** (see p.311) is recognised for his expertise in privacy matters affecting the broadcasting and telecommunications industries. He advises on regulatory and compliance issues and regularly represents clients in a range of matters before the CRTC. Based in Ottawa, he chairs the firm’s communications and privacy and data protection groups.

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

**Joel Fortune** is a sole practitioner based in Ottawa. He is particularly noted for the strength of his practice assisting smaller independent TV and radio broadcasters and telecommunications companies with a range of regulatory issues. He also assists with licensing matters.

**Stephen Zolf of Aird & Berlis** is an experienced Toronto-based lawyer who advises clients on telecommunications and broadcasting regulatory issues, as well as ancillary commercial and competition matters. “Stephen is capable of very quickly understanding very complex commercial issues in a complicated and unique regulatory environment.”
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP
What the team is known for for Cassels Brock & Blackwell is a market leader in Canadian entertainment law, and a trusted adviser to the music, film and TV and media industries. The Toronto-headquartered entertainment and sports group maintains an impressive roster of clients including music publishers, record labels, film and TV producers, broadcasters and creative. The firm advises on a diverse range of commercial matters, from talent agreements and brand partnership agreements and related IP matters. He represents clients in both contentious matters and corporate transactions. He co-chairs both the firm's IP and entertainment, media and sports practices from Toronto. “Casey is an important adviser and provides strong leadership to his team.” “He is a fantastic partner to work with—he is incredibly knowledgeable and approachable with a good bedside manner.” Leonard Glickman (see p.414) is counsel to a number of leading Canadian performers, and routinely advises them on brand partnership agreements and related IP matters. Based in Toronto, he co-chairs the sports and entertainment department as well as the firm’s cannabis group. “He advocates passionately for his client and always looks for the best result.” Len Glickman championed the client brilliantly.”

Notable practitioners

Ken Dalhawi
Ken is based in Toronto, where he is well regarded across the spectrum of their commercial issues, spanning financing, transactions, international projects and co-ventures, talent agreements and talent contracts. The team also offers coverage of specialist areas such as digital media and federal and provincial film, foreign investment and tax issues affecting the film industry.

Strengths “I feel very confident with their ability to spot issues and get ahead of any problems while maintaining a practical approach.” “Goodmans is excellent at surfacing complex matters and providing concrete, straightforward legal advice.” “They have a great grasp of our business and utilise that understanding when assisting with complex matters.”

Work highlights A Goodmans team has provided production advice to Amazon Studios regarding several major TV series filmed in Canada.

Notable practitioners

David Zitzerman (see p.416) provides guidance on a host of corporate, regulatory and production deal structuring issues to a broad client base of film studios, television producers and OTT streaming services. He is based in Toronto where he heads the entertainment law group at Goodmans. “David is one of the top entertainment lawyers in the world.” Tara Parker (see p.415) is based in Toronto where she is a partner in Goodmans’ entertainment law practice. She advises Canadian and international film and TV production companies on production and financing issues. “Tara Parker is the whole package. She’s smart, she understands the industry, gives practical advice and knows how to get deals done.” Jaclyn Seidman (see p.416) is a Toronto-based lawyer who advises on production and financing matters for Canadian and international film and TV producers. She also assists clients with IP portfolio acquisition and protection issues. “Jaclyn is always available and very reactive to our needs. She is a true partner to our business.” “We would be lost without her intelligence, business acumen, ferocity and attention to detail.”

Band 1

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

Band 2

Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for for Dentons Canada is a dominant name in the domestic and international film and TV market, working closely with industry players on domestic and cross-border production financing, acquisitions, private equity investment and international co-productions. The firm represents Hollywood studios and US and Canadian television networks and production companies, as well as those working in the music and internet entertainment service industries. Its clients also benefit from its specialists in media, broadcasting and communications regulatory law. With strong expertise based in both Toronto and Vancouver, the firm’s lawyers are also well placed to advise media industry clients on related employment and tax law issues.

Strengths “Dentons is an excellent firm to work with. They work efficiently and provide excellent guidance to navigate a complex regulatory environment.” “Dentons is my go-to entertainment law firm. I am always impressed by their expertise and care in handling our matters.”

Casey Chisick (see p.414) has a broad entertainment law practice encompassing music, film, broadcasting, publishing and digital and interactive media. He represents clients in both contentious matters and corporate transactions. He co-chairs both the firm’sIP and entertainment, media and sports practices from Toronto. “Casey is an important adviser and provides strong leadership to his team.” “He is a fantastic partner to work with—he is incredibly knowledgeable and approachable with a good bedside manner.” Leonard Glickman (see p.414) is counsel to a number of leading Canadian performers, and routinely advises them on brand partnership agreements and related IP matters. Based in Toronto, he co-chairs the sports and entertainment department as well as the firm’s cannabis group. “He advocates passionately for his client and always looks for the best result.” Len Glickman championed the client brilliantly.”

Notable practitioners

Juliet Smith
Juliet is an excellent lawyer who is very knowledgeable and has a great grasp of the business. She has an excellent bedside manner.”

Band 1

Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

Band 2

Dentons Canada LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Band 2
Gowling is a highly regarded law firm with strong capabilities and breadth in servicing Canada's entertainment and IP practice areas. The firm advises a wide array of clients, including artists and corporations operating in the film and TV, music, multimedia and publishing industries, as well as impacting NFT and blockchain issues. Its entertainment and sports law group provides specialist knowledge in the areas of content distribution, development and licensing, as well as contentious matters, and a range of corporate and commercial services. The firm fields the bulk of its expertise in entertainment law from its Toronto office.

Strengths “They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the equation, making for a very well-rounded and comprehensive analysis of the issues at hand.”

“Theyir deep cross-industry experience allows them to base advice on analogous situations and whether they might affect our sector.”

Work highlights A Gowling team led by Susan Abramovitch advised Six Shooter records, an independent record label, on a variety of matters including copyright, publishing, licensing and traditional and digital distribution agreements.

Notable practitioners
Susan Abramovitch is a highly accomplished Toronto-based lawyer who is distinguished in representing corporations and artists from the music, art, publishing and television industries in a variety of contractual and copyright matters. “Susan is unfailingly resolute, strategically astute, tactically precise and an excellent negotiator. “She is amazing to work with and has a tremendous grasp of all issues.” “She’s one of the best lawyers I’ve ever worked with.”

Stohn Hay Cafazzo Dembroski Heim Finlay LLP

What the team is known for Stohn Hay Cafazzo Dembroski Heim Finlay is a Toronto-based boutique renowned for its longstanding expertise advising the Canadian and US film and TV industries on the full range of their business operations. The firm is particularly noted for its experience in film and TV production financing. It also wins praise for its broad coverage of the entertainment sector, servicing clients in the music, publishing, art, interactive games and sports industries.

Notable practitioners
Ron Hay is a founding partner of Stohn Hay Cafazzo Dembroski Heim Finlay and is based in Toronto. He advises Canadian and international clients in the film and TV, entertainment and communications sectors on a range of issues including production, rights and distribution matters. Angelika Heim is a well-regarded partner at Stohn Hay Cafazzo Dembroski Heim Finlay and is based in Toronto. She often represents clients from the music, film, TV and digital content sectors, advising them on matters including production, distribution, publishing rights and IP protection.

Other Ranked Lawyers
Christina Buchi is a founding partner of Buchi Goldstein in Toronto. She represents Canadian and international clients in a range of matters, including film and TV production, financing, licensing and distribution. She is also capable of advising on copyright matters.

Jonathan Dyck of Miller Thomson is a banking and finance lawyer who routinely advises clients in the film, TV and new media industries on production financing transactions and co-production agreements. He is based in Toronto.

Daniel Glover (see p.414) of McCarthy Tétrault has experience handling contentious copyright matters in the music, broadcasting, publishing and sports sectors. Clients also benefit from his knowledge of privacy and data protection. He is based in Toronto. “Dan provides an exceptional level of knowledge, research and strategic vision to the file.”

Hilary Goldstein is a founding partner of Buchi Goldstein in Toronto. She regularly represents Canadian and international film and TV production companies in financing, distribution and development issues. She also often assists entertainment and new media clients with regulatory matters.

Jay Kerr-Wilson (see p.415) is well regarded for his representation of media clients in a range of copyright-related matters. Based in Ottawa, he is the leader of Fasken's media and entertainment and telecommunications groups. “Jay is very responsive. I never have to wait long for an answer, even for unexpected questions.”

Buchanan, Grant
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
+1 416 601 8372
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Featured in Telecommunications (Nationwide—Canada)

Practice Areas: Practice focuses on broadcast and telecom regulation and Copyright Board work. Broad understanding of the communications industry, related corporate documentation and the framework for broadcast and telecom regulation and financing.


Professional Memberships: President, Canadian Broadcasters Rights Agency (1990-2020) President, International Institute of Communications, Canadian Chapter National Coordinator, McCarthy Tétrault LLP/Martin Family Initiative Indigenous Legal Mentoring Program

Distinguished Lawyer-In-Residence in the Faculty of Communication & Design and the Faculty of Law at Ryerson University.


Personal: Fluent in English and French with a working knowledge of Spanish.

Chisholm, Casey
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto
416 869 5403
ccisholm@cassels.com

Featured in Media & Entertainment (National—Canada), Intellectual Property (National—Canada)

Practice Areas: Certified Specialist in Intellectual Property (Copyright). Transactional advisor and litigation counsel to music, film/TV, theatre, publishing, fashion, higher education, and general business clients. Extensive experience in IP and entertainment transactions and litigation, brand management, government relations, and copyright collective administration.

Career: Seven appearances before the Supreme Court of Canada. Many proceedings before Copyright Board of Canada. Reported cases at all levels of court. Managing IP Copyright Practitioner of the Year (2020, 2022). Law clerk to Justice Iacobucci, Supreme Court of Canada (1997-98).

Professional Memberships: President, The Copyright Society. Active in ABA IP Division and Entertainment & Sports Law Forum, INTA, IPIC.

Elder, David
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Featured in Privacy & Data Security (National—Canada), Telecommunications (National—Canada)

See under Privacy & Data Protection for profile.

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Featured in Media & Entertainment (National—Canada)


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Featured in Media & Entertainment (National—Canada), Intellectual Property (National—Canada)

including in technology, sports and entertainment, fashion, consumer products, retail, financial and health services fields. Numerous cases involving trade dress. Information technology practice extends to privacy and cybersecurity litigation (including class actions), data breach response, and Internet law. Counsel in intellectual property matters before Supreme Court of Canada (7 appearances). US Supreme Court of the United States (led drafting of amicus brief on international copyright law), Federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court, numerous provincial appellate and superior courts. Copyright Board, CRTC, and the Trademarks Opposition Board. Testified as expert on Copyright Board before Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce; significant experience on copyright, trademark and privacy reform. 


Professional Memberships: Past chair, Copyright Policy Committee, IPIC, AIPPI committees on copyright; Member, CBA, OBA, INTA, IAPP.


Practice Areas: AB, Harvard University (Phi Beta Kappa), MA (Eng) and JD (Honours), University of Toronto.

HANDA, Sunny 
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Montreal 
+1 514 982 4008
sun@bcgllp.com
Featured in Information Technology (Nationwide – Canada), Telecommunications (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Brandon Kenneth is a partner in the Litigation Group of McCarthy Tétrault LLP in Toronto, where he is the head and co-founder of its National Appellate Litigation Group. His practice focuses on appellate litigation, administrative law, broadcasting and telecommunications, commercial disputes, class actions and product liability. He has acted in 21 appeals in the Supreme Court of Canada, including successfully as lead counsel for the appellant, along with numerous appeals in the Federal and provincial appellate courts. His cases have included seven appeals from the CRTC to the Federal Court of Appeal, along with the judicial review of a CRTC Decision in the Federal Court of Appeal, and the judicial review of a Cabinet decision in the Federal Court.

Career: Ontario, 2004

Professional Memberships: Advocate Society; Canadian Bar Association; Ontario Bar Association


KERR-WILSON, Jay 
Fasken, Ottawa 
+1 613 696 6884
jkerrwilson@fasken.com
Featured in Media & Entertainment (National – Canada), Telecommunications (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jay Kerr-Wilson is the co-leader of the Technology, Media and Telecommunications group and practices primarily in the areas of communications and copyright law, with a particular emphasis on copyright. Regularly representing both Canadian and foreign communications and technology companies, Jay advises clients on issues related to telecommunications and broadcasting regulation, trademarks, and copyright licensing and liability. Jay represents large and small, Canadian and foreign communications and technology companies in proceedings before the Copyright Board of Canada, advising them on issues related to copyright licensing and copyright liability. Regularly representing clients in appeals and judicial reviews before the Federal Court, the Federal Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada, Jay is at the forefront of the debate surrounding the regulation of rapidly evolving communications technologies.

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mkoch@goodmans.ca
Featured in Telecommunications (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Business law group and the Competition and Foreign Investment Group at Goodmans. Practice focuses on federal regulatory matters, including competition, communications, foreign investment and copyright law, in both transactions and litigation. Assists financial and strategic investors – both domestic and foreign – on mergers and acquisitions, advises and represents telecommunications and media companies in navigating Canada’s regulatory framework and before tribunals (e.g., the CRTC, Copyright Board of Canada and Competition Tribunal), and advocates on behalf of targets of government-initiated investigations and proceedings brought by the Competition Bureau. Also appears before the courts on reviews of, and appeals from, decisions of these bodies.

Career: Recognized as a leading lawyer in Canada in the areas of telecommunications by Chambers Global, Chambers Canada. The Legal 500, Canada Guide to the World’s Leading Lawyers and The Legal 500 Canada, The Canadian Legal 500 – Canada.

MILLER, Barbara 
Fasken, Toronto 
bmiller@fasken.com
Featured in Telecommunications (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Barbara Miller’s broad practice is focused on communications, mergers and acquisitions, agribusiness law, corporate governance, public private partnerships and infrastructure projects, and general corporate/commercial matters. Barbara represents clients on international, cross border and domestic mergers and acquisitions, as well as in connection with restructuring and infrastructure transactions. Her expertise includes providing advice with the structuring of joint venture, partnership and shareholder arrangements, and corporate reorganizations generally. She also actively advises on agreements for the marketing, supply, and licensing of goods and services, frequently on behalf of US and other non-Canadian entities, as well as on related regulatory matters, including those applicable to the Canadian nuclear industry.

MILTON, Leslie 
Fasken, Toronto 
lmilton@fasken.com
Featured in Telecommunications (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Leslie has recently returned to her communications, competition and administrative law practice at Fasken from an in-house counsel position at a leading global satellite services provider. Leslie provides complex legal and strategic advice to Canadian and foreign wireline, wireless and satellite telecommunications service providers on all aspects of telecommunications and radiocommunications regulation in Canada. She acts for these clients in a broad range of proceedings before the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) and Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED Canada). Leslie has participated in all manner of policy, licensing and enforcement proceedings before the CRTC including international licensing, wholesale and retail tariffs, forbearance, foreign ownership, consumer safeguards, local access and interconnection, Internet services, numbering, do-not-call, anti-spam (CASL) and voter contact proceedings.
and policy frameworks governing the broadcasting and telecommunications industries in Canada. Providing complex legal and strategic advice, clients include leading Canadian and international communications companies. He advises a number of cable, IPTV and satellite distributors, television and radio broadcasters, online content providers, foreign programming services, Internet service providers and wireline and wireless telecommunications carriers. Scott acts for clients in a broad range of proceedings before the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).

ROSE, Keith
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Toronto
Featured in Telecommunications (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Keith Rose draws on his background as a software developer and project manager, as well as a deep interest in the interfaces between law and technology in the real world, to identify and resolve legal problems. Keith advises clients on a range of technology and communications law issues including telecommunications and spectrum regulatory compliance and policy issues for wireline and wireless communications, wireless equipment certification, privacy and anti-spam compliance, intellectual property, e-commerce, and general commercial matters. Keith is frequently called upon to help clients address novel regulatory issues on the leading edges of technological change.


Professional Memberships: Member of the Law Society of Ontario, the International Association of Privacy Professionals, the Canadian Bar Association, and the Ontario Bar Association.

Publications: Regular contributor to the firm’s blogs and other publications and frequently co-authors papers with other McCarthy’s partners on such innovative topics as AI and machine learning, the Internet of Things, and co-author of the Guide to the Canadian Copyright Board.

SEIDMAN, Jaclyn
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
Featured in Media & Entertainment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Keith Rose draws on his background as a software developer and project manager, as well as a deep interest in the interfaces between law and technology in the real world, to identify and resolve legal problems. Keith advises clients on a range of technology and communications law issues including telecommunications and spectrum regulatory compliance and policy issues for wireline and wireless communications, wireless equipment certification, privacy and anti-spam compliance, intellectual property, e-commerce, and general commercial matters. Keith is frequently called upon to help clients address novel regulatory issues on the leading edges of technological change.


Professional Memberships: Member of the Law Society of Ontario, the International Association of Privacy Professionals, the Canadian Bar Association, and the Ontario Bar Association.

Publications: Regular contributor to the firm’s blogs and other publications and frequently co-authors papers with other McCarthy’s partners on such innovative topics as AI and machine learning, the Internet of Things, and co-author of the Guide to the Canadian Copyright Board.

ZITZERMAN, David
Goodmans LLP, Toronto
+1 416 597 4172
dzitzerman@goodmans.ca
Featured in Media & Entertainment (Nationwide – Canada)
Practice Areas: Partner and head of the Entertainment Law Group at Goodmans. He has exclusively practised entertainment law for over 25 years. Practice focuses on the film, television and online industries in Canada and the United States. His clients include independent producers, Canadian networks, Hollywood studios, US networks, cable services and OTT services, private equity investors, European broadcasters, film and TV distributors, publishers, game companies, talent guilds and agencies, writers and performers.


Professional Memberships: Director and serves on Executive and Investment Committees of the Canadian Film Centre. Director, Canadian Screenwriters Collection Society. Advisory Committee member of Ryerson RTA School. Member of Film Ontario, Canadian Media Production Association, Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television, and WIFT – Toronto. Gold Patron of Toronto International Film Festival.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

Transportation
How lawyers are ranked
Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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<td>Shima Noriko :: Bennett Jones LLP</td>
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<td>* Indicates individual with profile.</td>
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<td><em>(ORL)</em> Other Ranked Lawyer.</td>
<td>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</td>
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The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Bennett Jones LLP
What the team is known for
Bennett Jones is a prominent Calgary-headquartered law firm with an acclaimed group of financing lawyers who are praised for their deep technical understanding of the aviation industry. The team is renowned for its advice to Canadian airlines and service providers on aircraft purchases and sales, leasing, financing and debt restructuring matters. It has notable experience representing aviation infrastructure consortiums in matters relating to fuel facilities, including project development and finance. The firm is further active in related disputes, as well as providing regulatory advice. It is a popular choice among financial institutions and leasing companies.

**Strengths**
“Bennett Jones has a very strong team that is experienced in complex contract disputes.”

**Work highlights**
Acted for Flair Airlines in connection with the leasing of new Boeing 737 Max 8 aircraft and the expansion of its fleet.

**Notable practitioners**
Patrick Brennan advises airlines, aircraft manufacturers and lenders across the full spectrum of aviation finance matters. He co-heads the firm’s banking and secured transactions practice from Calgary.

**Strengths:** “Pat provides an exceptional service.”

Noriko Shimura is an up-and-coming lawyer with notable expertise handling aviation transactions for both lenders and borrowers. She regularly manages complex leasing work and acquisition financings.

**Strengths:** “Noriko is terrific to deal with.”

Bernard LLP
What the team is known for
Bernard LLP is a pre-eminent Vancouver-based law firm with a particularly highly regarded admiralty and maritime practice group, notable for its effective transactional and litigation advice to domestic and foreign ship owners, terminal operators, P&I clubs, insurers and underwriters. Its marine lawyers are regularly mandated by clients to assist with ship purchases and sales, financings, and matters relating to construction and repair. They assist foreign companies with the establishment of branches in Canada, as well as advising on terminal service and security service agreements. The firm also provides representation in charter party disputes before regulatory bodies, environmental matters, cargo claims and casualties, and charges arising within Canadian regulatory provisions.

**Strengths**
“The firm is a market leader.”

**Notable practitioners**
Firm founding partner Peter Swanson has over three decades of legal experience, and is highly respected in the shipping space. His maritime practice sees him engaged in a range of matters involving issues of cargo transportation and pollution, as well as chartering disputes. He is a director and past president of the Vancouver Maritime Arbitrators Association. Vancouver-based Gary Wharton operates a broad-based maritime practice which sees him engaged in a range of issues including marine insurance, pollution and salvage matters. His extensive experience includes advising the Government of Vietnam on marine transportation legislation. Thomas Hawkins acts for a variety of clients, including P&I clubs, ship owners and marine industry insurers. He is experienced in matters involving collision, towage and marine insurance defence and has appeared before the British Columbia Supreme Court as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. David Jones’s broad marine practice involves cargo damage and pollution issues, and is buoyed by his background in environmental law. He also regularly provides regulatory advice in the space and has appeared before all levels of the court in BC. “David is a good, solid lawyer.”

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP
What the team is known for
Blake, Cassels & Graydon is a top law firm in the aviation space, sought out by major manufacturers, lessors and investors. The aviation and aerospace team advises on aircraft finance as well as general commercial and tax matters, restructuring and insurance relating to aviation. Its lawyers also provide guidance on regulatory compliance and litigation matters. Clients include major financiers, as well as companies in the mining and agriculture sectors.

**Strengths**
“The firm is extremely timely and responsive.”

**Work highlights**
Blakes advised the City of Toronto on the rehabilitation of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway.

**Notable practitioners**
Donald Gray (see p.423) is a respected, Toronto-based lawyer with a longstanding presence in Canadian aviation law. His practice sees him engaged on behalf of aircraft lessors and domestic and international airlines in a broad range of financial and regulatory concerns. **Strengths:** “I hold Donald Gray in the highest regard.” Jason MacIntyre (see p.423) is highly regarded for the strength of his practice in aviation finance, which sees him act on a variety of aircraft financing and leasing matters. He is also experienced in regulatory concerns, particularly with regard to aircraft operating licences. He is based in Toronto. **Strengths:** “Jason is responsive and consistently delivers high-quality and focused advice.”

Auriol Marasco (see p.423) counts major airlines and leasing corporations among her base of clients. Her Toronto-based practice spans the purchase, sale and financing of aircraft, as well as regulatory issues within the aerospace industry. **Strengths:** “Auriol is super responsive.”
### Transportation: Shipping

#### Leading Firms

| Band 1 | Bernard LLP |
| Band 2 | Borden Ladner Gervais LLP |
| Band 2 | Brisset Bishop |
| Band 2 | Norton Rose Fulbright |
| Band 2 | Fernandes Hearn LLP |
| Band 2 | Issacs Odinoick LLP |
| Band 2 | Langlois Lawyers, LLP |
| Band 2 | Metcalf & Company |
| Band 2 | Stewart McKelvey |

#### Senior Statespeople

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| De Man Marc         | De Man Pieter (ORL) |*
| Metcalf Frank       | Metcalf & Company |

#### Leading Individuals

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| Band 1 | Colford David |
| Band 1 | Fontaine Jean Marie |
| Band 1 | Issacs Marc D |
| Band 1 | Moreira Will |
| Band 1 | O'Connor John |
| Band 1 | Swanson Peter |
| Band 2 | Desgagnés Richard |
| Band 2 | Dion Danièle |
| Band 2 | Fernandes Rui |
| Band 2 | Machum Eric |
| Band 2 | Rosi Dionyssos |
| Band 2 | Sharpe William M |
| Band 3 | Grégoire Jean |
| Band 3 | Harquail J. Paul |
| Band 3 | Hawkins Thomas |
| Band 3 | Jones David K. |
| Band 3 | Stainer Andrew |
| Band 3 | Walker Graham |

**Leading Firms**

Transportation: Rail & Road

| Band 1 | DLA Piper (Canada) LLP |
| Band 1 | McMillan LLP |
| Band 2 | Dentons Canada LLP |
| Band 2 | McCarthy Tetrault LLP |
| Band 3 | Fasken |
| Band 3 | Fernandes Hearn LLP |
| Band 3 | Miller Thomson LLP |
| Band 3 | MLT Alkins LLP |

### Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP

What the team is known for Burnet Duckworth & Palmer is a Calgary-based law firm with broad financing and securities expertise. Its aviation team acts for financial institutions, manufacturers, airlines, lessors and charter companies, assisting with the leasing and purchasing of aircraft and aircraft-related assets, as well as regulatory and compliance issues in the field. Its lawyers additionally advise on aviation-related tax and environmental matters.

#### Notable practitioners

Colby Dewart (see p.422) is a well-established Calgary-based lawyer with a strong practice focus on aviation. He routinely advises clients on the acquisition, leasing and financing of aircraft.

### Dentons Canada LLP

What the team is known for Dentons is a large international firm with a well-regarded surface transportation practice in Canada and extensive experience acting for rail and road clients. The team regularly represents major rail providers and shippers as well as local authorities in contentious and non-contestable matters. It offers knowledge in a range of regulatory matters, such as rail operating agreements and distribution arrangements. Clients benefit from its expertise in related areas such as infrastructure.

#### Notable practitioners

Carlo Vairo is an experienced aviation lawyer whose practice spans aircraft financing and leasing, as well as a host of regulatory concerns. He is of counsel in the firm’s Toronto office.

### DLA Piper (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for DLA Piper is a well-established global firm with a strong footprint in the transportation industry in Canada. Lauded for its extensive experience in the rail sector, the transportation team regularly represents shippers in disputes against railway companies, notably in rail level service arbitrations and final offer arbitrations. It possesses further expertise in rail rate reasonableness cases. The firm is highly regarded for its expertise in the aviation sector, advising domestic and international air carriers on regulatory and litigation matters, including defence against class actions. Its lawyers also provide transactional and commercial advice for players in the aviation industry, and it is particularly active in aircraft finance.

### Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

What the team is known for Borden Ladner Gervais is a national law firm with a first-class transportation team advising clients on the full spectrum of maritime law, including ship construction, finance, operations and insolvency proceedings, cargo claim defence, charter party disputes, and environmental matters such as fuel oil spills. It offers coverage across Canada, with its offices in Montréal, Toronto and Vancouver playing key roles in the shipping arena, and its Team North initiative offering advice on shipping in the Arctic. The firm also operates a well-regarded aviation practice, with particular expertise in aerospace disputes and claims. It possesses an especially strong reputation in cases involving aircraft liability accidents and aerospace product liability concerns.

### Strengths

The practice contains knowledgeable and experienced lawyers who provide first-class representation.

The team are highly responsive.

Work highlights BLG advised the City of Ottawa and Groupe NouvLR on rail transit regulatory matters in connection with light rail works.

### Notable practitioners

David Colford is a respected, well-established shipping lawyer based in Montréal. He is highly regarded for his experience as an arbitrator, alongside a strong maritime practice with a particular emphasis on matters involving cargo disputes. Based out of Montréal, Richard Desgagnés represents ship owners, charterers and maritime insurers in contentious and non-contentious issues. His experience includes involvement in a variety of international litigious mandates. Danièle Dion’s Montréal-based maritime law practice sees her engaged in litigation, arbitration and mediation, as well as advising clients on general commercial maritime concerns.

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#### Notable practitioners

Forested Hume represents shippers in a range of rail service complaints. Clients benefit from his previous experience as an in-house rail lawyer in his work on rail-related litigation and regulatory concerns. He is
Transportation
Nationwide
www.chambers.com

based in Vancouver. “Forre” is an expert in the field and extremely knowledgeable.” Laura Safran KG provides regulatory advice including tariff updates, as well as certiﬁcation and licensing assistance to a range of domestic and international airlines. A respected, Calgary-based lawyer, she leads the firm’s Canadian aviation group. “She provides an exceptional service and has immense experience.” John Landry is instructed by shippers from a range of industries in rate reasonableness cases alongside other service complaints before the Canadian Transport Agency. He has additional expertise in ﬁnal offer arbitrations. Based in Vancouver, he co-heads the ﬁrm’s Canadian litigation group. Based in the ﬁrm’s Vancouver ofﬁce, Andrew McFarlane operates a broad ﬁnance practice that includes an emphasis on aircraft ﬁnancing. His clients include aircraft lessors and ﬁnancial institutions. “He consistently provides excellent service and guidance.” Catherine Powluch advises domestic and international airlines on all aspects of regulatory aviation law. She has experience advising on the transportation of passengers and cargo, as well as representing clients before aviation regulatory authorities. She is based in Toronto. “Catherine is very knowledgeable and very thorough in her advice.”

Fasken

What the team is known for Fasken operates a well-regarded transportation team with national presence, acting predominantly on behalf of railway companies and particularly noted for its representation of Canadian Paciﬁc Railway. The ﬁrm provides advice on the full gamut of rail transportation matters, including commercial transactions, litigation, insurance and taxation advice, as well as environmental and labour and employment issues. It is adept advising on class actions arising in the transportation space, and also offers notable expertise in infrastructure and public-private partnership developments as well as real estate matters.

Strengths “The team at Faskens provides excellent client service and they are always responsive.”

Work highlights Fasken advised Infrastructure Ontario in relation to the Ontario Line Subway P3 project.

Notable practitioners

Fernandes Hearn LLP

What the team is known for Fernandes Hearn is a prominent Toronto transportation boutique law ﬁrm that is commended for its expertise in both the marine and the rail and road industries. Its lawyers advise surface transportation clients on regulatory proceedings, environmental issues and all forms of transportation casualty. In the maritime sector, the team offers guidance on matters such as vessel licensing and registration, shipbuilding, purchase and sale, cargo claims, collisions and marine insurance. Its lawyers also represent clients in a range of disputes, including about brokers and dealers, as well as charter party matters.

Notable practitioners

Toronto lawyer Rui Fernandes is well known in the market for his handling of cases involving the shipping and trucking industries, with particular expertise in related insurance matters. He often acts for marine surveyors. “Rui is super intelligent.” Well-established lawyer Gordon Hearn represents shippers, receivers and their insurers in cases involving the transportation of goods domestically and internation-

Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

What the team is known for Gowling WLG is commended for providing full-service legal support to the aviation industry. It provides advice on matters ranging from acquisitions, leasing and ﬁnancing to regulatory compliance and litigation, as well as day-to-day operations, IP and employment matters. The aviation, aerospace and defence group is also known for its expertise in airport infrastructure as well as specialist equipment and equipment such as helicopters, drones and simulators. Its client roster includes national and international carriers, manufacturers and ﬁnancial institutions.

Work highlights Gowling was retained by Delta Air Lines to defend two class actions regarding an alleged conspiracy in the airline industry with respect to fuel surcharges.

Notable practitioners

David Kierans and Cynthia Elderkin, in Montréal and Ottawa respectively, are key contacts at the ﬁrm.

Isaacs Odinicki LLP

What the team is known for Isaacs Odinicki LLP is a well-regarded Toronto boutique law ﬁrm with a strong maritime and insurance expertise. Particularly commended for its litigation practice, the team frequently deals with cargo and casualty claims, marine insurance disputes, vessel arrests and environmental liability, including charges by government authorities or civil liability claims, as well as regulatory issues. It is also experienced handling marine commercial matters, such as contracts of afreightment, ship sale agreements and shipbuilding and repair contracts. Its client base consists of both domestic and international marine insurers and insurance brokers, P&I clubs, freight forwarders and shipping companies.

Notable practitioners

Marc Isaacs has extensive experience in maritime law, and comes particularly recommended for his knowledge in cargo claims. He is based in Toronto and has additional expertise in insurance-related cases, as well as ship arrests and ship casualty response. “Marc is a smart and capable lawyer.”

Langlois Lawyers, LLP

What the team is known for Langlois Lawyers is a full-service Montréal and Quebec City-based law ﬁrm with a longstanding practice in maritime and transportation law. The team’s expertise covers the full spectrum of transactional, regulatory and contentious matters, with particular expertise including civil and criminal liability, crew and employment contracts, marine insurance and passenger and cargo matters. Its lawyers also assist with environmental matters and purchase and sale of vessels. The ﬁrm acts for all manner of businesses in the sector, including P&I clubs, domestic and international carriers, shipbuilders and ﬁnancial institutions.

Notable practitioners

John O’Connor has a highly respected, longstanding maritime law practice in Québec City. He brings to bear particular expertise in marine insurance claims. “He’s very knowledgeable and very active.” Operating out of Québec City, Jean Grégoire is noted for his involvement in marine cases relating to personal injury and damages claims. His clients include port authorities, ship owners and charterers. “He’s very good on matters involving navigational issues.” Montréal-based lawyer Michel Huart draws upon his former experience as in-house counsel to Canadian National Railway to advise clients on a range of transactional rail matters. He has considerable experience appearing before the Canadian Transportation Agency.

McCarthy Tétrault LLP

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault operates a multidisciplinary transportation and logistics team that wins acclaim for the level of its experience in surface transportation. Sought out by major companies operating in the rail, bus, trucking and taxi sectors, it provides effective counsel on regulatory and safety compliance, ﬁnancings, acquisitions, infrastructure projects and litigation matters. The ﬁrm has notable experience acting for Canada’s leading transportation organisations and provincial authorities. Its prominent client roster includes national and international shipping companies, and rail and bus service companies. Its key lawyers in this area are based in Montréal and Quebec City.

Strengths “The ﬁrm is extremely responsive, and able to drive transactions to the ﬁnish.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault represented PSA International and Ashcroft Terminal in a matter wherein Ashcroft Terminal Limited signed an agreement to sell a 25% stake in the terminal to Canadian Tire Corporation. The negotiations included Ashcroft’s majority shareholder PSA International and minority shareholder CrescentView Investments.

Notable practitioners

Esteemed Québec lawyer David Blair focuses his practice on a broad range of rail and road transportation concerns, involving issues from trade regulations to passenger transportation. “David is good and knows his stuff.” Brian Lipson (see p.423)’s rail and road practice is centred on matters of regulatory compliance and risk management. He is a partner in the ﬁrm’s Québec City ofﬁce. “Brian is a strong advocate with the experience to advise on market conditions.”

McMillan LLP

What the team is known for McMillan’s well-established rail and road transportation team operates out of the ﬁrm’s Vancouver ofﬁce. Its lawyers are regularly engaged by major rail shippers, short-line railways and terminals, as well as national and international trucking companies. The department provides a broad spectrum of services, spanning economic and commercial regulation, corporate and transactional counsel and litigation support, as well as assistance in related areas such as real estate and tax.

Strengths “A sophisticated team of lawyers with deep knowledge of the subject matter.”

Work highlights McMillan acted for Mitsui O.S.K. Lines in its acquisition of a 40% minority interest in Waterfront Shipping Limited.

Notable practitioners

François Tougas (see p.423) is recognised for his experience in regulatory proceedings before the CTA, as well as in general commercial negotiations involving major railways and shippers. He is based in Vancouver. “He is the best lawyer that I have ever worked with; in addition to the law, he has a very impressive knowledge of economics and ﬁnance, which results in a very powerful combination.” Vancouver
ver-based transportation lawyer and litigator Lucia Stuhldreier (see p.423) regularly advises on rail transportation concerns, including rate and service matters as well as commercial freight agreements. "Lucia is thoughtful, engaging and focused on client needs." Ryan Gallagher (see p.422) is a respected Vancouver-based lawyer whose practice comprises advising leading shippers and rail users on regulatory and compliance matters. "Gallagher is knowledgeable, responsive and supportive."

Metcalf & Company
What the team is known for Metcalf & Company is a robust and accomplished maritime law boutique based in Nova Scotia. It is a popular choice for corporate, commercial and regulatory matters pertaining to the shipping and marine industries in Atlantic Canada, providing support in litigation, as well as contracts, environmental issues and financing. The firm demonstrates further proficiency in casualty response and insurance coverage issues. It caters to a broad client base in the sector, spanning P&I clubs and marine insurers, terminal operators, cargo transporters and all parties across the design, construction, ownership and repair of marine vessels.

Notable practitioners
Halifax-based Frank Metcalf KC is an experienced maritime lawyer whose client base predominantly consists of underwriters and P&I clubs. He is especially known for his work on insurance-related matters. Eric Machum’s practice comprises a variety of maritime concerns, including regulatory and contractual matters. Based in Halifax, his clientele includes ship owners, marine service providers and exporters. "Eric is a very smart guy."

Miller Thomson LLP
What the team is known for Miller Thomson LLP is highlighted for its expertise across a wide range of transportation matters affecting clients in the road and rail sectors. The team effectively manages large transactions, rate cases and regulatory compliance matters for transportation and logistics companies.

Strengths
"The firm is very responsive and pleasant to work with."
Work highlights Miller Thomson counselled Rosenau Transportation and its shareholders in its acquisition by General Logistics Systems, a subsidiary of Royal Mail.

Notable practitioners
Toronto-based Louis Amato-Gauci’s practice predominantly involves providing regulatory counsel to cross-border motor carriers, shippers and other trucking clients. Strengths: "Louis is an effective and experienced practitioner." Toronto-based Jaclyn Reive works with a range of clients in the transportation industry including road, rail and ocean carriers, passenger vessel operators, load brokers, logistic providers, warehouse operators and other freight intermediaries. Strengths: "Jaclyn posed thoughtful and complex questions that increased the value of the work we did together."

MLT Aikins LLP
What the team is known for MLT Aikins is a Western Canadian law firm with a strong rail and road transportation practice. The team frequently represents carriers and government agencies in a wide range of rail matters including M&A, commercial contracts and regulatory and safety compliance. It also represents leading railways in dispute resolution before regulatory agencies and before federal and provincial courts. The group has notable experience with licensing and registration, bills of lading and cargo claims on the trucking side.

Notable practitioners
Norton Rose Fullbright
What the team is known for Norton Rose Fullbright is an international firm that excels in shipping and is increasingly visible on aviation matters in Canada. Its clients include leading airlines, passenger and cargo airlines, aircraft manufacturers, financial institutions and airports. The firm represents owners, operators, aircraft insurers, terminal operators, cargo transporters and all parties across the design, construction, ownership and repair of marine vessels.

Strengths
"The counsel representing us are at the top of their profession."

Notable practitioners
Shelley Chapelski (see p.422) has considerable marine liability and insurance experience, and acts for a broad range of vessel owners, insurers and P&I clubs. Based in Vancouver, she leads a team of shipping lawyers within Norton Rose Fullbright’s transport group in Canada. Strengths: "Shelley is an experienced lawyer who is knowledgeable and has excellent business sense." Montréal-based Paul Raymond (see p.119) is regularly instructed for his counsel on transactions in the Canadian aviation market. He brings to bear his experience in corporate and securities law in a range of aviation financing transactions. Based in Vancouver, Andrew Stainer (see p.423) is a well-regarded marine litigator whose client base includes insurers, ship owners and P&I clubs. He is experienced in handling cases involving capsized vessels, pollution concerns and casualty claims.

Stewart McKeil
What the team is known for Stewart McKeil is a strong regional law firm with offices throughout Atlantic Canada that offers extensive experience in maritime law. Its marine and transportation department advises on casualty, collision, insurance, cargo and pollution-related claims. It is further noted for handling financings and other transactional matters, as well as commercial disputes related to charter parties and shipbuilding and repair agreements. The lawyers provide additional expertise in matters concerning port and terminal facilities, as well as fisheries. Strengths: "They’re a very good firm."

Notable practitioners
Will Moreira KC operates a broad maritime practice based out of Halifax which sees him engaged by ship owners and suppliers, as well as marine insurers. He has experience in marine litigation, including pollution cases, as well as matters related to the sale and seizure of ships. St. John’s-based lawyer Paul Harquail works on contentious and non-contentious maritime issues, including insurance defence cases and transactional work related to the purchase and sale of vessels.

Stikeman Elliott LLP
What the team is known for Stikeman Elliott has a highly rated Canadian transportation law practice that is supported by the firm’s tax and litigation teams. The aviation group regularly advises industry players on a wide range of matters including aircraft and equipment financing and leasing, leveraging the firm’s strong capital markets and finance groups. The team also acts on contentious aviation matters including contractual disputes and product liability cases. Its clients include leading airlines, aircraft manufacturers and financial institutions. Operating primarily out of Montréal, the maritime group provides expert advice on ship construction and financing, marine insurance, commercial transactions and regulatory matters. Further expertise includes acting for hull, liability and energy insurers on domestic trade and in the Canadian offshore industries.

Strengths
"The firm provides a very high service from a seasoned and knowledgeable team of legal professionals."

Work highlights Stikeman Elliott represented Air Canada in defence of a class action instituted by Gilbert McMullen on behalf of former employees of Air Canada.

Notable practitioners
Based in Montréal, Peter Cullen (see p.422) has a broad client base which includes shipping interests in Canada, as well as marine insurers. He has experience in a range of maritime concerns, including vessel financings. An accomplished lawyer in the aviation space, Pierre-Paul Daunais (see p.422) is a well-regarded, Montréal-based litigator with experience in product liability and property damage claims. Strengths: "Pierre-Paul is an intelligent, polished and capable lawyer."

Other Ranked Lawyers
Based in Toronto, Bill Clark of YYZ Law’s practice comprises regulatory, commercial and transactional advice for aircraft lessors and domestic and international airlines.

Based in Montréal Marc De Man of De Man Pillet is a veteran lawyer in the transportation field, with experience in litigation, arbitration and mediation. His representation of maritime clients includes P&I clubs, shippers and charterers.

Edmonton lawyer Douglas Evanuch of McLennan Ross LLP provides commercial and regulatory assistance to numerous clients in the rail and road industries. "Douglas is a very good lawyer."

Monique Evans (see p.422) is a dynamic transportation lawyer with a particular focus on railway matters. Her recent work has included advising the Freight Management Association of Canada on an investigation brought by the Canadian Transportation Agency into freight rail issues in Vancouver.

Strengths: "Monique Evans is extremely diligent and detail-focused and has a good understanding of railway law."

Robert Fenn of Rohmer & Fenn acts for a range of aviation industry clients. His expertise extends to regulatory advice and litigation, as well as insurance claims within the aerospace sector.

Miriam Kavanagh of Miriam Kavanagh Professional Corporation is an experienced aviation lawyer based in Toronto. She routinely acts on a range of aircraft financings, and comes particularly recommended for
Leaders’ Profiles in Transportation

CHAPELSKI, Shelley
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Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Shelley Chalpeksi is the leader of a team of experienced shipping lawyers within the transport team in Canada. Her practice encompasses both transactional and litigation aspects of maritime law, including charters, insurance, liability, claims, creditors’ remedies and marine insurance matters. She has been recognized by her clients and colleagues as one of the leading shipping lawyers in Canada. Shelley drafts and advises on a wide array charter parties, contracts of carriage, charterparty contracts, insurance policies and other agreements that arise in the maritime and transportation market, including ice piloting (navigator) contracts. She has also advised many users and suppliers of marine services on their obligations and liabilities under Canadian maritime law, including on the carriage of dangerous goods and bunkering operations. Shelley has handled hundreds of casualties, including collisions, terminal damage cases, cargo losses, and pollution events. She has resolved many passenger injury and death claims, including ones subject to the Athens Convention. She has dealt with dozens of vessel arrests and many maritime liens and limitation of liability proceedings. Shelley is a frequent advisor to marine insurers on coverage matters. She has a particular interest in Canadian Arctic shipping, with a number of clients who operate in that region.

CULLEN, Peter J
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
514.397.3135
cullen@stikeman.com
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Peter Cullen is a senior counsel in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution, Insurance & Reinsurance, Energy and Arbitration Groups. Peter’s practice covers the corporate, alternative dispute resolution and litigation aspects of commercial insurance (including D&O, energy – construction risks, delay, exploration/development, fault design – liability, marine, property, regulatory and policy interpretation/coverage disputes), trade and transportation matters. He acts for leading shipping interests in Canada (in commercial transactions – including construction, purchase and sale, contracts of carriage – and dispute resolution matters), as well as protection and indemnity associations and domestic and foreign insurers, including members of Lloyd’s and other London Market insurers. He appears before the Federal Court across Canada and additional courts in Quebec and Ontario, as well as arbitration/administrative panels. He occasionally acts as an arbitrator in commercial and shipping disputes.

DAUNAIS, Pierre-Paul
Stikeman Elliott LLP, Montréal
(514) 397 2428
ppdaunais@stikeman.com
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Pierre-Paul Daunais is a partner in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution Group in Montréal. Focused on general business law disputes, particularly construction law, municipal law, aeronautics and insurance matters, Pierre-Paul’s practice touches on all aspects of litigation, such as providing advice, drafting proceedings and representing clients before all levels of court, including the Quebec Superior Court and the Court of Appeal. He has acquired considerable experience in procedural requirements and strategies and all aspects related to the management of complex litigation, both in interlocutory or preliminary proceedings and in hearings on the merits. Pierre-Paul regularly advises owners, real estate developers, consultants (engineering and architecture firms), contractors and manufacturers with respect to construction, product liability and municipal disputes. He has also acted for aircraft manufacturers and insurance companies in cases involving contractual disputes, product liability, application of foreign law in a domestic context and application of aviation regulations. Pierre-Paul has also represented both public and private companies in matters in several areas of corporate and commercial law, including shareholder disputes as well as transactional and commercial disputes.

DEWART, Colby
Burnet Duckworth & Palmer LLP, Cambridge
csd@bdwplaw.com
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Colby has over 15 years’ experience in corporate and commercial law, with a focus in the aviation industry. Colby advises on a range of corporate matters including mergers, share and asset acquisitions and dispositions, reorganizations and other business combinations. He also negotiates and drafts a wide variety of corporate commercial agreements in many industry sectors. With respect to his expertise in the aviation sector, Colby advises on the acquisition and disposition of aircraft, aircraft leasing, financing all other related matters.

FONTAINE, Jean-Marie
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Montréal
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Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Litigation practice includes cargo claims, collisions, personal injury claims, pollution charges, shipbuilding disputes, vessel & cargo arrest and charterparty disputes. Commercial practice includes charters, logistics & warehousing agreements, shipbuilding contracts and marine insurance; purchase, sale, financing and registration of vessels. Appeared before all levels of provincial and federal Courts, including the Supreme Court.

Carrer: Quebec Bar. LLB/BCL, McGill

Professional Memberships: Director, Canadian Maritime Law Association; Board of Youth of Shipping/Jeunesse maritime.


GALLAGHER, Ryan
McMillan LLP, Vancouver
604.691.6865
ryan.gallagher@mcmillan.ca
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Ryan’s practice focuses on transportation and logistics with a particular emphasis on the rail industry. Ryan counsels shippers, receivers and other rail users, shortline railways and investors on all aspects of rail transporta-

ion in commercial negotiations, dispute resolution, regulatory and transactional matters. Ryan has significant experience with rail rate, service and related matters under the Canadian Transportation Act, rail safety matters, and contractual allocation of liability. Ryan’s transportation practice includes advising shippers and motor carriers on contractual and regulatory matters. Ryan also practices competition law, with particular experience in merger reviews.
GRAY, Donald
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, Toronto
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donald.gray@blakes.com
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Donald advises a number of aircraft and engine lessors, financiers, manufacturers, and domestic and international airlines on aircraft finance and aviation commercial and regulatory law matters. He has advised on the financing or refinancing of more than 900 aircraft over the past 15 years. Donald was the Chair of the Firm’s Aviation & Aerospace group for more than 12 years and headed its Aircraft Finance practice.

Professional Memberships: Donald is a member of various aviation committees, councils and associations. Member of the Legal Affairs Committee of the Air Transport Association of Canada, the International Society of Transport Aircraft Transaction (ISTAT), the Aerospace Industries Association of Canada (AIAC), the Canadian Business Aircraft Association, the Helicopter Association International (HAI).

LIPSON, Brian
McCarthy Tétrault LLP, Quebec
+1 416 621 1200
blipson@mccarthy.ca
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Brian is a Partner in the firm’s Transportation and Logistics group. His practice focuses on M&A, commercial agreements, regulatory compliance, and licensing in the areas of road and rail transportation, warehousing and supply chain. Brian has provided advice in respect of numerous purchase and sale agreements, reorganizations, and investments, and provides licensing advice in respect of cross-border transport in the rail and road modes. He offers contractual solutions and advice on liability and risk exposure to a variety of transportation clients. Brian also has extensive experience with licensing and permitting requirements for commercial motor vehicles (NIR/CVOR/NSC/IRP/IFTA), and for motor vehicle dealers throughout Canada, including obtaining licences from regulators in the context of cross-border acquisitions and expansions.

Career: Quebec Bar, 2014

Professional Memberships: Canadian Bar Association (Quebec), Criminal Lawyers Association, Canadian Transport Lawyers Association, Canadian Bar Association (U.S) Transportation Lawyers Association, Quebec Defence Lawyers Association, Quebec City Defence Lawyers Association.

Publications: Publications in The Transportation Lawyer, McCarthy Tétrault MOVES (blog editor).


MACINTYRE, Jason
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Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Jason’s practice focuses primarily on secured lending and structured finance transactions, with a particular emphasis on aviation, project finance, infrastructure and defence. He is Chair of the Firm’s Aviation & Aerospace group. Jason has represented various aircraft lessors, manufacturers and financiers on aircraft finance and commercial aviation matters. He regularly advises clients on aviation regulatory matters including Transport Canada audits and certifications as well as Canadian Transportation Agency matters relating to foreign investments. He has also represented both lenders and borrowers in domestic and international transactions, which have included asset-based lending, public and private-partnerships and both public and private debt and capital markets offerings. Jason has advised the underwriters on Air Canada’s EETC transactions.

MARASCO, Auriol
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auriol.marasco@blakes.com
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Auriol’s practice focuses primarily on aircraft finance and aviation commercial and regulatory law matters. She acts as trusted counsel to the leading lessors and financiers who support the commercial aircraft and airline industry, including in respect of airline work-out and loan restructuring and insolvency and bankruptcy related matters. Auriol also has considerable experience with regulatory matters relating to UAV operations and airport privatization and is the Co-Chair of the Blakes Drone Group. Auriol gained industry-wide experience while working for a Canadian airline and is heavily involved in the industry including as the chair of the board of directors for Hope Air; a Canadian charity which arranges free air transportation for Canadians travelling for medical reasons who have a financial need.

Professional Memberships: Auriol is a member of various aviation committees, councils and associations, including as chair of the Canadian Bar Association Air and Space Law Section and secretary of the Aviation Working Group – Canada Contact Group, as well as active member of the International Aviation Women’s Association.

Personal: Auriol is a commercial mul-
ti-IRF (instrument flight rules) pilot with an instructor rating.

MARTINS, Carlos
WestFoulds LLP, Toronto
416.619.6284
cmartins@weirfoulds.com
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Carlos Martins is a skilled litigator with over 20 years’ experience providing legal advice in diverse sectors. He is a member of the firm’s Commercial Litigation Practice Group and specializes in matters in aviation and defamation law. Carlos has appeared before all levels of court in Ontario, including the Supreme Court of Canada. In addition, he has appeared before various administrative tribunals on behalf of his clients. Carlos is a Fellow of the Insurance Institute of Canada, as well as a past lecturer to the Insurance Institute of Ontario. He is the co-author of the “Canada” chapter in International Insurance Law and Regulation (Oxford University Press).

RAYMOND, Paul
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Quebec), Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

See under Corporate & M&A for profile.

ROSSI, Dionysios
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Vancouver
+1 604 640 4110
drossi@blg.com
Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Dionysios Rossi is a partner in BLG’s Vancouver office. He practises in the areas of shipping and transportation law, environmental law, and oil and gas law. Counsel to shipping lines, marine terminals, marinas, marine pilots, railways, freight forwarders, trucking companies, automobile manufacturers, P&I Clubs, underwriters, insurance brokers, and major project proponents in a wide variety of litigation, regulatory, and transactional matters. Served as a Judicial Law Clerk at the British Columbia Supreme Court.


Professional Memberships: Executive, Canadian Bar Association Environmental Law Subsection.

STAINER, Andrew
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Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

STUHLDREIER, Lucia
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Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Lucia Stuhrldreier advises shippers on all aspects of rail transportation, including negotiations of rail transportation agreements, rate and service matters, as well as agreements for the construction, acquisition and use of rail trackage. She has extensive experience in using regulatory remedies to resolve disputes over freight rates and service, securing access to competing rail carriers, and rail line abandonment. Lucia regularly represents clients in contested proceedings involving rail matters before arbitrators, the Canadian Transportation Agency, the Federal Court and the Federal Court of Appeal. She also assists shipper associations in negotiating rail transportation policy and legislative initiatives. Her road transportation practice includes advising shippers and motor carriers on trucking contracts and regulatory matters.

TOUGAS, François
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Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: François Tougas’ practice is devoted to competition and transportation law and policy. He counsels parties before the Canadian Transportation Agency, the Competition Bureau, governments in connection with strategic and competitive supply chain analyses, commercial and operational dealings between freight shippers, rail carriers and terminals. He primarily represents shippers in negotiations, regulatory and contested proceedings, competition/antitrust and foreign investment review, mergers & acquisitions, divestitures, and other transactional matters, and infrastructure development. Apart from shippers, his clients include receivers, terminals and other rail users, regional and short line railways, investors, transportation authorities and municipalities in their dealings with railways, marine and inland port authorities, terminals and other supply chain participants. He has been a regular advocate regarding legislative and regulatory policy efforts in the rail sector before Parliament, federal government bodies and commissions. He is Adjunct Professor of Competition Law and Policy at Allard Hall, University of British Columbia, a frequent lecturer and writer in rail economics and regulatory finance, and has been recognized by peer-reviewed ranking services and journals for his work in both transportation and competition law.

WALKER, Graham
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+1 604 640 4045
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Featured in Transportation (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Graham practises transportation law (with a focus on maritime, terminals and rail), environmental law, insurance and tort law, and general commercial litigation.


Professional Memberships: Former Director (West Coast Regional VP), Canadian Maritime Law Association; Member, Canadian Bar Association (CBA) Maritime Law Subsection (Vancouver); CBA Environmental Law Subsection (Vancouver).

Publications: CLE - Due Diligence Deskbook (Transportation of Dangerous Goods)

Personal: Capital Campaign Cabinet, Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation; Past Vancouver Yacht Club.
The leading lawyers and law firms in Canada

White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations
How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine ranking) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations

Nationwide

Band 1

Bennett Jones LLP

What the team is known for Bennett Jones is singled out for its strong fraud recovery capabilities, in addition to standoff expertise in securities-related improprieties and litigation. The firm is active in both domestic and cross-border government investigations, and represents clients across a range of industry sectors including healthcare, financial services, energy and natural resources. The full scope of the firm’s white-collar criminal practice includes securities, competition and antitrust, asset recovery, tax and money laundering issues. The team derives particular strength from its Calgary and Toronto-based lawyers.

Strengths

“Bennett Jones have particularly deep team that brings a wealth of experience to the table and they offer huge value to their clients.”

“The team is very experienced and globally connected, which allows for seamless transition between jurisdictions.”

Work highlights

Defended Pipestone Energy following bribery and kick-back allegations brought by TD Bank and TD Securities, arising out of a CAD85 million public financing transaction.

Notable practitioners

Lincoln Caylor is a recognised and respected expert in global fraud investigations and asset recovery litigation. He has also been involved in a number of high-profile investigations into money laundering and financial irregularities. He is based in Toronto.

Strengths

“He is a sophisticated litigator. He is fast at putting together a strategy to move forward with the case at hand.”

Alan Gardner is well recognised as a highly experienced securities litigator. He also assists clients with a range of internal investigations including fraudulent transactions and breaches of anti-corruption laws. He is based in Toronto.

Strengths

“Alan is extremely customer focused and offers tremendous value to his client, as well as good, market-aware advice.”

Mohamed KC is distinguished for his breadth of experience in the field of international fraud and financial crime, representing prominent clients in financial services and the energy sector.

Strengths

“Munaf Mohamed is fantastic to work with. He is a practical and strategic thinker.”

Jim Patterson is well respected for his expertise in civil fraud, with experience in an array of scenarios, including asset recovery, internal investigations and fraudulent investments. He is based in Toronto, from where he co-leads the firm’s fraud law practice.

Band 2

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

What the team is known for Blake, Cassels & Graydon is recognised for its skilled fraud law group and its handling of significant government investigations. The business crimes, investigations and compliance team also actively assists clients with the development of anti-bribery compliance programmes, as well as handling sensitive internal investigations. With a track record working on both domestic and multi-jurisdictional white-collar cases, the group is noted particularly for its expertise in relation to the corruption of foreign public officials. The firm also provides crisis response advice to firms under regulatory or criminal investigation, and advises clients on defending against class action litigation resulting from white-collar prosecutions. It has a notably strong presence in both Calgary and Vancouver, with considerable activity for clients in the finance, mining and energy sectors.

Strengths

“We trust them to use the breadth of their team to ensure we get the best advice on a whole range of matters, and they endeavour to understand our business so that legal advice is properly contextualised.”

“Blakes is a leading firm and, as such, has proven itself repeatedly in handling difficult matters. What really sets Blakes apart is the consistency of this strength across the firm—dealing with different offices, practice groups and individual lawyers yields a similarly strong representation.”

“Blake’s work is always first-rate. I know the time demands, but they always amaze me with how quickly they can respond to urgent questions.”

Work highlights

Blakes’ Mark Morrison continued to serve as Compliance Monitor for SNC Lavalin, arising out of its conviction concerning fraud and bribery in Libya.

Notable practitioners

Cassels’ Mark Morrison KC (see p.428) is a highly experienced investigations lawyer who has acted for various high-profile clients in areas such as construction and financial services. He is often involved in major corruption mandates involving parallel investigations in the USA. His Strengths: “Mark is a market leader in anti-corruption and a top communicator.” “Mark is responsive, efficient, and considers business needs. He’s considered to be one of the top corruption experts in Canada.”

Cassels’ Sean Boyle (see p.283) stands out for his impressive portfolio of clients in financial services and the breadth of his nationwide regulatory expertise. He is highly rated for his handling of both criminal and regulatory investigations, as well as his experience of securities litigation proceedings. His Strengths: “Sean is a strategic thinker and a great litigator. He brings the right experts to the table to discuss the strategies and
approach to win a case.” “He is a really smart guy, a leader who gives clients confidence.” Iris Fischer (see p.287) is a skilled practitioner in internal and government investigations and wider white-collar matters, with clients benefitting from her strong pedigree in defending regulatory matters. Strengths: “Iris is exceptionally capable, strategic and creative.” John Fast (see p.428) enjoys a burgeoning reputation for his white-collar criminal defence practice, which sees him advising clients on anti-corruption compliance and enforcement actions, as well as internal investigations. Strengths: “John Fast is an impressive associate—he's very responsive and has keen attention to detail.”

**McCarthy Tétrault LLP**

What the team is known for McCarthy Tétrault possesses a market-leading litigation team which is well known for its involvement in white-collar cases, particularly in its Toronto and Montréal offices. The firm's white-collar defence and investigations team is recognised for the strength of its client portfolio and for the depth of its bench, and is identified for its prevalence in anti-corruption and securities-related issues, as well as criminal competition matters, foreign corrupt practices, economic sanctions, tax evasion and insurance fraud. Its lawyers are frequently credited as a dominant force in professional discipline defence and prosecution, and known for their international reach and multi-jurisdictional capabilities. The firm's client list includes notable individuals and corporations in the finance sector, in addition to a number of Crown corporations. Strengths: “The staff were very knowledgeable, experienced and supportive.” “When faced with complex matters, the firm provided responsive and accessible advice.” “The team has great expertise, knowledge of our business and great resources.”

Work highlights McCarthy Tétrault advised Fédération des caisses Desjardins du Québec following police raids arising out of a data breach. Notable practitioners

Andrew Matheson (see p.428) is renowned for his breadth of experience covering corporate investigations and compliance, criminal defence and professional disciplinary proceedings. He heads the firm's national white-collar and investigations group from Toronto. “Andrew is smart, strategic and always a pleasure to work with.”

**Band 2**

**Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP**

What the team is known for Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg maintains an experienced investigations and white-collar defence team that stands out for its strength in Montréal. The firm possesses experience in a broad range of matters in the white-collar space, spearheading domestic and international investigations into corruption, sanctions violations and fraudulent activities. It offers additional assistance with compliance strategy, as well as experience representing clients in multiple judicial settings, including cartel-related cases. Strengths: “They have the experience and skills, but also a collaborative culture that gives me confidence that they can handle the most complex matters and generate optimal outcomes.”

“Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg are the go-to team for complex and sophisticated legal challenges.”

Work highlights A Davies team defended Charles Mazzuccato against enforcement proceedings brought by the Ontario Securities Commission concerning the management of exempt market funds in the solar energy sector. Notable practitioners

Léon Moubayed (see p.428) impresses for his breadth of experience in a range of regulatory and corporate investigations, as well as his proficiency in courtroom advocacy. He is based in Montréal. “His success on our case was a result of the unique strategizing ability, combined with master knowledge of the Canadian rules of criminal procedure.” “He is an exceptional attorney with a strong legal background and an excellent reputation.”

**Fenton, Smith Barristers**

What the team is known for Fenton, Smith Barristers is a Toronto-based boutique law firm which is endorsed for its impressive track record in criminal litigation. Its lawyers are highly regarded for their representation of individuals in white-collar cases, particularly in high-profile criminal fraud charges and sanctions violations. The firm is also noted for its involvement in internal investigations, securities litigation and foreign corruption matters, and for its expertise in appellate litigation, where it has represented clients before various courts including the Supreme Court of Canada. Notable practitioners

Scott Fenton continues to be recognised as one of Canada’s leading criminal defence attorneys. He has represented individual clients in a range of proceedings, covering sanctions violations and corporate fraud. “He’s amazing—for criminal law, he’s first-rate.”

**Greenspan Humphrey Weinstein**

What the team is known for Greenspan Humphrey Weinstein is a well-known Toronto-based criminal law boutique firm which hosts an esteemed white-collar crime practice. It is sought after by a variety of clients for its substantial expertise in defence proceedings. The firm is known for its experience of cross-border litigation, with its lawyers active in the foreign corruption space across a variety of sectors. The team also assists clients with money laundering, professional discipline, regulatory litigation and Securities Act matters. Notable practitioners

Brian Greenspan is held in extremely high esteem for his long-standing criminal defence practice and is one of the best-known lawyers in Canada for this type of work. Throughout his illustrious career, he has defended a range of corporate executives and public officials against a myriad of corruption and financial crime allegations.

**Norton Rose Fulbright**

What the team is known for Norton Rose Fulbright is an international law firm with a skilled and well-established corporate criminal defence group in Canada. The team advises clients from a diverse range of industries on securities litigation and anti-corruption matters. Its investigations work incorporates criminal and regulatory wrongdoing, internal investigations and asset tracing. Norton Rose is particularly well known among market commentators for its leading role in high-profile anti-corruption and fraud investigations for clients in the construction and manufacturing industry in Québec.

Strengths: “Their commercial awareness is one of their strengths. They understand our reality, their advice is very business-driven and they have a 360 vision, and they understand our risk tolerance.” “They’re very strong. They’re capable of introspection and taking into account the positions of the opposing parties in a very short time.”

The firm has access to a multitude of highly qualified individuals in a variety of fields. Work highlights Norton Rose Fulbright defended David Cartu in enforcement proceedings brought by the Ontario Securities Commission, related to the alleged operation of unregistered offshore dealers selling binary options to Ontario investors.

Notable practitioners

François Fontaine, Ad E (see p.428) has an impressive reputation for his representation of individuals facing a range of criminal allegations, including tax evasion and fraud, as well as issues involving immigration and professional discipline. Strengths: “François has a deep understanding of his clients, a strong business acumen and is very good at providing advice to develop a strategy based on our risk tolerance.” “He is in constant communication with his clients and provides them with sound advice on complex and sophisticated matters.”

**Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP**

What the team is known for Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt maintains a solid white-collar crime practice group which offers expertise in anti-money laundering, fraud, anti-corruption and securities-related investigations. With particular strength across its Toronto and Montréal offices, the firm’s client roster includes an impressive array of corporate entities in the banking, construction and entertainment sectors. The team wins praise for its versatility and experience acting for a range of corporations, public consortia and high net worth individuals, and is also skilled at handling antitrust inquiries by the Canadian Competition Bureau.

Strengths: “The work was extremely high quality. There was a great outcome, directly related to the intelligent legal counsel provided.” “They have great depth, from partners to associates and paralegals. They're extremely responsive and experienced with complex and large matters.”

Work highlights An Osler team continued to represent the former vice-chair of FINTRAC in proceedings before the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada.

Notable practitioners

Former Crown prosecutor Stéphane Eljarrat (see p.428) is a recognised authority in white-collar investigations. Splitting his practice between Toronto and Montréal, he assists a variety of both corporate clients and private individuals with in-depth internal reviews, compliance matters and high-profile audits. Strengths: “His expertise immediately stood out.” “Stéphane has strong white-collar crime experience and is very responsive.” Lawrence Ritchie (see p.294) is rated highly for his understanding of financial crime, particularly in matters involving securities and public companies. Clients benefit from his experience as former vice-chair of the Ontario Securities Commission. Strengths: “Lawrence is among the top in securities enforcement work in Canada. He is a delight to work with as well.” “He is a very good lawyer
White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations

- practical, sensible and skilled.”

Band 3

**Borden Ladner Gervais LLP**

**What the team is known for** Borden Ladner Gervais operates a prominent investigations and white-collar defence group with experience in a range of mandates, including securities work, tax evasion and sanctions breaches. The firm is also particularly well-regarded for its solid anti-corruption practice, which has been consulted at both domestic and international levels by clients in the natural resources and technology sectors. Its Toronto and Calgary-based lawyers additionally represent individual clients facing criminal prosecution.

**Strengths**

“Borden Ladner Gervais has good bench strength with a diverse set of practice areas, which allows it to handle complex litigation.”

**Work highlights** Borden continued to defend Wentao Yang and various affiliated corporations in a tax evasion investigation, arising from the leak of the Panama Papers.”

**Notable practitioners**

Graeme Hamilton (see p.428) has an impressive courtroom pedigree, leading high-profile tax evasion and corruption criminal defence cases. Based in Toronto, he is the national co-chair of the firm’s investigations and white-collar defence group. Strengths: “I received excellent service from Graeme.”

**Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP**

**What the team is known for** Gowling WLG has a robust white-collar defence and investigations team with notable expertise dealing with the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act and OSC and Competition Bureau prosecutions and investigations. The firm acts on both the defence side and for regulators across a range of subjects, including insider trading, regulatory enforcement and securities-related issues. It is also active in the fraud space, representing individuals and corporate clients across a number of sectors, including mining and financial services. Additional experience includes advising on enforcement investigations into financial discrepancies associated with fintech.

**Work highlights** Gowling successfully defended Varun Saini, following allegations he used a company computer to access the data of 60,000 individuals. The charges were eventually withdrawn.

**Notable practitioners**

Glen Jennings is an experienced investigations practitioner and skilled litigator with a solid track record assisting corporate clients with sensitive internal investigations, as well as significant regulatory probes. He is based in Toronto. “Glen Jennings has been strong, dependable counsel.”

**McMillan LLP**

**What the team is known for** McMillan is recognised for its strength in securities fraud matters and its capabilities in fraud prevention, detection and litigation, in addition to significant anti-corruption mandates. The firm represents individuals and corporations in a range of white-collar matters, including cases with complex cross-border dimensions. It also advises on corporate governance issues, asset recovery, criminal antitrust and regulatory compliance.

**Strengths**

“At McMillan the level of expertise is impressive and it runs deep in the team.”

“They have knowledge of the issues and a good strategic approach to the problems they face.”

**Work highlights** McMillan advised Great Canadian Gaming Corporation, the operator of ten casinos in British Columbia, following the province’s public enquiry into money laundering.

**Notable practitioners**

Guy Pinsonnoya (see p.428) is a former prosecutor who is particularly well regarded for his insight and experience in a range of regulatory investigations, including anti-money laundering, terrorist financing and antitrust. He is based in the firm’s Ottawa office. “He is ahead of trends and has exceptional outside-of-the-box thinking. He’s an all-round great adviser, especially in times of crisis.”

**Stockwoods LLP**

**What the team is known for** Stockwoods is an impressive Ontario litigation boutique with notable prowess in the white-collar space. The firm’s experience covers an array of contentious issues, including corporate fraud and administrative law, as well as traditional criminal defence and labour exploitation.

**Strengths**

“They are very good criminal defence counsel.”

**Notable practitioners**

Brian Gover is a seasoned lawyer who has acted for a range of corporate executives and public officials implicated in criminal activities and allegations. Based in Toronto, he is also exceptionally well-regarded for his administrative law expertise. Gerald Chan operates a broad litigation practice, cutting across administrative law, white-collar defence and regulatory investigations. He also has experience defending professional negligence claims. He is based in Toronto. “Gerald is an excellent lawyer.”

**Other Ranked Lawyers**

Frank Addario of Addario Law Group LLP is recognised as one of Canada’s leading traditional criminal defence lawyers. He also has a significant amount of white-collar experience, covering bribery allegations and espionage. “Frank Addario has an excellent reputation for criminal defence work.” He is highly respected by the courts for criminal law.”

Calgary-based Anthony Cole is well placed to assist some of the firm’s leading energy and natural resources clients in navigating investigations into money laundering, corruption and fraud. “Anthony Cole is an exceptional lawyer with deep experience of bribery and corruption law.” He provides practical and balanced legal advice with a risk-based approach.”

Danielle Ferron has deep experience in fraud and white-collar cases, with notable expertise in cybercrime and privacy matters. Her broad disputes practice also includes strengths in civil and commercial litigation. “Danielle is a formidable litigator who brings an impressive level of experience and judgement to sensitive fraud and white-collar matters.”

Brian Heller represents clients in a range of white-collar crime contexts, covering tax evasion, fraud, money laundering and foreign corruption. He is based in Toronto.

Scott Hutchison is a well-known criminal lawyer who has played a key role in several high-profile cases involving corruption and business crimes, as well as administrative law. He is based in Toronto. “Scott is a terrific lawyer who can understand complex files.”

Joven Narwal is developing an impressive reputation for his representation of individuals facing a range of criminal allegations, including tax evasion and fraud, as well as issues involving immigration and professional discipline. He is based in Vancouver. “Joven is highly intelligent, extremely hard-working, and without exception obtains the best possible results in the circumstances for his clients.”

John Pirie of Baker McKenzie is an experienced courtroom advocate who is particularly well regarded for his civil fraud expertise. He has also defended clients against professional negligence claims, and played a role in antitrust and securities-related lawsuits. He is based in Toronto, from where he leads the firm’s litigation and government enforcement group in Canada.

**Strengths:**

“Mr Pirie was knowledgeable of the subject matter, very prompt and extremely helpful and cooperative.”

“John Pirie is extremely knowledgeable in white-collar criminal defence, litigation strategy and recovery.”

Mark Sandler is the founding partner of Toronto criminal defence boutique Cooper, Sandler, Shime & Bergman. He is distinguished for his breadth of experience in criminal defence, covering both traditional offences and business transgressions. “Mark is very experienced and offers wise counsel.”
Leaders' Profiles in White-Collar Crime & Investigations

BOYLE, Sean
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada)
Criminal Litigation (British Columbia)
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ELJARRAT, Stéphane
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Stéphane is a partner in the firm’s National Litigation group, based in Toronto and the Montréal office. He leads the White-Collar Defence practice and works closely with Osler’s market-leading Risk Management and Crisis Response team. Stéphane represents corporate & public institutions and foreign jurisdictions in a wide range of criminal investigations and proceedings brought under federal & provincial criminal statutes such as the Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act, Criminal Code, Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act and the Competition Act. Stéphane defends clients in complex, trials & regulatory proceedings, and associated appeals, and advises & represents them in high-stakes regulatory investigations including cross-border and international investigations that involve specific agencies & jurisdictions.

Career: Before joining Osler, Stéphane was a partner at another leading Canadian firm, prior to which he was with the Government of Quebec in the Ministry of Public Security and the Montréal Surveillant of the Police Force. He also worked for the Federal Department of Justice with the RCMP Legal Services, in the National Tax Litigation Section and as a Federal Prosecutor.

Professional Affiliations: Canadian Bar Association, Transparency International Canada International Association of Lawyers Litigation Counsel of America Canadian Bar Association (Member of the Board of Directors), Canadian Bar Association, International Bar Association, Canadian Bar Association.

Publications: Co-author, “Economic Crimes and the Criminal Enforcement of International Regulations” (LexisNexis, 2016). Stéphane has also published articles on various topics in regulatory and criminal law, and has spoken on these topics at seminars and conferences.

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FONTAINE, AD E, François
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada), Litigation (Québec)

Practice Areas: François Fontaine has a wealth of experience as a lawyer in civil, corporate and commercial litigation and penultimate procedure, while white collar crime and regulatory investigations, before all Quebec courts and the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Fontaine has a significant portion of his practice to representing clients before the courts and tribunals in administrative litigation (including injunctions and judicial review). Mr. Fontaine has a great deal of expertise in fraud and anti-corruption matters, business ethics compliance and crisis management. He has led several investigations in connection with allegations of fraud and corruption, including conducting interviews and examinations, investigating the facts, providing legal opinions and advising clients on legal and regulatory risks. Mr. Fontaine often defends clients on compliance with the Canadian Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act and has significant experience in matters involving missappropriation of confidential information, fraudulent financial transactions and tracing and recovery of stolen funds. He regularly defends corporations in class action suits, particularly in environmental matters.

HAMILTON, Graeme
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, Toronto
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: National Co-Chair of BLG’s Investigations and White Collar Defence Group. Experienced trial and appellate counsel whose practice focuses on white collar criminal defence, government and internal investigations, securities regulation, public law and commercial litigation.

Career: LL.M, Harvard Law School, 2010; JD, University of Toronto, 2008; MA in Economics, University of Toronto, 2008; BSc in Mathematics and Engineering, Queen’s University, 2003.

Professional Membership: Member, Advocates’ Society; Member, Criminal Lawyers’ Association; Member, American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section; Member, International Bar Association; Teaching Advisor, Trial Advocacy, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, 2018-2019; Adjunct Professor, Evidence, Osgoode Hall Law School, 2014-15.

MATHESON, Andrew
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Andrew is the Head of McCarthy Tétrault’s National White Collar Investigation and Group. He specializes in complex and cross-border investigations, regulatory and criminal defence, and professional discipline matters. His diverse expertise includes practicing with Allen & Overy in New York City. In his investigations practice, Andrew has a wide range of exposures, including fraud, corruption, insider trading, money laundering, tax evasion and sanctions violations. He often appears before administrative tribunals, as well as appearing before the court of Ontario, including in the successful defence of the former CEO of Nortel on criminal fraud charges. He teaches at University of Toronto Law School, and publishes widely on matters relating to financial crime and investigations. He has been active in pro bono work throughout his career, including acting for Guantanamo Bay detainees.


Publications: Co-editor, CCH’s Annotated Ontario Securities Legislation.

MORRISON, Mark
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Mark is the National Practice Group Leader of the Business Crimes, Investigations & Compliance Practice Group. He regularly leads international internal investigations and defends clients facing government investigations and charges on white-collar, anti-corruption and regulatory enforcement matters.

Career: Mark has played a key role on several of Canada’s most significant and corruption enforcement cases. He served as independent counsel to the Board of Directors through the internal investigation of Canada’s largest CPOCA case to date. Mark was also appointed as the Independent Compliance Monitor for SNC-Lavalin pursuant to the Proportion Order imposed by the Quebec Court as part of its sentencing on charges of fraud in Libya. More recently, Mark was designated by the National Remediation Agreement as Independent Compliance Monitor in a separate monitorship of SNC-Lavalin. On a pro bono basis, Mark has provided training to prosecutors and enforcement officials in Zimbabwe and expert testimony to the Canadian Senate during hearings to consider Canada’s new Remediation Agreement legislation. Mark has served on the Independent Investigations Advisory Board for one of the world’s largest mining companies, providing direction and oversight over worldwide internal investigations.

Professional Membership: Mark is a past Director of Transparency International (Canada).

MOUBAYED, Léon
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Léon is a partner in the Investigations & White Collar Defence and the Dispute Resolution practices. Léon has represented clients in high-profile civil, commercial and administrative matters, as well as international white-collar criminal cases, usually encompassing significant commercial, civil and administrative ramifications. He represents clients in high-profile investigations and prosecutions relating to white-collar and regulatory offenses. His expertise includes challenging search warrants, wiretaps and other investigatory techniques. He represents corporations and individuals in multijurisdictional investigations, conducts confidential internal investigations and carries out asset recovery in extraordinary circumstances. Léon has appeared at all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada. He was appointed amicus curiae of the Supreme Court by the Chief Justice of Canada in an appeal where civil and civil laws were closely intertwined. The Court unanimously upheld his position from the bench. He serves as a judge at the International Criminal Court Most Wanted in The Hague. Léon founded Davies’ International Investigations & White Collar Defence Summit and is the practice coordinator for Davies’ Investigations & White Collar Defence team. He is a fellow of the International Academy of Financial Crime Litigators. Select Recognitions: Benchmark Canada (White Collar Crime Litigator of the Year); Best Lawyers Canada (Criminal Defence Lawyer of the Year).

PINSONNAULT, Guy
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Featured in White-Collar Crime (Nationwide – Canada)
Competition/Antitrust (Nationwide – Canada)

Practice Areas: Guy Pinsonnault is a partner in the firm’s Competition Group where he practices in Montréal and Ottawa. His practice includes the full range of competition, anti-corruption, foreign corrupt practices, white collar crime, proceeds of crime, and Canadian business crime issues. He regularly leads domestic and international investigations, with a particular focus on Canadian and international cartel and commercial crime.
matters. Prior to joining McMillan, Guy was the General Counsel, Competition Law Section, Public Prosecution Service of Canada, from 2004 to 2012. His work as the senior prosecutor at the Competition Bureau focused mainly on the prosecution of criminal cartel matters, as well as bid-rigging and fraudulent misrepresentation. He also provided extensive advice in the development of the Competition Bureau policies and programs (e.g., the Immunity and Leniency Programs) and advised on Bureau policies and practices for search and seizure, immunity and plea agreements. Guy has had extensive criminal law experience dealing with local, national and cross-border RCMP and UPAC corporate crime investigations and prosecutions.

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See under Litigation for profile.