



Sean Sutherland

Partner, Disputes

.....
Calgary

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Bar Admission: Alberta, 2014 | British Columbia, 2017 |
Northwest Territories, 2024

Areas of Expertise

Tax Disputes

Tax Litigation

Government and Public Sector

Power and Utilities

Energy

Mining and Natural Resources

Retail and Consumer Products

Environmental

Indigenous

Disputes

Environmental Disputes and

Enforcement

Regulatory, Indigenous and

Environmental

Corporate and Securities Disputes

Domestic and International

Arbitration

Corporate and Commercial Disputes

Sean's national litigation practice focuses on business-critical disputes. He acts for corporate clients in complex oil and gas litigation, environmental matters, regulatory investigations, class action defence and product liability actions.

Additionally, Sean has considerable experience representing major resource project proponents, corporate taxpayers, regulated industries and government in constitutional challenges, appeals and judicial review of ministerial and tribunal decisions. These cases often involve stay or injunction applications, the duty to consult Indigenous peoples, and novel legal issues.

Sean regularly appears in courts across Canada, including the Supreme Court of Canada, the Alberta Court of Appeal, the Federal Court of Appeal, the British Columbia Court of Appeal, the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench, the British Columbia Supreme Court and the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench.

In addition to his corporate and commercial practice, Sean is active in pro bono, public interest advocacy.

When not in court, Sean works with clients proactively to identify and mitigate risks to their business.

Sean clerked at the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench and has otherwise spent his entire legal career at Osler, joining as a summer student in 2011.

Sean is Co-Chair of the Canadian Bar Association Alberta Aboriginal Law South Executive.

Awards and Recognition

- **Chambers Canada: Canada’s Leading Lawyers for Business:** Recognized in Aboriginal Law
- **Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory:** Recognized in Aboriginal Law
- **Best Lawyers:** Recognized as “One to Watch” in Aboriginal Law
- Law Foundation/David Strong Leadership in Legal Studies Award
- Professor Jim Ellis Memorial Prize in International Law
- Jim Ellis International Law Mooting Award
- Arthur Close, QC Prize in Advanced Legal Research

Community Involvement

Sean maintains an active pro bono and community law practice with an emphasis on appellate litigation, including:

- Successfully representing the Appellant at the **Supreme Court of Canada** in *Pintea v. Johns*, 2017 SCC 23
- Representing an Intervenor at the **Supreme Court of Canada** in *Frank v. Canada (Attorney General)*, 2019 SCC 1
- Working with counsel for the Intervenor Canadian Civil Liberties Association at the **Court of Appeal of Alberta** in *Pridgen v. University of Calgary*, 2012 ABCA 139

Credentials

Education

- University of Victoria, J.D.
- University of Calgary, B.A. (Political Science) (with Distinction)

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Languages

- English
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Professional Affiliations

- Law Society of Alberta
- Law Society of British Columbia
- Canadian Bar Association
- Canadian Bar Association Alberta Aboriginal Law, South Executive, Co-Chair
- Calgary Bar Association
- The Advocates' Society
- Young Canadian Arbitration Practitioners
- Law Society of the Northwest Territories