



Chris Barker

Associate | Toronto

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Chris advises clients on capital markets and business transactions, including public and private financings, mergers and acquisitions, and reorganization transactions. He acts on deals involving a wide range of industry sectors, including financial services, real estate, technology, mining, cannabis and agribusiness. Chris also provides ongoing advice to public issuers about corporate governance, continuous disclosure and other corporate and securities law matters.

Chris completed a secondment to a major real estate investment trust client of the Blakes, where he worked closely with management on transactional and public disclosure matters.

SELECT EXPERIENCE

Representative transactions include advising:

M&A and Reorganizations

- The Special Committee of Callidus Capital Corporation on its going private transaction by way of plan of arrangement with Braslyn Ltd.
- Lundin Petroleum AB on the cross-border spin-off of International Petroleum Corporation as a public company listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq First North exchange with an initial market capitalization of over C\$500-million
- Element Financial Corporation on its C\$8.6-billion acquisition of GE Capital's fleet operations in the United States, Mexico, Australia and New Zealand; its US\$5-billion cross-border acquisition of the vehicle fleet management services business of PHH Corporation; its C\$300-million acquisition of CoActiv Capital Partners, Inc.; and its C\$20-million acquisition of Nexcap Finance Corporation
- FAM REIT on its responsorship transaction with Slate Capital and subsequent acquisition of seven office properties in the Greater Toronto Area for C\$190-million
- A TSX-listed mortgage investment corporation on its transition from the Canadian securities regulatory regime for investment funds to the Canadian securities regulatory regime for non-investment fund public companies
- Voyager Digital (Canada) Ltd., a CSE-listed crypto assets broker, on its C\$4.35-million acquisition of certain blockchain technology and tokens from Ethos.io PTE. LTD., a cryptocurrencies services provider

Capital Markets

- Granite Real Estate Investment Trust on its base shelf prospectus and a public equity offering of C\$294-million of stapled units, and on private placement offerings of C\$400-million and C\$250-million of senior

unsecured debentures

- The agents in connection with the inaugural offering of debt securities by Sienna Senior Living Inc., being a private placement of C\$150 million aggregate principal amount of Series A senior unsecured debentures
- A syndicate of initial purchasers on a cross-border private placement offering by Aurora Cannabis Inc. of US\$345 million of convertible senior notes
- A private equity investor on a C\$250-million investment in high-yield notes and partnership units of a privately held food and agribusiness issuer
- The underwriters on the C\$132-million public offering of subscription receipts of Stornoway Diamond Corporation forming part of the C\$948-million financing package to fund the construction of its Renard diamond project in Quebec
- A private software company on its Series A private placement of common shares
- The underwriters on numerous public offerings of equity and debt securities, including offerings by IGM Financial Inc., Sienna Senior Living, Inc., Automotive Properties REIT, Slate Office REIT, Agellan Commercial REIT, Exchange Income Corporation and Champion Iron Limited
- A Canadian financial institution on its C\$5-billion medium term notes (principal at risk structured notes) program, and offerings of an aggregate of over C\$1.2-billion of preferred shares

EDUCATION

Admitted to the Ontario Bar - 2013

J.D., University of Toronto - 2013

M.Phil. (Distinction), Trinity College Dublin - 2008

B.A., University of Toronto - 2006