MILLER THOMSON

Sandra L. Hawes

Associée

Edmonton

BUREAU

780.429.9787

shawes@millerthomson.com

Secteurs et Expertises

SECTEURS

Santé | Technologies | Construction et infrastructures | Défense, sécurité et aérospatiale | Sciences de la vie | Projets majeurs | Assurances et gestion des risques

EXPERTISE

Litige en assurances | Lloyd's de Londres et assurances internationales | Litige commercial | Litige en construction | Successions et fiducies

Biographie

ADMISSION AU BARREAU

Alberta, 1997

FORMATION

- LL.B., University of Alberta, 1996
- Faculty of Arts, Department of English, University of Alberta, 1993
- B.Sc., Biological Sciences / Chemistry, University of Alberta, 1991

LANGUES

Anglais

Sandra L. Hawes KC, a civil litigation lawyer at Miller Thomson, excels in insurance, commercial and estate litigation. She focuses on insurance defence, health and life insurance, coverage opinions, professional errors & omissions and commercial claims, as well as all types of estate disputes. She represents clients in varying disputes, appearing at all levels of court and using alternative resolution methods. Sandra's commitment to legal education and training ensures her clients receive top-notch representation.

Sandra is a sought-after speaker and author on legal topics, sharing her knowledge and experience across various platforms. Her in-depth knowledge and extensive experience make her a formidable force in the legal arena, providing exceptional counsel to those she represents. Sandra is also a long time sessional lecturer teaching legal ethics at the University of Alberta Faculty of Law and sits on numerous community boards.

Actively involved in legal organizations, Sandra is a member of the Canadian Bar Association, Law Society of Alberta, International Association of Defence Counsel and DRI. Her accolades include being a finalist for the Women in Law Leadership Awards and her recognition as one of the Best Lawyers in Canada for Insurance Law and Corporate and Commercial Litigation. In addition, she was the Western Canadian Managing Partner from 2022 to 2025 and Managing Partner of the Edmonton office from 2014 to 2022.

Engagement

Reconnaissance

- *The Best Lawyers in Canada* – Insurance Law, 2017 – 2027; Corporate and Commercial Litigation, 2021 – 2027; Trusts and Estates, 2026-2027
- Finalist, Women in Law Leadership Award, 2021
- King's Counsel (appointed Queen's Counsel in 2020)

Leadership éclairé

- Speaker, "Judicial and Regulatory Decisions Across Canada," Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association, October 2021
- Co-author, "Insurance Policy Rescission Compendium," DRI Insurance Publication, 2019
- Co-author, "Rules of Lapse or Alternate Recipients in the Event of Failed Testamentary Gifts: A Review of Sections 32 and 33 of the Alberta Wills and Succession Act, January 2019
- Speaker, "Lapse and Anti-Lapse under the Wills and Succession Act," Legal Education Society of Alberta, January 2019
- Speaker, "Judicial and Regulatory Decisions Across Canada," Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association, October 2018
- Author, "The Artificial Intelligence Revolution and Reshaping of the Insurance Industry," The Lawyers Daily, August 22, 2018
- Author, "AI Revolution and the Insurance Industry," Miller Thomson Insurance Law Blog, July 2018

- Author, “Lack of Consent = No SEF 44 Coverage,” Miller Thomson Insurance Law Blog, March 2018
- Author, “Will Ontarians be Permitted to Traffic in Life Policies – Bill 162, Insurance Amendment Act (Life Settlements), 2017,” Miller Thomson Insurance Law Blog, December 2017
- Speaker, “The Business of Running a Law Practice”, Legal Education Society of Alberta, October 2017
- Author, “Mental Injury and Negligence Law – Recognized Psychiatric Illness Not Required,” Miller Thomson Insurance Law Blog, August 2017
- Author, “Litigation in the “New” Alberta – Plunging Oil Prices and More Robust Environmental Regulation Has Created the “Perfect Storm” for Increased Risk and Disputes,” February 2016
- Author, “The “Beast”, Its Cost to the Insurance Industry and the Need for Greater Risk Management,” Lloyd’s Brief: Canadian Legal Perspectives, July 2016
- Speaker, “Managing Risk in Construction,” Miller Thomson seminar Edmonton, June 2016
- Speaker, “Managing Risk in Construction,” Miller Thomson seminar Calgary, June 2016
- Speaker, “Privilege Over Adjusters Documents & Files,” Miller Thomson Insurance Seminar Series Calgary, June 2014
- Speaker, “Privilege Over Adjusters Documents & Files,” Miller Thomson Insurance Seminar Series Edmonton, June 2014
- Chair, “Advanced Advocacy Panel,” Canadian Bar Association – Alberta Law Conference, February 2013
- Speaker, “Institutional Responsibility for Preventing Sexual Abuse,” Marsh Insurance Canada, October 2012
- Negotiation Instructor and Evaluator, Bar Admission Course/CPLEDs, Legal Education Society of Alberta, 2005 – Present
- Faculty, “The New Rules of Court: A Seamless Transition,” Legal Education Society of Alberta, September 2010
- Speaker, “Judicial and Regulatory Decisions Across Canada,” Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association, September 2010
- Co-author, “Privilege Over Adjusters’ Files and Surveillance,” Alberta Civil Trial Lawyers Association, 2012
- Author, “Missed Life Premium Payment – No Relief from Forfeiture,” Canadian Journal of Insurance Law, Vol. 28, No. 4, 2010

Engagement communautaire

- Royal Alexandra Hospital Foundation – Board of Directors, 2019 – Present
- United on Whyte United Church – Chair of Trustees, 2018
- Board Member, Salvation Army Advisory Board, 2015 – Present
- Sessional Instructor at the University of Alberta, Faculty of Law teaching Professional Responsibility, 2013 – Present
- Fundraising Committee Member, St. Stephen’s College, 2015

- Fundraising Committee Member, A “Pursenal” Mission, STARS Foundation, 2012
- Board Member, Knox-Metropolitan United Church, 2005 – 2017

Associations et affiliations professionnelles

- Member, Canadian Bar Association, Insurance and Civil Litigation Sections
- Member, Law Society of Alberta
- Member, Edmonton Bar Association
- Member, Canadian Defence Lawyers
- Member, DRI
- Member, IADC International Association of Defense Counsel
- Member, Alberta Civil Trial Lawyers Association