

Sarah Fitzpatrick

Partner

Vancouver

OFFICE

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Industries & Expertise

INDUSTRIES

Charity & Not-For-Profit | Real Estate

EXPERTISE

Corporate Governance | Charities & Not-For-Profit

Biography

BAR ADMISSION

British Columbia, 2014

Ontario, 2023

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Victoria, 2013
- B.A., University of Toronto, 2008

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

English

Sarah Fitzpatrick's practice focuses on charities and not-for-profits. She offers practical advice tailored to bolster her clients' missions and mandates. Sarah assists clients with corporate governance, tax compliance,

and corporate transactions. This includes assisting charities and not-for-profits in getting established, and providing on-going advice to clients on their operations. Sarah helps clients navigate the complicated tax laws applicable to registered charities and non-profit organizations. She advises on projects that include social enterprise, mixed-income housing, foreign activities, and complex gifts. Sarah works with organizations in a number of sectors, including professional associations, health, housing, sport and foundations.

Sarah regularly presents and publishes on topics such as recent developments in regulatory compliance for charities, and not-for-profit organizations, gifts, and trusts, showcasing her broad experience and commitment to staying at the forefront of legal developments.

Sarah is the Secretary for the Canadian Bar Association, Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Section, and a past Chair of the Canadian Bar Association, Charities and Not-for-Profit British Columbia Subsection. Her accolades include recognitions on her work in charity and not-for-profit law from directories such as The Best Lawyers in Canada, including Lawyer of the Year, and The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory.

Industry involvement

Recognition

- *Chambers Canada*: Up and Coming, Charities / Non-Profits, 2025
- *Best Lawyers in Canada*, Charities / Non-Profit Law, 2021 – 2025; Trusts and Estates, 2023 – 2025
- Lawyer of the Year, *The Best Lawyers in Canada* – Charities / Non-Profit Law, 2022
- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*, Charities/Not-For-Profit Law, 2021 – 2025
- Ann Roberts Humanitarian Award, 2013
- Thorsteinssons Prize in Taxation, 2012
- University of Victoria President's Scholarship, 2011
- Borden Ladner Gervais LLP Professional Excellence Award, 2011
- McMillan LLP First-Year Achievement Award, 2011
- Stikeman Elliot Prize in Contracts, 2011
- Fasken Martineau Dumoulin LLP Scholarship, 2011

Thought leadership

- Guest Lecturer, University of Alberta Faculty of Law, Entrepreneurial Law Series, 2024
- Co-Author, "Charitable organisations in Canada: overview", Thomson Reuters, 2018
- Co-Author, "Social Finance, Enterprise and Innovation", *BarTalk*, December 1, 2016
- "The New Societies Act in British Columbia: What You Need to Know", Miller Thomson Seminar, 2016
- "Trust Tools and Issues, Estate Planning for Blended Families," CLEBC, 2015

- "Regulation and Use of Drones in Canada, Altitudes," *CBA National Air and Space Law Section newsletter*, 2013

Memberships & affiliations

- Canadian Bar Association
- Law Society of British Columbia
- Canadian Association of Gift Planners