



Sharon Roberts, Partner

Edmonton

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Overview

Sharon Roberts is a commercial litigator, arbitrator, occupational health and safety (OHS) lawyer, and a Certified Psychological Health and Safety Advisor. Sharon helps businesses (and in some cases individuals) throughout Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan with contract review and analysis, shareholder and other commercial disputes and safety advising and prosecution.

On the commercial litigation side, Sharon represents business clients through "corporate divorces" where shareholder disputes are fraught with blame, suspicion, theft, forgery and fraud. Sharon assists clients with other contract disputes as well as construction contract interpretation, drafting and coordination. As part of her commercial litigation practice, Sharon also resolves intellectual property disputes brought in the Alberta and Federal Courts. Sharon has appeared before all levels of court in Alberta as well as the Federal Court, administrative tribunals and arbitration panels. She also clerked to a Justice of the Federal Court and Court Martial Court of Appeal in Ottawa from 2004 through 2005.

Sharon's experience includes working with oil and gas, construction, mining and real estate clients regarding contaminated lands and waterways, remediation, reclamation and related environmental matters.

Sharon assists clients with estate litigation and related disputes, including where issues of capacity and vulnerable adults are involved

She also partners with Indigenous clients and has worked to resolve Aboriginal rights, titles and land claims before the Alberta and Federal Courts and represent Indigenous business clients in dispute resolution matters.

Sharon is a Qualified Arbitrator and enjoys assisting parties resolve contract, construction, estate and municipal law matters outside the court process.

In her OHS practice, Sharon balances issue identification, crisis management and investigation work with advice and program development to help clients identify and control hazards and prevent potential injuries and fatalities. She also advises on the obligation to prevent psychological injury and ensure the physical and psychological well-being of Alberta workers. With the changing legal landscape in this area, Sharon is poised to help industries review and revise existing OHS frameworks and to guide organizations without existing OHS processes.

Sharon's areas of practice include:

Industries

Construction
Indigenous
Cannabis

Services

Occupational Health + Safety
Litigation
Corporate + Business Disputes
Business
Construction
Real Estate
Aboriginal
Indian Act
Land Title / Claim
Governance
Economic Development

Education

ADR Institute of Canada, 2014,
Qualified Arbitrator
University of Alberta, 2004,
Bachelor of Laws With Distinction
Simon Fraser University, 1993,
Bachelor of Arts With Distinction

Admissions

Alberta, 2006

Languages

Spanish

- Corporate and commercial litigation
- Construction disputes
- Construction contract review and revisions
- OHS planning, prevention, investigation and defense
- Psychological health & safety advising and workplace audits
- Arbitration
- Environmental advising and litigation
- Estate litigation

Value to Clients

Sharon has training and experience in mental health and wellness. Her compassion and experience with mental health issues and developmental disabilities enable her to diffuse difficult situations and reduce her clients' stress while resolving their legal issues.

"I am an assertive litigator who tackles the most urgent priorities efficiently. I am responsive to clients and maintain an excellent level of client service."

Outside the Office

When Sharon is not working and volunteering, she is spending time with her family. She enjoys running, writing and animal rescue.

Experience

Alberta v. Suncor Inc, 2017 ABCA 221, Alberta Court of Appeal

Alberta v. Suncor Energy Inc, 2016 ABQB 264

Koerner v. Capital Health Authority, 2011 ABCA 289, Alberta Court of Queen's Bench

Koerner v. Capital Health Authority, 2011 ABQB 462, Alberta Court of Queens Bench

Koerner v. Capital Health Authority, 2011 ABCA 146, Alberta Court of Appeal

Koerner v. Capital Health Authority, 2011 ABQB 191, Alberta Court of Queen's Bench

Koerner v. Capital Health Authority, 2011 ABCA 131, Alberta Court of Queen's Bench

RIC New Brunswick Inc. v. Telecommunications Research Laboratories, 2011 ABCA 10, Alberta Court of Appeal

Koerner v. Capital Health Authority, 2010 ABQB 761, Alberta Court of Queen's Bench

Koerner v. Capital Health Authority, 2010 ABQB 753, Alberta Court of Queen's Bench

Professional

Canadian Mental Health Association

Certified Psychological Health & Safety Advisor

2020

Community

Volunteer, Edmonton Community Legal Centre, 2002-Present

Volunteer, Alberta Genealogical Society, 2007-Present

Director, Alberta Lawyers Assistance Society, 2010-Present

Volunteer Lawyer, Pro Bono Law Alberta, 2012-Present

Volunteer, Zoe's Animal Rescue Society, 2017-Present

Co-Chair, Women in Leadership: Stand Out as a Leader, 2019-

Recognition

Listed Corporate and Commercial Litigation, The Best Lawyers™ in Canada: 2021

James Alexander Burgess Bryce Memorial Award , University of Alberta: 2004
Bennett Jones Student Scholarship , University of Alberta: 2001

Client Stories

Resolving a complex shareholder dispute

- From 2012-2014 Sharon and her team were involved in a complex shareholder dispute involving allegations of forgery, fraud and corporate mismanagement of multiple businesses. Sharon's team crafted a means of seizing control of the business and concluded the litigation out of court with her clients retaining ownership of the businesses.

Solution to urgent corporate lawsuit allegations

- In 2014-2015 Sharon acted for parties involved in a complex set of corporate lawsuits that included allegations of theft, fraud and civil conspiracy. Some of the litigation had been ongoing for years when the client retained Field Law on an urgent basis. Sharon had to make multiple emergency court applications, often without notice to the opposing parties, to trace and freeze funds. Her clients ultimately resolved the dispute and were able to restore their personal and professional reputations.

News + Views + Events

March 17, 2021

[OHS + WCB Act Changes \(Yes, Again!\) and Keeping Psychological Well-Being Alive](#)

December 17, 2020

[The Old is New, Again? Bill 47 and Psychological Health + Safety](#)

May 2020 - 2 min read

[Employees are Afraid to Return to Work. Now What?](#)

May 13, 2020

[We said "Back to work!" They said "We refuse!" Now what?](#)

May 12, 2020

[CPHR Alberta Webinar Series: HR Pandemic Essentials - Part 2](#)