



Prasad Taksal

Associate

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Prasad assists clients in planning, structuring, negotiating and successfully implementing business and commercial transactions, and achieving and maintaining regulatory compliance. Prasad's practice spans business and commercial law, corporate finance and securities and aviation law.

Prasad works with clients engaged in diverse industries and sectors, including air transportation, banking, education, information technology, manufacturing, natural resources, private equity and venture capital. He has represented clients on a broad range of corporate and commercial matters, as well as business transactions such as acquisitions and sales of businesses, share transactions, private equity financings, securities offerings, debt funding, joint ventures and international business ventures. Prasad is highly experienced in advising clients on drafting and negotiating complex contracts, corporate governance matters, intellectual property matters and privacy issues.

As a member of the firm's Aviation Law Practice Group, Prasad represents clients on the purchase, financing, and leasing of aircraft and aircraft engines, and has extensive experience in advising clients on regulatory matters, certification and licencing issues and regulatory compliance matters before Transport Canada and the Canadian Transportation Agency. Prasad is also a member of the firm's International Risk Management Group.

Before joining DLA Piper, Prasad practiced at a top-tier law firm in India in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, private equity investments and corporate and commercial law, and has extensive experience in advising clients in relation to investing and doing business in India.

Prasad is actively involved with the Canadian Bar Association, and is currently the chair of the National Air and Space Law Section and an executive officer of the Alberta branch of the Technology and Intellectual Property section. In addition to participation in the firm's pro bono programs, Prasad also volunteers as a mentor with the Calgary Region Immigrant Employment Council.

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

RELATED SERVICES

- Aviation
- Corporate
- International Risk Management
- Capital Markets
- Finance
- Intellectual Property and Technology

RELATED SECTORS

- Energy and Natural Resources
- Education
- Financial Services

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English Hindi Marathi

- English
- Hindi
- Marathi

EXPERIENCE

- Advising a US manufacturer and its Canadian subsidiary on a range of matters including regulatory compliance, vendor and customer contracts, software licencing arrangements, government procurement matters and international trade matters
- Represented Onex Corporation in its \$5 billion acquisition of WestJet Airlines Ltd. in respect of aviation regulatory matters, debt financing and creation of security package, third party approvals and corporate matters
- Advising an Alberta corporation on the restructuring its holdings in renewable energy projects and energy management ventures
- Represented a major commercial lender in credit, equipment finance and commercial mortgage transactions with an aggregate value of \$30 million, including the provision of credit facilities to a Metis community for land acquisition
- Advised an investment manager on the formation of a USD 12 million private equity fund in Canada focused on investment on investment opportunities in South America
- Represented a publicly listed oilfield services company in its acquisition of a well intervention business division and assets
- Advising several international air carriers on the recently introduced Air Passenger Protection Regulations, including in relation to revising tariffs, terms and conditions of carriage and internal policies and procedures
- Advising the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology aircraft donations, intellectual property and software licensing matters, compliance with Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation and privacy legislation, commercial real estate transactions and procurement of goods and services
- Advised the Calgary Board of Education on regulatory issues, compliance monitoring, governance matters and procurement matters
- Advising a major Canadian aircraft lessor in aircraft and engine purchase, sale and leasing transactions and financing matters

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- Alberta, 2012
- India, 2003

Education

- Certificate of Qualification, National Committee on Accreditation, Federation of Law Societies of Canada, 2010
- LL.B., University of Pune, India, 2003
- B.S.L., University of Pune, India, 2001

Memberships

- Member, Law Society of Alberta
- Member, Bar Council of Delhi, India
- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Aviation Law Committee, International Bar Association
- Member, Calgary Bar Association

INSIGHTS

Publications

Partnerships: what, how and when

16 November 2020

The term “partnership” is often used loosely in everyday language in situations where, from a legal perspective, there is no partnership. For example, a business relationship involving a collaboration between two persons may be commonly described as a partnership, when in fact it is a vendor-customer or joint venture relationship. In order to avoid unintended consequences by entering into a partnership, or improperly describing a business relationship as a partnership, it is important to understand what partnerships are, how they work and when you can use them.

Partnership agreements: A primer

14 October 2020

So you and your partners want to run a business together, and have decided to enter into a partnership - what next? The first step is the preparation of a partnership agreement.

- Co-author, "Canadian Chapter in The Aviation Law Review - Editions 1-3", *Law Business Research*, 2014–2019
- Co-author, "Canadian Chapter in Getting the Deal Through: Air Transport", *Law Business Research*, 2013–2019
- "Credible India: Why India's Sweeping Anti-Corruption Reform is Good for Business", Davis LLP International Risk Management Bulletin (March 2014)

NEWS

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP acted for DIF Capital Partners in 900 MW Canadian power project investment

31 AUG 2020

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP acted on behalf of DIF Capital Partners in connection with its investment in the 900-megawatt Cascade Power Project. DIF will invest in the construction of Cascade together with joint equity sponsors OPTrust and Axium Infrastructure.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP featured in Lexpert's "Top 10 Deals of 2019"

26 FEB 2020

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is pleased to have acted on two of the transactions included in Lexpert magazine's "Top 10 Deals of 2019."

Onex Corporation completes acquisition of WestJet Airlines Ltd.

19 DEC 2019

Onex Corporation and WestJet Airlines Ltd. announced on December 11, 2019 that they have completed their previously

announced purchase agreement valued at approximately \$5 billion including assumed debt. DLA Piper Canada acted as counsel for Onex Corporation on various aspects of what is the largest private equity purchase of an airline in aviation history, including with respect to aviation law, financing matters and corporate law matters.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP acting for Onex Corporation in \$5 billion acquisition of WestJet Airlines Ltd.

16 MAY 2019

On May 13, 2019, Onex Corporation announced that it had entered into a definitive agreement in which it will acquire all outstanding shares of WestJet Airlines Ltd. in an all-cash transaction valued at CDN \$5 billion.
