



Bruce Lawrence

Partner

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[Capital Markets](#)
[Commercial Contracts](#)
[Energy - Oil & Gas](#)
[Mergers & Acquisitions](#)
[Health Care & Life Sciences](#)

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.

Bruce provides legal services through a Law Corporation.

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, "8 strategies for bridging the value gap between M&A buyers and sellers", BLG Article, September 2023
- Author, "Beyond oil and gas: The latest application of the Redwater super-priority", BLG Article, September 2023
- Thought Starters 2023, BLG Perspective, September 2023
- Author, "Ontario Court of Appeal upholds approval of plan of arrangement despite employee objections", BLG Article, July 2023
- Author, "CIRO Rule Consolidation Project: The journey begins", BLG Article, July 2023
- Author, "ISSB publishes global sustainability and climate change standards – Here's what you need to know", BLG Article, July 2023
- Author, "Bill S-211 (Modern Slavery) Resource Centre", BLG Article, July 2023
- Author, "Understanding the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO): A quick primer.", BLG Article, July 2023
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Trends: Why it's important and what you need to know, BLG Perspective, June 2023
- Author, "LIFE's big questions answered", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "Navigating against head winds in the life sciences capital markets", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "5 ways to ensure data protection when using AI solutions in supply chain", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "Exemptions facilitate transition to SEDAR+", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "How to price an offering on the TSX", BLG Article, May 2023

- Author, "Investment advisor liability in Canada: Common claims and recent decisions", BLG Article, April 2023
- Author, "Expansion of governance disclosure requirements on the horizon for public companies", BLG Article, April 2023
- Author, "Climate-related disclosures: The Big Three's proxy voting guidance and expectations", BLG Article, April 2023
- Author, "The Federal Budget 2023: Canada's first response to the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act", BLG Article, March 2023
- Author, "CSA publishes rules for new SEDAR+", BLG Article, March 2023
- Author, "Do you need shareholder approval for a voting agreement? TSX outlines position", BLG Article, March 2023
- Author, "Investment Canada Act aims to protect national security: How to enhance foreign M&A success", BLG Article, March 2023
- Author, "Setting up for success in the metaverse: Intellectual property considerations for businesses", BLG Article, March 2023
- Author, "Court orders Alberta's Minister of Energy to return \$20 million in unlawfully collected royalties", BLG Article, March 2023
- Author, "Alberta Budget 2023: Surplus, spending and a Spring election", BLG Article, March 2023
- Author, "Canadian securities regulators seek further input on short selling framework", BLG Article, February 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 2022 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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