Isaac Tang

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Municipal & Land Use Planning
Public Policy & Government Relations
Expropriation
Land Use Planning
Municipal Law

Isaac practices exclusively in the areas of administrative law and civil litigation.

Isaac represents municipalities, public agencies and private landowners on a broad range of land-related litigation matters, including land-use planning appeals, expropriations and ground lease arbitrations.

He provides strategic planning and municipal law advice on issues including transit-oriented development, growth management and natural heritage, and regularly defends his clients' interests before the Ontario Land Tribunal and in court. Isaac has successfully secured or opposed complex planning approvals for a range of public- and private-sector clients, including hospitals, transit authorities, school boards, pension funds, developers, businesses and individual homeowners.

Isaac is a former Executive Member of the Ontario Bar Association (Municipal Law Section) and a guest lecturer for the Community Planning course at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He is a frequent contributor on municipal and planning law matters including inclusionary zoning, community benefits charges and affordable housing.

Experience

- Representing public sector clients in planning policy and land use development matters, including defending both upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities from numerous appeals to their official plan reviews and publicly-initiated official plan amendments.

- Representing public and private sector clients in obtaining planning approvals, from the initial submission of development applications and negotiations with municipal staff to preparing for mediations and hearings before the Ontario Land Tribunal.
- Representing expropriating authorities and private landowners in land acquisition disputes before the Ontario Land Tribunal in litigation and mediation proceedings.
- Representing municipalities in civil litigation matters involving real estate and development disputes, including class action proceedings and applications under the Municipal Act, 2001.
- Acting as counsel in various proceedings before the Ontario Land Tribunal, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Divisional Court involving land use development, land acquisition and building permit disputes.

Insights & Events

- Author, "Ontario introduces Bill 17 to build homes, communities and transit infrastructure faster", BLG Article, May 2025
- Author, "Strong mayor powers and duties are widely expanded in Ontario", BLG Article, May 2025
- Author, "Re-writing Ontario's planning policies – proposed Provincial Planning Statement 2023 and Bill 97", BLG Article, April 2023
- Author, "Bill 23 in Ontario: the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 receives Royal Assent", BLG Article, December 2022
- Author, "Re-imagining how planning and development works in Ontario: the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022", BLG Article, October 2022
- Author, "Significant expansion to the law of "constructive takings": Annapolis Group Inc v Halifax Regional Municipality", BLG Article, October 2022
- Author, "Inclusionary Zoning Framework approved in Toronto", BLG Article, November 2021
- Author, "Modernizing the Expropriation Framework: A Year of Change", BLG Article, May 2021
- Author, "Inclusionary zoning, affordable rents up for consultation in Toronto", BLG Article, October 2020
- Author, "Ontario's Building Transit Faster Act: New Mechanisms Aim to Speed Up Priority Transit Projects", BLG Article, February 2020
- Author, "Does Bill 108 Mean a Return to the Old OMB Process?", BLG Article, May 2019
- Author, "Fundamental Changes to Ontario's Planning Regime Proposed by Bill 108", BLG Article, May 2019
- Author, "Why Ontario's new Growth Plan could be good news for builders", Ontario Home Builders' Association Magazine, May 2019
- Co-author, "Dealing with Unrepresented Litigants," Ontario Bar Association Municipal Law Professionalism Program, December 2017
- Presenter, "Provincially Significant Employment Zones: What is Significant and What is Not?", Law Society of Ontario's Six-Minute Municipal Lawyer, May 2019
- Co-Author and Presenter, "Pleadings, Practice and Procedural Fairness in the Post-Bill 139 World," Ontario Bar Association Institute 2019, February 2019
- Presenter, "What's Up with LPAT?," Ontario Expropriation Association Fall Conference, October 2018
- Author, "Managing Costs and Interest in Expropriations: The Shergar Story," Law Society of Ontario's Six-Minute Municipal Lawyer, May 2018
- Author, "Bill 139 Update: Major Changes to the Planning Act Come into Force on April 3, 2018", BLG Article, March 2018
- Co-chair, "A New Era in Municipal and Planning Law," Ontario Bar Association Institute 2018, February 2018

- Author, "Province Releases Bill 139 Regulations For Transition From The OMB To The New Local Planning Appeal Tribunal", BLG Article, December 2017
- Author, "The Overhaul Of The OMB", BLG Article, May 2017
- Co-author, “The Ins and Outs of Inclusionary Zoning,” Ontario Bar Association Institute 2017, February 2017
- Author, "Ontario Passes New Legislation to Allow Municipalities to Introduce Inclusionary Zoning", BLG Article, December 2016
- Author, "Province Releases Public Consultation Document For OMB Review", BLG Article, October 2016

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Former Executive Member, Ontario Bar Association, Municipal Law Section
- Member, Ontario Expropriation Association
- Member, Urban Land Institute
- Participant, ULI Urban Leadership Program

Community Involvement

- Guest Lecturer, University of Toronto Faculty of Law (Community Planning: Problems in Urban Policy and Land Use Regulation seminar)

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2021) of *The Best Lawyers in Canada* (Municipal Law and Expropriation Law)
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2023) of *Chambers Canada* (Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use: Ontario)
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2023) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Property Development)
- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2022) of *Benchmark Litigation Canada* as a "Future Star"
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2023) of *Benchmark Litigation Canada's* “40 & Under Hot List”
- Recognized in the 2023 edition of *Lexpert Rising Stars*

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2011

- JD, University of Toronto, 2010
- BSc, Queen's University, 2007

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