



**Donald Wilson, Q.C.**

**Partner**

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Donald Wilson, Q.C. has extensive experience in civil and administrative litigation at the hearing level, trial and appellate levels, with a particular interest in labour, employment, environmental, administrative, intellectual property, insurance and products liability litigation. *The 2020 Best Lawyers in Canada* award recognizes his practice in Administrative and Public Law, Alternative Dispute Resolution and Corporate and Commercial Litigation.

Donald has done extensive work in the employment area including a number of Canada Labour Code and Alberta and Canadian human rights hearings. He has provided opinions and proactive employment advice to employers. He has acted as counsel of record in a number of trials (and appeals) on employment issues including breaches of known safety rules, the application and enforceability of alcohol and drug policies in an industrial context, both at trial before the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench and in a series of labour arbitration cases. He has also litigated the nature and extent of an employer's obligation to accommodate disabled workers.

Donald has also been fortunate to consult with solicitors and other in-house lawyers to develop a variety of proactive methods to assist clients in avoiding litigation. In this process, he has prepared a variety of complex risk analyses for corporate clients.

His practice has also been devoted to a wide range of complex, commercial litigation matters for clients such as North America's largest integrated oil company, a major oil sands mining conglomerate, one of the largest multinational entertainment conglomerates in the world, two large heavy equipment distributors and a number of interprovincial trucking companies.

In recent years, Donald has done extensive work in the field of Administrative Law including a variety of appearances before various statutory boards and tribunals in the province of Alberta and elsewhere. He has provided legal advice on environmental and land use matters to a variety of individual and corporations.

He has also appeared as counsel for the Minister of the Environment in Alberta in a number of applications in the nature of Judicial Review before the Court of Queen's Bench and the Alberta Court of Appeal. In this regard, he has participated in a series of cases which have successfully established a very high standard of review for ministerial decisions under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*.

His practice also includes a wide range of civil litigation matters including a variety of complex environmental litigation matters for large

- Employment
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Regulatory and Administrative Law
- Product Liability, Mass Torts and Product Stewardship

English

self-insured multinational corporations, product liability defence work and arson and fire investigation litigation in the province of Alberta and in the Northwest Territories.

Donald has particular interest in and considerable experience with pre-trial and emergent injunctive relief matters acting for both applicants and respondents.

In 2020, Donald was appointed Queen's Counsel (Q.C.), an honorary designation conferred on members of the legal profession to recognize their distinguished legal service and expertise in a particular area of law.

## LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- English

## CREDENTIALS

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### Admissions

- Alberta, 1988

### Recognitions

- Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers in Canada* (Administrative and Public Law: Edmonton), 2022
- *Best Lawyers in Canada* (Administrative and Public Law), 2020-2022; (Alternative and Public Law), 2020-2021; (Corporate and Commercial Litigation), 2020-2022; (Alternative and Dispute Resolution), 2022
- Martindale-Hubbell, Distinguished® Peer Review Rated

### Education

- LL.B., University of Alberta, 1987
- B.A., University of Alberta, 1980

### Community Involvement

- Coached various levels of youth soccer for 11 years
- Coached various levels of youth hockey for 5 years
- Coached various levels of youth basketball for 6 years
- Previously served as secretary/treasurer, Edmonton Handball League
- Previously served as floor hockey coordinator, Alberta Special Olympics

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### Mandatory vaccinations in Alberta?

17 September 2021

Canadian Employment Law Updates - COVID-19

The Government of Alberta declared a state of Public Health Emergency on September 15, 2021, and announced new directives to combat the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. While the Government of Alberta did not impose mandatory vaccinations, certain businesses and indoor gatherings are affected by the new directives.

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## Events

### Previous

#### **White Collar Crime, Investigations and Compliance Symposium**

5 October 2021  
Webinar

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#### **Corporate Fraud, Corruption and Cyber Risks: Current Trends and Practical Strategies**

16 December 2020  
Webinar

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## NEWS

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#### **DLA Piper (Canada) LLP recognized in the 2022 *Best Lawyers in Canada* guide**

26 August 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is thrilled to see 84 of our lawyers across 35 practice areas recognized in the 2022 *Best Lawyers in Canada* guide.

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#### **DLA Piper Canada increases rankings in 2021 edition of *Best Lawyers in Canada***

28 AUG 2020

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is pleased to see 79 of our lawyers across 35 practice areas recognized in the 2021 *Best Lawyers in Canada* guide, resulting in our best showing with the guide since its inception.

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#### **Three DLA Piper Canada lawyers appointed Queen's Counsel in Alberta**

5 MAR 2020

Congratulations to Jennifer Cleall, Karen Fellowes and Donald Wilson, three of a select group of lawyers to receive the important designation of Queen's Counsel (Q.C.) in Alberta in 2020.

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