Indigenous Law

Profile

Over the past several decades, there has been a growing recognition of the significant contributions of the Indigenous Peoples of Canada to the economic and social fabric of the country. After a long history of systematic neglect and forced assimilation, as a Nation, we have reached a turning point in history. Indigenous Peoples now have unprecedented opportunities to achieve fiscal and cultural independence as they utilize their lands, skills and rights to participate more fully in the economy.

Clark Wilson's Indigenous Law Group possesses a unique perspective into BC's history, culture, industry and relationships with Indigenous Peoples. With over 60 years of cumulative experience, we act as a vital resource for both industry and Indigenous Nation clients across BC and Canada to effectively and efficiently build relationships and businesses. Our team includes Indigenous and non-Indigenous lawyers who have strong community ties, extensive experience and are dedicated to developing practical business solutions in the Indigenous businesses context. We provide sophisticated advice that serves business interests and contributes to sustainable Indigenous economic development.

As one of the first regional law firms in Canada to conduct Indigenous Cultural Competency Training for all of our lawyers in early 2019, we are deepening our understanding by acknowledging the past and working to develop stronger partnerships with Indigenous Peoples. This enhanced perspective allows us to provide effective guidance and strong advocacy for each clients’ specific needs.

Our commitment to assisting businesses and Indigenous Peoples in bringing reconciliation through business solutions is reflected in Clark Wilson's Statement of Reconciliation.

Major Projects:
Mining, Forestry, Oil & Gas, Pipeline, Energy and Infrastructure Projects
Duty to Consult and Accommodate
Treaty Rights and Aboriginal Rights, including Title
Environmental Assessments
Permitting, Licensing, Leasing and Approvals
Regulatory Management/Risk Assessment
Impact Benefit Agreements/Project Agreements
Business Procurement and Joint Ventures/LPs
Wealth Management/Trusts

Commercial Real Estate on Indigenous Lands:
Fee Simple Land Acquisition and Development by Indigenous Nations
Treaty Settlement Lands Development
Reserve Land Development (On-Reserve and Land Code Developments)
Leasing and Sublease Structuring
Environmental Reviews and Permitting
Jurisdictional Reviews and Advice
Municipal Services Agreements
Strata Development, without a Condominium Act

Governments and their Businesses:
Self-Government Advisory
HR Advisory and Employment Law
Policy and Legislative Advisory
Land Codes and Other Land Regimes
Procurement
Structuring Businesses
Taxation Agreements
Management of Traditional Lands
Advising Indigenous Institutions and Societies (Fisheries, Housing, Child & Family, Health)
Litigation Support
Specific Claims
Indigenous Intellectual and Cultural Property
Heritage Resources

Indigenous Entrepreneurship:
Structuring Businesses
Tax and Estate Planning
Joint Ventures
Mergers & Acquisitions
Employment Law
Succession
Financing
Family Law
We are focused on fostering successful businesses and business relations for the long term and are uniquely equipped to advance modern-day reconciliation in the business context.

Chair
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