



## William C. Kaplan, Q.C., FCI Arb

Senior Counsel | Vancouver

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The logo for the law firm Blakes, featuring the name "Blakes" in a stylized, cursive script font.

Bill now focuses his practice on arbitration and mediation work as a neutral. He has been engaged on a variety of matters reflecting his experience in corporate/commercial matters, restructuring, securities legislation, real estate and development, and a broad range of business-related issues. Bill has appeared before all levels of the Court system in British Columbia, including the Supreme Court of Canada, as well as appearing before numerous administrative tribunals, private arbitration panels, and mediations. He is experienced in alternative dispute resolution and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

*Bill provides legal services through WCK Law Corporation.*

### SELECT EXPERIENCE

- Counsel to Suncor Energy Inc., Imperial Oil Limited, Husky Oil Operations Limited, Cenovus Energy Inc., and Canadian Natural Resources Limited in the constitutional reference to the British Columbia Court of Appeal regarding the BC legislation amendments to the *Environmental Management Act*
- Counsel for Cactus Club Restaurants Ltd. on a variety of matters including landlord-tenant issues, an intellectual property and contract claim against a competitor, *Liquor Control Act* matters, and *Company Act* issues
- Mediator in a variety of disputes including issues arising from a sale of a business, insolvency administrator claims, shareholder dispute issues and other business related matters
- Counsel for a national landlord in arbitration proceedings concerning payments under a lease
- Counsel for a large information technology services provider in arbitration proceedings concerning a client collection dispute
- Counsel for Trans Mountain Pipelines LLC in proceedings related to a pipeline expansion project
- Counsel for Kingsett Capital Inc. in the restructuring proceedings concerning Sunrise Properties
- Counsel for 26 strata owners in court proceedings concerning a contractual land consolidation development matter
- Successful defence of the former owner of the Vancouver Canucks hockey team and arena in an action to overturn a transaction to sell an interest in the team and arena
- Advising numerous Boards of Directors of both public and private companies on specific liability issues and, in particular, liability issues arising in circumstances of corporate insolvency

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Bill is continually recognized as a leading lawyer by a number of rankings and publications including:

- *Best Lawyers in Canada* 2017: Awarded Lawyer of the Year: Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- *Best Lawyers in Canada* 2008, 2010 - 2019 (Various Years - Leading Lawyer: Insolvency and Financial Restructuring; Corporate and Commercial Litigation, 2015 - 2016, 2018 Appellant Practice; 2016 - 2017 Appellant Law; 2016 - 2019 Construction Law)
- *The Legal 500 Canada* 2014 - 2019 (Various Years - Leading Lawyer/Recommended: Dispute Resolution - British Columbia; Restructuring & Insolvency - British Columbia)
- *Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business* 2009 - 2018 (Dispute Resolution; Restructuring/Insolvency)
- *Chambers Canada: Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* 2016 - 2018 (Restructuring & Insolvency; Dispute Resolution)
- *The Canadian Legal Expert Directory* 2008 - 2018 (Various Years - Leading Lawyer/Recommended: Insolvency & Corporate Restructuring; Recommended: Litigation - Directors' & Officers' Liability)
- *IFLR1000: The Guide to the World's Leading Financial LawFirms* 2014 - 2018 (Leading Lawyer/Highly Regarded: Restructuring/Insolvency)
- *The Expert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Litigation Lawyers in Canada* 2013 - 2015, 2017 (Various Years - Leading Lawyer: Insolvency & Financial Restructuring; Recommended: Litigation - Corporate Commercial)
- *Who's Who Legal: Canada* 2010 - 2015, 2017 (Insolvency and Financial Restructuring)
- *Who's Who Legal: Insolvency & Restructuring* 2010 - 2017 (Leading Lawyer: Insolvency and Financial Restructuring)
- *Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys* 2013 - 2015, 2017 - 2018 (Various Years - National and/or Provincial Litigation Star: Insolvency Litigation, Securities Litigation, Sports/Entertainment, and Commercial Litigation)
- *Legal Media Group's Guide to the World's Leading Insolvency and Restructuring Lawyers* 2013 - 2014 (Leading Lawyer: Insolvency and Restructuring)
- *Legal Media Group's Guide to the World's Leading Lawyers in Banking, Finance and Transactional Law* 2014 (Leading Lawyer: Insolvency and Restructuring)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Bill is a member of Insolvency Institute of Canada, and a past chairman and a member of the board of directors of the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia. He was a founding member of the Dean's Advisory Committee to the National Centre for Business Law at the University of British Columbia.

Bill was an adjunct professor of law at the University of British Columbia for over 25 years, where he instructed a negotiations course.

Bill was appointed Queen's Counsel (British Columbia) in 2001.

## **EDUCATION**

Admitted as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – 2016

LL.M., Harvard University – 1981

Admitted to the British Columbia Bar – 1980

LL.B., University of British Columbia – 1979

B.A., University of British Columbia – 1975