

Alexander J. Swabuk

Associate

Vancouver

OFFICE

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Industries & Expertise

EXPERTISE

Commercial Litigation | Estates and Trusts Litigation | Private Client Services

Biography

BAR ADMISSION

British Columbia, 2020

Ontario, 2017

EDUCATION

- STEP Canada Diploma Program Trust and Estate Practitioner (TEP) Designation Program, Ongoing
- J.D., University of Windsor Law, 2016
- B.A. (with High Distinction), Simon Fraser University, 2012

Alexander has an aptitude for structuring creative solutions that accomplish the best results for his clients. His experience in estate planning and various areas of litigation has also given him the ability to successfully navigate the multifaceted and complex nature of estate litigation files.

Alexander provides counsel on estate planning and administration, including drafting wills, trusts, and powers of attorney, as well as advising executors and trustees on complex estate and trust administration. Alexander has particular experience in matters relating to estates, trusts, and fiduciary and capacity-related proceedings. He has successfully represented individuals, institutions, and charitable organizations in this area, including in will challenges, will interpretations, dependant support applications, passing-of-account applications, and proceedings involving breach of fiduciary duty.

Alexander's insightful contributions include speaking engagements and contributions to various legal publications. His experience is evident in various legal spheres, making him a valuable asset in estate law matters.

Alexander is a member of the Canadian Bar Association, the Law Society of British Columbia, and the Law Society of Ontario. He is currently the Vice-Chair of the Wills & Trusts – Vancouver Executive and his exceptional skills in corporate and commercial litigation have earned him recognition in leading industry directories including Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch.

Industry involvement

Recognition

- *Best Lawyers in Canada: Ones to Watch* – Corporate and Commercial Litigation, 2024 – 2026; Trusts and Estates, 2025-2026

Thought leadership

Selected Publications:

- Speaker, "Canadian Elder Law Conference 2023", Vancouver, BC, The Role of the Medical Expert in an Estate Practice
- Contributor, "BCLI Undue Influence Recognition and Prevention Guide", BCLI Report No. 94, December 2022
- "Spousal Claims Against Estates: The Utility and Impact of Domestic Contracts", *Money & Family Law*, Issue 35-10, October 2020
- "Interim Support and Funding Orders: Post-Mortem Claims Made by the 'Modern Day' Spouse", *Key Developments in Estates and Trusts Law in Ontario*, 2017-2018 Edition
- "Social Media Discovery and Civil Litigation in Canada", *The Advocates' Quarterly*, Vol. 50, 2019
- "When the Courts 'Swipe left' on a Claim for Dependant Relief: Stajduhar v. Wolfe", *Money & Family Law*, Issue 33-2, 2018
- "Love and Marriage (...and death): When Family Law and Estate Litigation Collide", *Money & Family Law*, Issue 33-1, 2018

- “The Princess (and her) Bride: Predatory Marriages in Paradise”, *Money & Family Law*, Issue 32-12, 2017

Corporate directorships

- Law & Policy Liaison, Canadian Bar Association, Wills and Trusts (Vancouver) Subsection
- Student Liaison Officer (Student Rep), Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), Vancouver Branch
- Section Executive Member, Ontario Bar Association – Elder Law, 2019-2020
 - Advocating directly for older adults by engaging in consultation, legislative change, submissions, recommendations, public speaking, and professional development
- Professional Advisory Group Member, Baycrest Hospital Foundation, 2017-2020
 - Organizing initiatives to support the Baycrest Foundation and to provide resources to educate financial, legal and accounting professionals for the purpose of offering advice to their clients
- Young Lawyers Committee Member, Toronto Lawyers Association, 2018-2019
 - Organized initiatives for young lawyers to enhance their understanding of litigation principles and practices, and to network with other litigation counsel at similar stages in their careers

Memberships & affiliations

- Canadian Bar Association
- Law Society of British Columbia
- Law Society of Ontario