

Rick Da Costa

Partner and National Leader, Corporate and Regulatory Insurance & Reinsurance

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Banking & Financial Services
Banking
Financial Services Regulatory

Rick Da Costa is a globally minded insurance and reinsurance lawyer who uses law as a tool to solve business issues. Rick was the first to successfully re-domesticate a captive insurance company to the Province of Alberta under its captive insurance legislation, spearheaded the change in regulation that now allows Alberta captives to insure third party risks, and continues to be a heavily active leader in Alberta's development of a captive insurance “hub" and resultant captive ecosystem. Rick helps to structure and create new captives, re-domesticate existing captives, and supports captive insurance managers.

As a trusted advisor, Rick provides practical legal and business solutions to clients from insurance, reinsurance, and captive insurance related issues. Having spent several years as a senior executive at one of the world's largest insurance groups, Rick has gained invaluable insight on the complex issues faced by senior leaders and other corporate counsel in the insurance and reinsurance industries and offers first-hand experience dealing with change management and all that comes with the rapid growth and measured contraction of an insurer's portfolio.

Rick has advised provincial regulators on their respective insurance legislation and has also advised Canada's Department of Finance with updates to Canada's insurance and banking legislation.

Insights & Events

- Author, "BC’s restricted insurance agency regime: Preparing for licensing", BLG Article, November 2026
- Author, "British Columbia Insurance Update: Insurer and Agent Licensing Exemptions for Motor Vehicle Manufacturers and Dealers", BLG Article, November 2026
- Author, "Insurance Legal Ledger: BLG’s business insurance newsletter (Spring 2026)", BLG Article, June 2026
- Author, "Online reviews, real risks: A closer look at RIBO’s guidance on online conduct", BLG Article, June 2026
- Author, "Close to a sure(ty) thing: Alberta captives may now assume certain surety risks", BLG Article, June 2026
- Author, "Insurance Legal Ledger: BLG’s business insurance newsletter (Winter 2026)", BLG Article, February 2026
- Author, "Next phase, same timeline: Insurance Council of British Columbia’s consultation on Restricted Insurance Agent Regulation", BLG Article, February 2026
- Author, "The wait is (still not) over: British Columbia introduces new restricted licence regime for incidental sales of insurance for January 2027", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "Captive insurance in Alberta: Regulatory updates you can’t afford to miss", BLG Article, December 2025
- Author, "B.C. Insurer Exemption Regulation: Amendment clarifies the scope of an exemption for manufacturers and retailers", BLG Article, October 2025
- Author, "New Ontario life and health MGA licensing framework set to launch June 1, 2026", BLG Article, May 2025
- Author, "New regulation on complaint handling in Québec’s financial sector", BLG Article, May 2025
- Author, "Upcoming changes to insurance licensing in Québec for out-of-province representatives", BLG Article, March 2025
- Author, "Steer clear of non-compliance: Alberta’s new restricted insurance licence for dealership programs", BLG Article, January 2025
- Author, "Three’s company: Alberta formalizes position on third-party risks for captives", BLG Article, December 2024
- Author, "Buckle up: Alberta's new guidelines on motor vehicle protection products and potential for captive insurance", BLG Article, November 2024

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Law Society of Alberta
- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Law Society of Ontario
- Member, Canadian Corporate Counsel Association

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized as a 'Stand-out Lawyer 2026' by *Thomson Reuters*.

- Recognized in the 2027 edition (and since 2024) of *Chambers Canada – Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* (Insurance: Transactional & Regulatory (Nationwide - Canada)).
- Recognized in the 2025 edition of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Banking - Financial Institutions Regulation).
- Recognized in the 2025 edition of *IFLR1000* (Corporate; Financial Services Regulatory).

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2010

- J.D., University of Windsor, 2009
- M.A., Carleton University, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, 2007
- B.A. (Hons), University of Western Ontario, 2004

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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 800 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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