



Mergers & Acquisitions

Stikeman Elliott's Mergers & Acquisitions Group is perennially among the most active in Canada. Whether advising on Canada's largest contested public company transactions or friendly acquisitions of privately owned family businesses, we utilize our expertise and creativity to pragmatically achieve client goals.

One of the hallmarks of our practice is our understanding of risk. We see managing and minimizing risk as one of our key roles in any transaction – identifying and mitigating third party issues before they become a problem.

Stikeman Elliott lawyers have well-earned, long-standing relationships with all Canadian regulators. Our strategic management of regulatory interactions has helped clients close some of the most highly scrutinized deals in Canada. We also understand that successful transactions must be designed having regard to their real and perceived implications to our client's key stakeholders. As such, we work with clients to help them present transactions that best preserve and leverage these often critical relationships.

Our Expertise

- Acquisition financing
- Auctions
- Contested shareholder meetings
- Cross-border transactions
- Distressed assets
- Government relations
- Joint ventures and strategic alliances
- Leveraged buy-outs
- Management buy-outs
- Plans of arrangement
- Regulatory review
- Special committee obligations
- Take-over bids and defence

Accolades

- Corporate Law Firm of the Year - *Chambers Canada Awards 2017*
- *Chambers Canada 2019* for Corporate/M&A
- *Chambers Global 2019* for Corporate/M&A - Canada
- *IFLR1000: The Guide to the World's Leading Financial Law Firms 2019* for M&A
- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2019* for Mergers & Acquisitions
- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2019* for Corporate Commercial
- *The Legal 500 Canada 2019* for Corporate and M&A

- Corporate Law Firm of the Year - *Best Lawyers in Canada 2019*
- M&A Law firm of the Year - *Best Lawyers in Canada 2017*
- Merger control matter of the year – Europe – *Global Competition Review Awards, 2019*
- Merger control matter of the year – Asia-Pacific, Middle East and Africa – *Global Competition Review Awards, 2019*
- Matter of the year – *Global Competition Review Awards, 2019*
- Canada M&A Law Firm of the Year, Americas Industrials M&A Deal of the Year and Canada M&A Deal of the Year - *2018 M&A Atlas Awards*
- #1 M&A law firm in Canada and the Americas by deal count – *Mergermarket 2018*
- #1 law firm in Canada for Mid-Market and Global Mid-Market by deal value (up to \$500M and up to \$250M) – *Bloomberg 2018*
- #1 law firm for Canada Corporate Bonds by deal count and for Canada Equity IPO by deal value (Issuers) – *Bloomberg 2018*
- #1 law firm in Canada for Global Equity, Equity Linked and Rights by deal count (Issuer) – *Bloomberg 2018*
- #1 law firm in Canada for Global Equity, Equity-related by deal count and for Canada Equity & Equity-related by deal count (Managers) – *Thomson Reuters 2018*
- Only Canadian law firm for All International Bonds by deal count (Manager) – *Thomson Reuters 2018*
- #1 law firm for Debt Offerings by deal count (Issuer), for Equity Offerings by deal count and value (Underwriter) and for Combined Equity and Debt Offerings by deal count (Underwriter) – *Financial Post 2018*
- #1 for Canadian M&A by deal count – *Mergermarket, Thomson Reuters 2017*
- #1 Canadian law firm in Small-Cap (up to US\$50M) by deal value – *Thomson Reuters 2017*
- #1 Canadian law firm for Equity IPO (Issuer) by deal count – *Bloomberg 2017*
- #1 Canadian law firm for Equity Offerings, Equity & Equity Linked, Equity Linked & Preferred (Issuer and Manager) by deal count – *Bloomberg 2017*
- #1 Canadian law firm in Combined Debt and Equities, Equities (Underwriters) by deal count – *Financial Post 2017*
- Only Canadian law firm in M&A Announced Deals (US\$100M or more) by deal count – *The Deal 2017*
- Only Canadian law firm for Americas by deal count and Australasia by deal value – *Mergermarket 2017*
- Only Canadian law firm for Global Private Equity by deal count – *The Deal 2017*

Recent Work

- The Carlyle Group in its acquisition of StandardAero from Veritas Capital.
- Airbus SE, as lead counsel, in its partnership with Bombardier Inc. and Investissement Québec on the C Series aircraft programme.
- Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan Inc. in its US\$36B merger of equals by way of a plan of arrangement with Agrium Inc. forming Nutrien Ltd.
- Baytex Energy Corp. in its all-stock acquisition of Raging River Exploration Inc. to create a combined organization with an enterprise value of approximately C\$5B.
- The Jean Coutu Group (PJC) Inc., a Canadian leader in retail pharmacy, in its C\$4.5B combination with Metro Inc. by way of three-cornered amalgamation.
- Canadian Medical Association in the C\$2.6B sale of MD Financial Management to Scotiabank, including the entering into of a 10-year affinity agreement and trademark cross-license agreement between CMA and Scotiabank.
- Transcontinental Inc., as Canadian counsel, in its C\$1.7B transformational acquisition of Coveris Americas, and as lead counsel in its C\$250M bought-deal public offering of subscription receipts (and related C\$37.5M over-allotment option).
- The shareholders of Bento Sushi in the C\$100M sale of Bento to Yo! Sushi.
- The JFL Management Trust, in the context of the sale of Jarislowky Fraser Limited to Scotiabank for approximately C\$950M.
- Wabtec Corporation, as Canadian counsel, in its proposed US\$11.1B merger with GE Transportation, a unit of General Electric Company.
- AltaGas Ltd. in its C\$8.4B cross-border acquisition of WGL Holdings, Inc., including related financing, consisting of a US\$4.95B bridge facility, a C\$2.1B bought deal public offering of subscription receipts and a concurrent C\$400M private placement of subscription receipts to OMERS.
- Macquarie Infrastructure and Real Assets, in its C\$845M sale of Concession A25, L.P., the concessionaire of the A25 PPP (P3) Toll Road, to the Transurban Group.
- Sprott Inc. and the newly-established Sprott Physical Gold and Silver Trust in connection with Sprott's acquisition of Central Fund of Canada Limited and its management, and the related transfer of over C\$4.2B of gold and silver bullion from Central Fund to Sprott Physical Gold and Silver Trust.
- A consortium consisting of Power Energy Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Power Corporation of Canada, Mr. François-Xavier Souvay, the Founder, President and CEO of Lumenpulse Inc., and other existing shareholders, in connection with the privatization of Lumenpulse Inc.
- Aimbridge Hospitality, as counsel, in its acquisition of O'Neill Hotels & Resorts Whistler Ltd., operator of The Westin Resort & Spa, Whistler, British Columbia.
- Shopify Inc. in its US\$15M acquisition of Oberlo UAB.

- Xylem Inc., as Canadian counsel, in its acquisition of all the issued and outstanding shares of Pure Technologies Ltd. for an enterprise value of C\$509M.
- Cheung Kong Property Holdings in its C\$2.8B acquisition of Reliance Home Comfort from Alinda Capital Partners.
- Paysafe Group in its acquisition of iPayment Holdings, Inc.
- Centerra Gold Inc. in connection with its US\$1.1B acquisition of Thompson Creek Metals Company Inc. pursuant to a plan of arrangement and Centerra's related C\$195M bought deal prospectus offering of subscription receipts, new US\$325M credit facilities and stream amendment transactions with Royal Gold, Inc.
- CVC Capital Partners in connection with The Stars Group Inc.'s acquisition of Sky Betting & Gaming from CVC Capital Partners and Sky plc for an enterprise value of approximately US\$4.7B.