



Bruce Lawrence

Senior Counsel

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[Capital Markets](#)
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Bruce has nearly four decades of experience advising clients on corporate/commercial matters, working closely with clients involved in the natural resources sector.

He advises natural resources clients in various corporate and securities transactions, such as:

- public and private financings
- mergers
- acquisitions
- take-over bids
- plans of arrangement

Bruce is also involved in oil sands and off-shore oil and gas development.

In addition to his work in the natural resource sector, Bruce offers advice in all issues surrounding franchising.

Bruce is the former Regional Chair of BLG's Oil and Gas Group.

Experience

- Optiom Inc., in its sale of a majority interest to private equity firm Novacap Investments, Inc.
- Public offerings of all types including IPOs and Secondary Offerings involving trust units, common shares, preferred shares, exchangeable shares, warrants, limited partnership units, debt securities and other securities.
- Mergers, acquisitions and take-over bids (friendly and hostile) involving private and public companies.

- Plans of arrangement including conventional take-over bids, mergers, public newco spin-outs and cross-border take-over bids utilizing exchangeable shares.
- Significant number of private placements in all provinces of Canada and in the United States.
- Counsel on all aspects of corporate governance, including the creation of internal policies regarding whistle blowing reserve committees, audit committees and insider trading, as well as acting as counsel to special and independent committees.
- Day-to-day corporate activities, including stock-option plan preparation and grants, board meeting attendances and counsel, and contract review and drafting.
- All aspects of conventional and frontier oil & gas operations (ranging from routine lease acquisitions and interpretations, area acquisitions and dispositions, to facilities construction, ownership and operation agreement negotiation and finalization).
- Counsel on various oil sands initiatives (including acquisitions, ownership and management, as well as negotiating and finalizing supply, transportation and sales contracts of bitumen and refined products, and operational contracts involving the construction, ownership and operation of mining and refining co-generation facilities).
- Sale and licensing of both on and off-shore seismic data and seismic companies.
- Advisor on all aspects of franchise operations including management, financing and the preparation and review of franchise offering documents and agreements.
- Purchase and sale of hard-rock mining interests and companies.

Insights & Events

- Author, "Alberta infrastructure: A positive outlook for P3s in Alberta", BLG Article, May 2024
- Author, "Challenge of regulatory decision was res judicata", BLG Article, May 2024
- Author, "ESG-related investment fund disclosure in 2024: "Walk your talk"", BLG Article, May 2024
- Author, "Proposed Amendments to the Impact Assessment Act in the Budget Implementation Act 2024", BLG Article, May 2024
- Author, "Banque de Montréal c. Chevrette: The Court of Appeal reverses the Superior Court's decision to grant authorization", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Martel v. Kia Canada: Clarifications on applying the legal warranty of conformity (ss. 40 to 42 CPA)", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Disclosure of investigation reports to the regulators was a waiver of privilege", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Duguay v. GM: Superior Court clarifies the plaintiff's burden of proof at the merits stage of a class action lawsuit", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Canada's 2024 Federal Budget: Update on green investment tax credits", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Everything you need to know about the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO): a dynamic resource", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "After the handshake: Good faith obligations in pre-contractual M&A agreements", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "Public interest immunity does not shield briefing on energy policy", BLG Article, April 2024
- Author, "New draft VOC regulations in Canada: Same old constitutional battles? ", BLG Article, March 2024
- Author, "Canada's path to net zero: The latest on clean electricity regulations and oil & gas emissions", BLG Article, March 2024
- Author, "Updated guidance on preparing a modern slavery report in Canada", BLG Article, March 2024

- Author, "Canadian Securities Administrators release updated guidance on virtual shareholder meetings", BLG Article, March 2024
- Author, "New Alberta renewable energy policy prioritizes agriculture, views, reclamation", BLG Article, March 2024
- Author, "Alberta Court confirms that legislative bodies can shield administrative decisions", BLG Article, February 2024
- Author, "Do Canada's modern slavery reporting requirements impact investment managers?", BLG Article, February 2024
- Author, "Deadline for Green Investment Tax Credit submissions fast approaching", BLG Article, January 2024
- The future of Canadian energy: A review of 2023's top energy issues and what to expect in 2024, BLG Perspective, January 2024
- Author, "Is the printed prospectus dead? CSA to implement access model for non-investment fund prospectuses", BLG Article, January 2024
- Author, "Perspectives on First Nations issues and Canadian energy projects", BLG Article, January 2024
- Author, "The Registration Rules Book", BLG Article, January 2024
- Author, "Board diversity, executive compensation key ISS policy updates for 2024", BLG Article, December 2023

Beyond our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association (CBA); former Chair, CBA Securities Subsection, Southern Alberta Branch
- Former Member, Securities Advisory Committee, Province of Alberta
- Member, numerous Boards of Directors (public and private) and Audit, Compensation and Reserves Committees

Community Involvement

- Member, Western Showcase Committee, Calgary Exhibition and Stampede
- Former Director, Glenbow Museum Acquisitions Society

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2024 edition of *The Best Lawyers in Canada*® (Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Natural Resources Law, Securities Law), in the 2022 edition (and since 2017) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada*® (Oil & Gas Law), in the 2022 edition (and since 2021) (Corporate Law, Natural Resources Law) and in the 2022 edition (Mergers and Acquisitions Law).
- Recognized in the 2023 (and since 2021) edition of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert*® *Directory* (Corporate Finance & Securities) and since 2015 (Corporate Mid-Market).
- Recognized in the 2022 edition of *Lexpert Special Edition: Finance and M&A*
- Recognized in the 2020 edition (and since 2014) of the *Lexpert Global Mining Special Edition – Canada's Leading Lawyers in Global Mining*
- Recognized in the 2023 edition (and since 2014) of the *Lexpert*®/*ROB Special Edition – Canada's Leading Energy Lawyers*.

- Recognized in the 2021 edition of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory* (Corporate Finance & Securities) and since 2015 (Corporate Mid-Market).
- Recognized as a 2019 Acritas Star.
- Martindale-Hubbell® BV® Distinguished™ 4.4 out of 5 Peer Review Rated.

Bar Admission & Education

- Alberta, 1983
- LLB, University of Alberta, 1982
- B.Comm., University of Calgary, 1979

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As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 725 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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