



British Columbia Lawyer and Trust Company List

LEGAL PROFESSIONALS WITH KNOWLEDGE OF DISABILITY LAW
Updated April 2025

Important Information - Please Read:

This list is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute Plan Institute's recommendation or endorsement regarding any person or entity on the list. Lawyers and trust companies on this list have varying degrees of experience regarding how disability may impact setting up your will and managing your trust. Some are more experienced than others and you should always ask them about their experience with disability and otherwise make sure you are satisfied with their credentials and experience before engaging them (as you would do with any other professional advisor). Plan Institute's policy is that we do not and will not endorse any company. You should discuss any fees, disbursements, or taxes that you will be charged with the professional you choose. We have some sample questions at the bottom of this document.

Please note that many of the legal professionals and companies on this list provide services virtually to people anywhere in British Columbia through phone, email, and video call.

If you are having difficulty reaching the specific lawyer or legal professional on the list, it may be more effective to contact the general phone number and email address, as well as marking your query as "URGENT" for a faster response.

This list is also not exhaustive of all legal professionals experienced in disability rights and legislation. You can use Access Pro Bono's free Lawyer Referral Service if you want help looking into professionals that are not on this list. This Lawyer Referral Service helps British Columbians find a suitable legal professional to resolve their legal problem. Any BC resident can call them at 604-687-3221 to meet with a lawyer or a lower-cost articling clinician. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.accessprobono.ca/our-programs/lawyer-referral-service>

If you have any feedback regarding this list, please [click here](#).

Lawyers

Ability Tax and Trust Advisors

450 Southwest Marine Drive, 18th Floor
Vancouver, BC V5X 0C3
1-877-690-0330
info@abilitytax.ca
www.abilitytax.ca

Albert & Co. Law

Emily Anderson
206-2636 Montrose Ave
Abbotsford, BC, V2S 3T6
604-200-9234
emily.anderson@albertlawco.com
www.albertlawco.com

Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP

Mary B. Hamilton
Vancouver Office
2700-700 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC, V7Y 1B8
604-484-1754
Toll-Free: 877-688-1351
mhamilton@ahbl.ca
www.ahbl.ca

Kelowna Office
1100-1631 Dickson Avenue
Kelowna, BC, V1Y 0B5
604-484-1700
Toll-Free: 877-688-1351

CR Lawyers LLP

Stewart Carstairs

250-287-8355

carstairs@crlawyers.ca

www.crlawyers.ca

Courtenay Office

350 17th Street

Courtenay, BC, V9N 1Y4

250-871-4001

info@crlawyers.ca

Comox Office

1779 Comox Avenue

Comox, BC, V9M 3L9

250-339-7977

info@crlawyers.ca

Campbell River Office

906 Island Highway

Campbell River, BC, V9W 2C3

250-287-8355

info@crlawyers.ca

Ucluelet Office

1566 Peninsula Road

Ucluelet, BC, V0R 3A0

1-866-577-8114

ucluelet@crlawyers.ca

DLA Piper (Canada)

2700-1133 Melville St, Vancouver, BC, V6E 4E5

Vancouver, BC, V6E 4E5

604-687-9444

<https://www.dlapiper.com/en-ca/locations/vancouver>

Entrust Law Corporation

Kristen Okimaw
473 West Avenue
Kelowna, BC, V1Y 1V9
250-448-8558 extension 201
kokimaw@entrustlaw.ca
www.entrustlaw.ca

Geoffrey W. White Law Corporation

434 Glenwood Avenue
Kelowna, BC V1Y 5M1
250-712-2205
firm@bcestatelaw.com
www.bcestatelaw.com

Heritage Law

Nicole Garton
220-545 Clyde Avenue
West Vancouver, BC V7T 1C5
778-786-0615 extension 111
nicole@bcheritagelaw.com
www.bcheritagelaw.com

Horne Coupar LLP

Main Office
612 View Street, 3rd Floor
Victoria, BC, V8W 1J5
250-388-6631
Toll-Free: 1-866-467-2490
www.hornecoupar.com

Oak Bay Office
202-2187 Oak Bay Avenue
Victoria, BC, V8R 1G1

JA Reimer Law Group

Colleen Margaret Kovacs

1862 Oak Bay Avenue

Victoria, BC, V8R 1C5

250-727-9938

colleen@reimerlawgroup.ca

www.reimerlawgroup.ca

KSW Lawyers

Brooke Fernandes

206-15300 Croydon Drive

Surrey, BC V3Z 0Z5

604-535-8770 extension 223

604-535-8771

bfernandes@kswlawyers.ca

www.kswlawyers.ca

Lakes, Whyte LLP

A. John Lakes

100-1312 Lonsdale Avenue

North Vancouver, BC, V7M 2H8

604-984-3646

johnlakes@lakeswhyte.com

info@lakeswhyte.com

www.lakeswhyte.com

Legacy Tax + Trust Lawyers

Genevieve Taylor

1300-777 Dunsmuir Street

Vancouver, BC V7Y 1K2

604-631-1254

gtaylor@legacylawyers.com

www.legacylawyers.com

McLellan Herbert, Barristers & Solicitors

Hugh McLellan
310-800 West Pender Street
Vancouver, BC, V6C 2V6
604-901-5186
Toll-Free: 800-449-4858
www.mclellanherbert.com/lawyers/hugh-s-mclellan

Pushor Mitchell

Theresa Arsenault
301-1665 Ellis Street
Kelowna, BC, V1Y 2B3
250-869-1110
Toll-Free: 1-800-558-1155
arsenault@pushormitchell.com
www.pushormitchell.com

Richards Buell Sutton

Tim H.R. Brown
Vancouver Office
700-401 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC, V6B 5A1
604-661-9225
tbrown@rbs.ca
www.rbs.ca/members/brown

Surrey Office
310-15117 101 Avenue
Surrey, BC, V3R 8P7
604-582-7743

Tim Louis & Company

R. Tim Louis
2526 West 5th Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6K 1T1
604-732-7678
timlouis@timlouislaw.com
www.timlouislaw.com

Trust Companies

Coast Mental Health Trust Program

William Chan, Trust Officer

293 East 11th Avenue

Vancouver, BC V5T 2C4

604-872-3502

Toll-Free: 1-877-602-6278

Email contact form:

www.coastmentalhealth.com/contact

www.coastmentalhealth.com/what-we-do/pillar-services

Coast is authorized under the provincial regulation to administer trust funds of up to \$500,000 within British Columbia.

Concentra Trust (Equitable Bank)

Alex Northey, Senior Estates and Trusts Advisor

236-668-1203

alex.northey@eqbank.ca

www.concentra.ca

www.eqbank.ca

Concentra Trust typically only provides support for larger estates. Please reach out to them directly to confirm availability and associated costs.

CV Trust

1060-1188 West Georgia Street

Vancouver, BC, V6E 4A2

604-674-7801

info@cvtrustco.com

www.cvtrustco.com

Heritage Trust

West Vancouver Office

Greg Brennand, Vice President and Senior Trust Officer

West Vancouver Office

220-545 Clyde Avenue

West Vancouver, BC, V7T 1C5

778-742-5005 extension 210

greg@heritagetrustcompany.ca

www.heritagetrustcompany.ca

Langley Office

400-8621 201 Street

Langley, BC, V2Y 0G9

Heritage Trust typically only provides support for medium-large estates. Please reach out to them directly to confirm availability and associated costs.

Solus Trust Company

2100-925 West Georgia Street

Vancouver, BC, V6C 3L2

1-866-764-1343

info@solustrust.ca

www.solustrust.ca

Solus Trust Company typically only provides support for larger estates. Please reach out to them directly to confirm availability and associated costs.

Scotiastrust

Multiple locations across BC

Please reach out through their contact form

<https://www.scotiawealthmanagement.com/ca/en/connect-with-us.html>

<https://www.scotiawealthmanagement.com/ca/en/services/scotiastrust.html>

Truvera Trust Corporation

901-700 West Pender Street

Vancouver, BC, V6C 1G8

778-379-3933

info@truvera.ca

www.truvera.ca

Kelowna Office

1100-1631 Dickson Avenue

Kelowna, BC, V1Y 0B5

250-860-4626

Westcoast Wills and Estates

604-230-1068

info@westcoastwills.com

www.westcoastwills.com

Their estate planning lawyers speak English, Cantonese, and Vietnamese.

Head Office (by appointment only)

308-1200 Lonsdale Avenue

North Vancouver, BC, V7M 3H6

Vancouver Office (by appointment only)

600-1285 West Broadway

Vancouver, BC, V6H 3X8

Burnaby Office (by appointment only)

501-3292 Production Way

Burnaby, BC, V5A 4R4

Squamish Office (by appointment only)

212-39012 Discovery Way

Squamish, BC V8B 0E5

Tips to help you get to know the knowledge of your potential lawyer

When choosing a lawyer, it is crucial to find someone who understands disability issues as they relate to your estate planning needs. Keep in mind that not all lawyers understand wills and trusts, and not all wills and trust lawyers will understand disability issues. Feel free to use the list below to help you determine if a lawyer is the right one for your needs.

Find out how much of their practice is devoted to estate planning. Many different law firms specialize in different areas of law. It is important to find a lawyer who has a wealth of knowledge regarding estate planning.

Ask the lawyer you are meeting with what percentage of their practice involves planning for people with disabilities and their families. This will give you an idea if they have some knowledge on the topic or they will have to spend time doing research.

Find out how many disabilities trusts they have done in the past year, five years, or ten years.

Ask them what some important key issues and considerations are that may arise while planning for a person with a disability; this will help illuminate their experience.

Ask them about specific laws that are in place when it comes to disability estate planning:

- Does the lawyer charge hourly or is the service flat rate based?
- Has the lawyer ever had a trust rejected by the Ministry, and if so, why?
- Are they familiar with the duties of trustees and how to determine which trustee is best for a family?
- Are they familiar with the asset/income exemptions permitted within British Columbia's provincial disability benefits program?
- Can the lawyer assist with recommendations and the facilitation of discussions with prospective trustees knowledgeable in the area of disability trusts?
- Are they able to explain the difference between a discretionary and non-discretionary trust?
- Can they articulate the relevance of the terms "ultimate beneficiary" and/or "the even-handed principal" with respect to disability trust development?

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