



The Law Society of
Upper Canada | Barreau
du Haut-Canada



7TH ANNUAL Business Law Summit

Biographical Summaries for Program Faculty

[In Alphabetical Order]



Jeffrey Alpert

Jeffrey is a partner in the Banking & Financial Services Law Group at Torkin Manes LLP. He acts for banks and other lenders, and for borrowers in commercial loan transactions secured by real estate and personal property. He has extensive expertise in asset-based lending and factoring, including receivables purchase financing. His practice also includes corporate and business law.

Jeffrey has been a director and officer of the *Canadian Business Law Journal* for over 25 years and has contributed various articles to the Journal.

Jennifer E. Babe, *Miller Thomson LLP*

Phone: (416) 595-8555 • Fax: (416) 595-8695

E-mail: jbabe@millerthomson.com

Practice emphasizes commercial law, focusing on secured transactions, the securing of sales and leases of equipment and vehicles, both wholesale and retail, and purchases of businesses. Focuses on issues for retail finance including consumer protection, privacy, and Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation. Acts for borrowers and lenders in marginal situations and with respect to exercising their rights in insolvencies or customer default. Special expertise in laws of personal property federally and provincially, and has written and lectured frequently on this subject.

She is listed in the 2008 to 2017 editions of the Lexpert Directory of the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada. Author *Sale of a Business*, co-author *Creditors' Remedies in Ontario*, and other publications. Member Business Law Advisory Council of the Government of Ontario. Regent of American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers. Past chair Business Sections of CBA and OBA, and the Commercial Law Strategy Committee of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada. Received the Law Society Medal in 2016.



Terry G. Barnett, Thorsteinssons LLP

tbarnett@thor.ca

Tel: (647) 729-0400

Terry Barnett is a partner in the GST/HST and Commodity Tax group at Thorsteinssons LLP, Canada's largest law firm specializing in Taxation. Born in Victoria, Terry graduated from the University of Toronto law school in 1987, and is a member of the bars of both Ontario and British Columbia.

Terry's practice focuses on the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST), Goods and Services Tax (GST), Provincial Sales Tax, customs law, land transfer taxes and all other Canadian indirect taxes. Terry has practiced in the GST area since the inception of the tax in 1991. Areas of particular experience include real estate development, telecommunications, financial services, cross-border transactions, health care and medical practitioners, First Nations, and charities/non-profits. Terry works extensively in the area of GST/HST appeals and representation.

In 2008 Terry was awarded the Normand Gu erin Award of the CICA, jointly with Jonathan Spencer, for "an outstanding contribution to the advancement of commodity tax studies". He has been recognized as a leading lawyer for GST/HST and commodity tax in the Lexpert "American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada" and the Lexpert "Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Corporate Lawyers in Canada".

Terry writes and speaks extensively on GST/HST and sales tax matters. The following is a sample of his recent presentations and publications:

VAT Worldwide – International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation – author of Canada chapter

Real Estate Transactions – Harmonized Sales Tax Issues – Federated Press, Toronto, (2014)

BC's transition from HST to PST: Surprises and Traps, Canadian Tax Foundation, (2013)

The Dirt on Residential Real Estate – CICA National Commodity Tax Symposium, (2011)

HST for the Non-Specialist (Real Estate) – Canadian Tax Foundation (2010)

HST for your Practice – CLE-TV – CLE Society of BC (2010)

Sales Tax Harmonization, Canadian Tax Foundation, (2009)



Victoria Crewe-Nelson joined the Lawyers' Professional Indemnity Company (LAWPRO) in 2012 as Assistant Vice-President, Underwriting. Victoria was called to the Ontario bar in 2003 and during the course of her practice had the opportunity to work in a number of practice areas, including corporate/commercial, litigation, estates and trusts, real estate, and admiralty law.

Victoria obtained her degrees (B.A., LL.B.) through her studies at the universities of Toronto, Ottawa and Edinburgh. A past instructor with the bar admission course, Victoria has been published on topics such as professional liability, the *Limitations Act*, class actions, family law, and parental responsibility. As an underwriter for LAWPRO, Victoria focuses on law firm risk management, understanding the ways in which lawyers practise and emerging threats faced by lawyers, clients and the insurance industry.

Victoria lives in Toronto with her husband and two children. She has been involved with various non-profits, and is currently the president of the Edinburgh University Club of Toronto.

LAWPRO is a wholly Canadian-owned insurance company providing professional liability insurance and title insurance in numerous jurisdictions across Canada. The primary malpractice insurance program currently insures about 25,000 practising lawyers, as well as providing them with risk and practice management programs to assist them in their law practices.



Practice Areas:

- Intellectual Property
- e-Commerce & Digital Media
- Trademarks
- IP Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Advertising and Marketing
- Technology

Education and Qualifications:

The Osgood Certificate in Entertainment Law, 2016

Called to Ontario Bar 2007

York University, Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.B., 2006

University of Toronto, University College, B.A. (Hons.) 2002

Professional Designations:

Certified Specialist - Trademarks Law, Law Society of Upper Canada, 2015

Trademark Agent

Recognized as a Trademark Agent by the USPTO

Name: Ashlee Froese
Position: Partner
Direct Line: 416 840 0665
Email: afroese@foglers.com

Ashlee is a Partner at Fogler Rubinoff LLP and practices trade-marks, copyright, social media, domain name, marketing/advertising and packaging/labelling laws. She is recognized by the Law Society of Upper Canada as a Certified Specialist in Trademarks Law. As a lawyer and trade-mark agent, Ashlee manages, enforces, commercializes and protects clients' brands domestically and internationally. She also creates strategies for the planning and execution of brand protection strategies. Ashlee manages global trade-mark portfolios to ensure a cohesive international brand. Ashlee also assists in negotiating and drafting commercial agreements associated with the manufacture, distribution and sale of branded products and services.

Ashlee has a keen interest in assisting fashion designers protect their creative ingenuity and owns and operates the website www.canadafashionlaw.com, which examines the business and laws affecting the fashion industry from a Canadian perspective. Ashlee is co-chair of Fashion Group International, a mentor with Toronto Fashion Incubator and CAFA and an advisor of Ryerson University's Fashion Zone.

Ashlee is an active member of the intellectual property law community and is a member of several committees with the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada and International Trade-marks Association. Ashlee is Past Chair of the Toronto Intellectual Property Group.

Ashlee is a frequent guest speaker and published author on branding and fashion law. She has lectured at law schools, universities, cultural institutions, law societies and industry associations throughout North America. She has also been published in numerous magazines, academic publications and is a contributing author to a nationally published book. Ashlee frequently provides her commentary to the media on leading fashion law matters. In December 2015, Ashlee challenged the Ontario government to deem fashion as part of arts and culture.

Industry Associations:

- *Past Chair and Executive Member*, Toronto Intellectual Property Group
- *Committee Member; Non-Traditional Trademarks*, International Trademarks Association
- *Committee Member, International Trademarks and Domain Names Committee*, Intellectual Property Institute of Canada
- *Founder*, Fashion Advocacy Council
- *Co-Chair and Board Member*, Fashion Group International
- *Advisor*, The Fashion Zone at Ryerson University
- *Mentor*, Canadian Arts & Fashion Awards
- *Mentor*, Toronto Fashion Incubator
- *Committee Member, Brand Strategy Council*, Canadian Marketing Association



TREVOR HOOD, CPA, CA, CBV, CFF - BIO

CURRENT POSITIONS

- ❖ Partner, SB Partners LLP Chartered Professional Accountants
- ❖ President, SB Partners Valuations Ltd.

QUALIFICATIONS

- ❖ Certified in Financial Forensics, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, 2015
- ❖ Chartered Professional Accountant, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, 2012
- ❖ Level I Collaborative Family Law Training Course, 2005
- ❖ Chartered Business Valuator, Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators, 2003
- ❖ Chartered Accountant, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, 1998
- ❖ Master of Accounting, University of Waterloo, 1997
- ❖ Bachelor of Mathematics (Honours Chartered Accountancy Option), University of Waterloo, 1997

SUMMARY

Clients come to me for a variety of reasons. They need valuation assistance from a litigation perspective or are looking to buy or sell a company. Litigators and their clients need a valuator they can both relate to and depend on. They appreciate that I can take a step back and analyze practically what they need.

CHRISTINA C. KOBI

B.Sc. (Hons.), LLB.

Minden Gross ^{LLP}

Tel: (416) 369.4154

Fax: (416) 864.9223

Email: ckobi@mindengross.com



Christina Kobi is a **Partner** in the Commercial Leasing Group at Minden Gross LLP.

Christina has been selected by her peers for inclusion in the 11th Edition of *The Best Lawyers in Canada*® 2017 in the practice area of Commercial Leasing Law, and for many years she has been recognized in *The Canadian Legal Lexpert*® *Directory* as a leading practitioner in Property Leasing. As well, she was the recipient of the **2014 Lexpert ZENITH Award** (Property Leasing) which recognizes excellence and leadership in setting new standards for the legal profession.

Christina acts as counsel to landlords, tenants, developers, property managers, franchisors and franchisees and tenancy dispute matters. She has expertise in sophisticated and volume leasing for major developers, international retail clients and national property managers. Her practice also includes coordinating large-scale due diligence projects on the acquisition of real estate.

Christina was co-chair of the ICSC Canadian Shopping Centre Law Conferences in 2010 and 2011 and served on the leadership for CREW Network Foundation -- the philanthropic arm of CREW Network (Commercial Real Estate Women). It is the only foundation in North America which dedicates its resources solely towards advancing women in the commercial real estate industry.

Christina is active as a lecturer and roundtable leader at conferences sponsored by the ICSC, CBA and LSUC.

Admitted to the Ontario Bar in 1997.

Mara L. Nickerson

OSLER



Chief Knowledge Officer
Toronto

416.862.4727
mnickerson@osler.com

Education

LLB/MBA Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia
B. Comm Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB

Mara Nickerson is the Chief Knowledge Officer at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP. As CKO Mara has responsibility for ensuring that Osler legal professionals have access to the information, resources and learning that will enable them to work efficiently, provide valued client service and share knowledge and expertise. In this capacity Mara has responsibility for knowledge management, professional development, the library, conflicts, new filing opening and records management. Mara is also one of the senior admin team responsible for the Firm's Practice Management and Innovation initiative which has developed the Firm's approach to legal project management and legal process improvement.

Professional Affiliations

- Law Society of Upper Canada
- Knowledge Management Group for the International Legal Technology Association
- Professional Development Consortium

Natasha Smith, Miller Thomson LLP

Associate | Toronto

[416.595.8552](tel:416.595.8552)

nsmith@millerthomson.com



Natasha Smith is a member of the Social Impact Group, with a practice dedicated to providing practical legal advice to charities and non-profits, exclusively. In an effort to ensure that these organizations achieve their missions and mandates successfully, Natasha assists these entities with a variety of matters including corporate governance and tax compliance.

Natasha's practice focuses on helping her clients to determine the best structure for their organization and to navigate the complex regulatory environment in which they operate. Specifically, she provides tailored advice on various issues including incorporation and charitable registration, operating in foreign jurisdictions, structuring complex gift agreements, reporting, and general compliance under legislation governing the voluntary sector. Natasha has experience structuring merger and asset-transfer transactions between non-share capital corporations, advising on social enterprise and social finance ventures, and facilitating corporate re-organizations.

Natasha received her Juris Doctorate from the University of Windsor, where she was actively involved in the city's legal community. Natasha served as a project supervisor for Pro Bono Students Canada where she led a team of students in providing not-for-profit entities with assistance in their corporate governance needs.

Prior to commencing her law degree, Natasha received a B.A. in communications from the University of Calgary.

Bio for Sara Supple

Sara Supple is Legal Counsel for Payments Canada. Since joining Payments Canada in 2010, Sara has provided legal advice and analysis on day-to-day operations, By-laws and Rules, and projects and initiatives ranging from cheque imaging to ISO 20022. Sara graduated from Carleton University (B.A. High Honours) before attending law school at Queen's University. After completing her articles at the Ottawa Police Service, she was called to the Bar in 2009. Apparently unable to stay away from school, Sara was a part-time professor at Algonquin College for several years before switching sides of the classroom to begin her MBA as a part-time student at Carleton University's Sprott School of Business in 2016. Connect with her on LinkedIn ([linkedin.com/in/SaraSupple](https://www.linkedin.com/in/SaraSupple)) or Twitter ([@SaraSupple](https://twitter.com/SaraSupple)).



JOYCE M.D. THOMAS

Business Law

ASSOCIATE



Direct Phone: 519.640.6370
Direct Fax: 519.932.3370
Email: jthomas@lerners.ca
Website: www.lerners.ca

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- ◆ Associate Lawyer, Lerners LLP (2014-present)
- ◆ Associate Lawyer, Polishuk Camman & Steele (2010-2014)
- ◆ Associate Lawyer, Judith Hull & Associates (2010)
- ◆ Articling Student, Judith Hull & Associates (2009-2010)
- ◆ Student Supervisor and Associate Caseworker, Community Legal Services (2006-2009)

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- ◆ Aboriginal Law
- ◆ Contract Negotiations
- ◆ Employment Law
- ◆ Human Rights Law
- ◆ Labour Law
- ◆ Commercial Tenancy Law
- ◆ Social Media Law
- ◆ Workplace Investigation Reports and Rebuttals

NOTEWORTHY CASES

- ◆ *Mastronardi Produce Limited v. Veillon*, 2015 ONSC 2983. Interlocutory Injunction – non-competition and non-solicitation clauses in employment agreements.

ACHIEVEMENTS

LERNERS
LAWYERS

Direct Phone: 519.640.6370
Direct Fax: 519.932.3370

Email: jthomas@lerners.ca
Website: www.lerners.ca

Joyce M.D. Thomas /
Business Law

Box 2335 London, ON N6A 4G4

- ◆ London District Chief's Council, Honoured Youth, 2010 Elders & Youth Gathering (2010)
- ◆ Genest, Murray Award for outstanding advocacy (2009)
- ◆ Southwestern Secretariat: Aboriginal Academic Achievement Award (2003-2005, 2008)
- ◆ Southwestern Secretariat: Graduation Scholarship (2006)
- ◆ Foundation for the Advancement of Aboriginal Youth: Academic Scholarship Award (2002)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ Panelist, "Privacy Law Update - Practical Tips for your Business & Insights from Recent Cases", FEI Canada SWO, March 8, 2017
- ◆ Speaker, First Nation Employment Law Issues, The Law Society of Upper Canada, Indigenous Law Issues Program (2015)
- ◆ Chair and speaker, Building Your Law Firm's HR Toolkit, Ontario Bar Association Institute (2014)
- ◆ Chair and speaker, The Life Cycle of a Law Practice, Ontario Bar Association Institute (2014)
- ◆ Speaker: Don't go breaking the law: Workplace Policies and Procedures for the Law Firm, Ontario Bar Association Continuing Legal Education Series (2013)
- ◆ Chair, Sole, Small Firm and General Practice Breakfast Seminar, Ontario Bar Association Institute (2013)
- ◆ Co-author, Remedies for Bullying & Harassment [Legal Update: Bill 168], 20th Annual Ontario Police Association Conference (2011)

MEMBERSHIPS

- ◆ Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers
- ◆ International Centre for Dispute Resolution Young & International
- ◆ Canadian Bar Association
- ◆ Indigenous Bar Association
- ◆ Middlesex Law Association
- ◆ Ontario Bar Association
- ◆ Southwest Region Women's Law Association

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ◆ Volunteer Lawyer, Ontario Justice Education Network (2013-present)
- ◆ Reviewing Lawyer, Litigation Practice at University of Western Ontario (2011-present)
- ◆ Lawyer Supervisor, Pro Bono Students Canada (2011-present)
- ◆ Executive Member, Ontario Bar Association (2010-present)
- ◆ Coach, University of Western Ontario- Ontario Trial Lawyers Association Team (2010-present)
- ◆ Board of Directors, Orchestra London (2009-present)

LERNERS
LAWYERS

Direct Phone: 519.640.6370

Email: jthomas@lernalers.ca

Direct Fax: 519.932.3370

Website: www.lernalers.ca

Joyce M.D. Thomas /
Business Law

Box 2335 London, ON N6A 4G4

EDUCATION

- ◆ Admitted to Ontario Bar (2010)
- ◆ Juris Doctor, University of Western Ontario (2009)
- ◆ Philosophy Degree, Honours, University of Western Ontario (2006)

LERNERS
LAWYERS

Direct Phone: 519.640.6370

Direct Fax: 519.932.3370

Email: jthomas@lernalers.ca

Website: www.lernalers.ca

Joyce M.D. Thomas /
Business Law

Box 2335 London, ON N6A 4G4



Peter Viitre

Peter is a partner in the corporate and commercial department of Sotos LLP. He practices in the area of business law with a particular focus on franchise law and mergers and acquisitions. For over 20 years, Peter has served as an advisor to clients spanning a wide range of industries including food and beverage, home and property services, automobile, shipping, gasoline, financial advisory, and business services. He provides advice on matters relating to the preparation of franchise agreements and disclosure documents, regulatory compliance, fair dealing and franchisee relations, supply arrangements, advertising programs and funds, as well as dispute resolution, enforcement and termination.

Peter also regularly advises business owners and investors on the investigation, structuring, negotiation, and execution of purchase and sale transactions and has played a leading role in deals involving companies in the franchise, general retail, consumer credit, information technology, natural resource, and sports and entertainment industries on both a national and international level.

A regular speaker on franchise issues at various industry events and symposiums, Peter is the Vice-Chair of the Ontario Bar Association Franchise Law Section and a member of the American Bar Association Forum on Franchising as well as the Canadian Franchise Association. He has been recognized as Best Lawyers “Lawyer of the Year” Franchise Law (2015, Toronto) and is listed in Chambers Canada 2016 and International Who's Who of Franchise Lawyers 2016 as a leading franchise law practitioner.

In March 2016, Peter was appointed as a member of the Ontario Government's Business Law Advisory Council, whose mandate is to recommend changes to the province's corporate and commercial laws to strengthen Ontario's competitive advantage in the global economy, solidify its position as a jurisdiction of choice for business, encourage innovation and investment, and support a responsive and flexible regulatory framework. Peter is the Chair of the Council's Franchise Law Working Group.

Al Wiens
Partner



Direct Line:
416 361 4791

awiens@wildlaw.ca

Al is a partner who practices in the areas of corporate and securities laws with an emphasis on corporate finance and mergers & acquisitions, as well as securities regulatory compliance matters.

Al regularly advises public and private issuers, activist shareholders, directors and officers, chairpersons of contested meetings, and special committees of an issuer's board of directors on the legal and strategic aspects of special transactions, shareholder disputes and the proxy solicitation process.

Al is an adjunct professor at Osgoode Hall Law School, where has taught Commercial law, Corporate Finance and Securities Regulation. He regularly speaks at conferences and seminars on a variety of topics within his practice areas. He has completed the Osgoode Certificate in Mining Law program at Osgoode Hall Law School (2013). Al articulated in the legal department at Ontario Power Generation, later joining the corporate finance department. Al joined the firm in 2003.

While a student at Western Law, Al was awarded a number of academic awards, including the Dean Ivan C. Rand Honour Society Award, the Mary Warner Prize in Human Rights Law and the Criminal Lawyers' Association Prize in Criminal Law.

Prior to entering law school, Al worked for a number of years in the Ontario electrical industry.

Education

LL.B. (With Distinction), University of Western Ontario 2001
B.A., University of Toronto 1987

Professional Affiliations:

Law Society of Upper Canada

Matthew Wiens (Director of Corporate Pro Bono Programs, Pro Bono Ontario)

- Matthew is the Director of Corporate Pro Bono Programs at PBO, where he designs and implements charitable projects that improve access to justice. As Director of Corporate Pro Bono Projects his responsibilities include managing, promoting and providing strategic and legal oversight to a suite of projects and brokering partnerships between community groups, government agencies, law firms and in-house legal departments. This includes creating the first province wide transactional legal clinic providing summary advice to over 1000 start-ups, small businesses and entrepreneurs in the first year.
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