

Resume

Contact Information

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Personal overview/ Professional philosophy

I graduated from the University of Alberta, articulated in Calgary, and have practiced law since 2000. My experience spans three provinces (Alberta, B.C. and Ontario). I am a partner with Reynolds Mirth Richards & Farmer LLP in Edmonton. My prior experience includes a number of years with national and international firms, as well as experience as legal counsel to the Alberta Court of Appeal.

Over time, my practice has evolved to focus on administrative law, particularly in the areas of professional and regulatory compliance, municipal taxation and assessment, environment and municipal law. I regularly provide advice on a variety of matters, including issues related to planning, taxation, assessment, expropriation and utilities. I have appeared before all levels of courts in Alberta and before various boards on behalf of municipalities. I have also provided advice to administrative decision makers, including boards and tribunals. I have deep knowledge of matters related to administrative justice.

One of the things I enjoy most is working with parties to work through a conflict. A frustrating aspect of conflict for many parties is that it keeps them stuck, preventing them from moving beyond an issue. Finding a productive way through a conflict, in a manner that involves everyone being heard and treated fairly, can be a challenge. However, in my view, approaching things in this way as opposed to being solely confrontational provides a foundation for parties to move on in a more positive way. This doesn't mean everyone has to agree and it may mean a third party decision maker is necessary. However, in my experience, when the process is fair and parties feel they have been heard, the outcome is usually more palatable, allowing the parties to move forward.

My experience and values position me to understand not only dispute resolution, but also the complex matters that municipalities face, as well as the importance of an impartial knowledgeable and thorough decision-maker.

Arbitration Experience

In recent years, I have expanded my practice to include arbitration. As a decision-maker, my arbitration experience has primarily involved procurement matters. I am one of the designated arbitrators for the New West Partnership Trade Agreement bid protest mechanism. I have written three decisions for matters on this roster and have chaired two matters. I also have experience acting for parties in arbitrations.

Training

2016 Qualified Arbitrator (Q.Arb) Designation
2016 National Introductor Arbitration Training (40 Hours)
2007 Admitted to the Law Society of British Columbia (no longer active member)
2001 Admitted to the Law Society of Upper Canada (no longer active member)
2000 Admitted to the Law Society of Alberta
1999 LL.B., University of Alberta
1995 B.A., University of Alberta

Professional Associations

Law Society of Alberta
Canadian Bar Association
ADR Institute of Alberta

References

1. Dave Collison, NWPTA Administrator
New West Partnership Trade Agreement
(778) 430-2830
2. Guy West , President
Alberta Beverage Container Recycle Commission
(403) 264-0170