



Jillian Karras

Senior Associate

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[Leasing](#)
[Real Estate Project Development](#)
[Real Estate Lending & Financing](#)
[REITs](#)

Jillian Karras practices in commercial and residential real estate law, with a focus on acquisitions/sales, commercial leasing and real estate-based financing, serving a broad variety of clients, including real property and commercial developers, commercial landlords and tenants, chartered banks, private and public corporations and institutional and private lenders.

She has a range of experience in the area, including drafting purchase and sale agreements, commercial leases and other real estate contracts. She advises on property transactions, including:

- project developments
- acquisitions, dispositions and financing of office towers
- retail spaces
- shopping centers
- industrial projects
- bare land and residential properties

Jillian also advises borrowers and commercial lending institutions regarding loans secured by real estate or personal property; representing landlords and tenants on aspects of commercial leasing of office towers, retail spaces, shopping centers and industrial projects; and advising clients on land use and regulatory issues, including development, subdivision, zoning and permitting.

Prior to joining BLG, Jillian practiced real estate law in the Vancouver and Calgary offices of a global law firm.

Experience

- Working on the largest residential development project in the history of the City of Vancouver.
- Acting for Alterra Mountain Company in its acquisition of Mike Wiegele Heli-Skiing.
- Vendors and purchasers of office buildings, industrial and commercial properties (including shopping centres) and residential properties in British Columbia and Alberta.
- Developers of mixed-use and multi-family projects in British Columbia and Alberta.
- A major office, retail and industrial tenants and landlords in lease negotiations, including a large national retail store in connection with its locations across Canada.
- The Calgary Sports and Entertainment Corporation on its construction and operation of the new Event Centre and negotiating agreements with affiliated parties.
- A worldwide charitable organization on the leasing, subleasing, licensing and development matters relating to facilities located on municipal lands.
- Alvarez & Marsal Canada Inc., as the court appointed receiver and manager of a large privately-owned real estate company (Reid Investments), on the sale of assets and combined debt of C\$250 million, including land development issues, and the sale of residential homes, office buildings and bare lands.
- A private corporation appointed to monetize assets for investors pursuant to the terms of a CCAA proceedings, on development, leasing and utilities matters.
- A publicly traded LNG company on its acquisition of an oil and gas corporate entity.

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2024 edition of *The Best Lawyers in Canada*® as “Ones to Watch” (Commercial Leasing Law, Real Estate Law) and in the 2023 edition of *The Best Lawyers in Canada*® “Ones to Watch” (Real Estate Law)

Bar Admission & Education

- British Columbia, 2016
- Alberta, 2016
- J.D., Thompson Rivers University, 2015
- International Business Certificate (Distinction), Grenoble École de Management, 2011
- B.B.A. (Hons.), Simon Fraser University, 2010



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