

William J. Taggart

Partner

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Bill's practice focuses exclusively on Aboriginal and Indigenous law.

He began practicing in this specialty as in-house lawyer for Grand Council Treaty #3, and was a member of the legal team which represented Ontario First Nations in the 1981 First Ministers Conference which resulted in the inclusion of s. 35 in the Constitution Act, 1982.

Legislative drafting for Indigenous clients has remained one of the main bases of his law practice but he has also acted for First Nations in claims and other matters including, most recently, acting as legal counsel for Henvey Inlet First Nation in the creation of the environmental laws and land tenure system for Henvey Inlet First Nation's 300 MW wind energy centre, one of the largest Indigenous projects in Canada. He advises First Nations in Ontario and in other provinces in relation to the legislative and executive functions of Indigenous governments, and is Past Chair of the OBA's Aboriginal Law Section.

Bill Taggart's comprehensive review of the Anishnabek Nation Governance Agreement appears in *Key Developments in Aboriginal Law, Volume 2* edited by Thomas Isaac and published by Thomson Reuters.

Bill is recognized as a leading lawyer in the 2024 edition of *The Best Lawyers™ in Canada* and *The Canadian Legal LEXPERT® Directory* in Aboriginal law / Indigenous Practice.

PRACTICE AREAS

Indigenous

Recent Insights

CORPORATE COMMERCIAL

2024 Canadian Legal LEXPERT Directory Rankings

Announcement, Recognition

INDIGENOUS

Adverse Possession and Reserve Land

Article

Education & Memberships

EDUCATION

Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.B., 1979

University of Calgary, B.A. (Hons), 1974

MEMBERSHIPS

Ontario Bar Association

Canadian Bar Association

Awards & Recognition

The Canadian Legal LEXPERT® Directory
[Aboriginal Law](#)

The Best Lawyers™ in Canada
[Aboriginal Law / Indigenous Practice](#)

Speaking Engagements & Publications

OBA Aboriginal Law Update: Emerging Issues and Game Changing Cases, June 2022
[Program Co-Chair](#)

Key Developments in Aboriginal Law, Volume 2
[Edited by Thomas Isaac and published by Thomson Reuters, 2021](#)

CORPORATE COMMERCIAL

41 Lawyers Profiled Across 24 Areas of Law in The Best Lawyers in Canada, 2024

Announcement, Recognition

LITIGATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

2023-2024 OBA Section Executives

Announcement

INDIGENOUS

Aboriginal Law Update: Emerging Issues and Game Changing Cases

Speaking Engagement

INDIGENOUS

Key Developments in Aboriginal Law, Volume 2

Article

INDIGENOUS

Connecting Indigenous Communities To High Speed Internet

Article

INDIGENOUS

Celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day

Diversity & Inclusion

Eastern Canadian Aboriginal Land Resource Management Forum

[“Organizing Off-Reserve Joint Ventures Involving Multiple First Nations”, Insight Information](#)

Commercial Projects on First Nations Reserves: From Indian Act to First Nations Land Management Act, 2016.

Professional & Community Involvement

Trustee, Rotary Club of Cobourg Robert S. Scott Charitable Trust

Town of Cobourg Heritage Advisory Committee

Past President, Rotary Club of Cobourg