



Mitchell B. Cohen, Q.C.

Senior Counsel | Calgary

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The logo for the law firm Blakes, featuring the name "Blakes" in a stylized, cursive script font. A horizontal red line is positioned below the logo.

During the course of his career spanning over 30 years, Mitch has conducted a broad-based litigation practice, including insurance, oil and gas, products liability, banking, and general commercial litigation. His experience includes appearances before all levels of courts in Alberta, as well as the Tax Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Canada and the Supreme Court of Canada.

Mitch is recognized as a leading insurance coverage counsel and has been involved in many of the major losses and coverage disputes arising out of the development of the Alberta oil sands.

In his insurance practice, he has gained extensive experience in the conduct of forensic and fraud investigations. He has conducted numerous claims involving defective products, mining, oil and gas, and has acted as counsel on matters ranging from environmental degradation to employee fraud.

SELECT EXPERIENCE

Representative matters that Mitch has recently acted upon include the following:

- Counsel to a consortium of international underwriters in a major international arbitration conducted in London, England, and Calgary, Alberta, involving exposure of C\$800-million
- Counsel to a group of major international insurers involving compressor failures with exposure exceeding C\$100-million
- Lead counsel acting for a large group of international insurers on an explosion and fire at an Alberta oil sands facility with claims exceeding C\$1-billion; after proceeding to arbitration, the claim was resolved through mediation
- Counsel in a precedent-setting, environmental case which following appeal and a successful dismissal of charges, costs were awarded against the Crown both for trial and appeal
- Provided advice and counsel to a consortium of insurers in regard to policy liability arising out of major Katrina Hurricane losses
- Acted for a group of underwriters arising out of a pier failure in Poland, leading to a successful resolution
- Lead coverage counsel on the failure of a dam involving complex geotechnical and coverage issues
- Counsel to underwriters including the leading property underwriters worldwide in regard to a series of insurance claims in Canada and the United States for a large mining insured. These claims were recently settled in protracted and complex mediation proceedings to the satisfaction of the clients. (C\$250-million+)
- Counsel to insurers including those in England, France, Germany, the U.S. and Canada providing

counsel and advice on a C\$500-million course of construction, business interruption claim.

- Counsel to underwriters from Europe, the U.S. and Canada providing advice and counsel on several course of construction claims arising during the course of a large project involving claims in excess of C\$60-million.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Mitch is ranked by *Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business* as a leading Alberta trial lawyer. He also has been recognized by *The Best Lawyers in Canada*, *Who's Who Legal: Business*, *Who's Who Legal: Insurance and Reinsurance* (2014), *The Best Lawyers in Canada 2015* (Insurance Law), and The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory for his insurance practice.

Mitch was appointed Queen's Counsel in January 2012.

EDUCATION

Appointed Queen's Counsel - 2011

Admitted to the Alberta Bar - 1983

LL.B., University of Windsor - 1981

Post-graduate studies in law, Yale University - 1981

MSW, Washington University, St. Louis - 1978

B.A., University of Manitoba - 1976