

# H. Lance Williams

2400 – 745 Thurlow Street • Vancouver, British Columbia V6E 0C5  
Phone: 604.643.7154 • E-Mail: lwilliams@mccarthy.ca

## Summary

---

Partner and Vancouver lead in the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group of McCarthy Tétrault LLP. Have practiced in the area of commercial insolvency for 15 years.

Specializing in the area of commercial insolvency, practice includes advising and representing trustees, debtors, directors and creditors on insolvency and restructuring issues including debt restructuring, corporate reorganizations, loan workouts, fraudulent preference actions, foreclosures, bankruptcies, and receiverships.

Frequently involved in proceedings pursuant to the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* and the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* with particular experience regarding restructurings involving mining, forestry, cannabis, retail operations, technology, real estate, and agriculture.

Acted on numerous cross-border and multi-jurisdictional restructurings, including acting for debtors and information officers under Canada cross-border insolvency regime, particularly in mining, for the court-appointed monitor in Canada's first cannabis restructuring which included material cross-border assets and complications, and for numerous international entities participating in Canada's insolvency regime in various roles.

Member of the British Columbia court model order committee, and led the sub-committee that canvassed the insolvency community and recommend the implementation of the JIN guidelines for court-to-court communication in cross-border cases in British Columbia (which were adopted in 2020).

Active author and speaker on various insolvency topics. Member of the Insolvency Institute of Canada, an invitation only organization that is Canada's premiere private sector insolvency organization dedicated to the recognition and promotion of excellence in the field of insolvency, the International Insolvency Institute, INSOL and the TMA.

## Experience

---

<b>McCarthy Tétrault LLP</b> <i>Partner - Bankruptcy and Insolvency</i>	<b>August 2021- Present</b>	<b>Vancouver, BC</b>
<b>Cassels Brock &amp; Blackwell LLP</b> <i>Partner – Insolvency and Restructuring</i>	<b>March 2017- August 2021</b>	<b>Vancouver, BC</b>
<b>Davis LLP/DLA Piper (Canada) LLP</b> <i>Associate (2008-2013)/Partner (2014-2017)</i> <i>Bankruptcy and Restructuring</i>	<b>October 2008 – February 2017</b>	<b>Vancouver, BC/Calgary, AB</b>
<b>Ogilvie LLP</b> <i>Student-at-law (2006-2007)/Associate (2007-2008)</i> <i>Bankruptcy and Restructuring</i>	<b>July 2006 – October 2008</b>	<b>Edmonton, AB</b>



## Education

---

<b>Master of Laws</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>Osgoode Hall, York University</b>
<b>Bachelor of Laws</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>University of Saskatchewan</b>
<b>Bachelor of Commerce (with Distinction)</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>University of Alberta</b>

## Memberships

---

Law Society of Alberta  
Law Society of British Columbia  
Law Society of Saskatchewan  
Law Society of Yukon  
Insolvency Institute of Canada  
International Insolvency Institute  
Canadian Bar Association  
Turnaround Management Association  
International Association of Restructuring, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Professionals

## Selected Publications

---

*Caught in the Rye: The Canada Grain Act, Security, Title and Insolvency*  
Annual Review of Insolvency Law| 2020.

*Inequitable Equity: When your Debt is Re-Characterized*  
Insolvency Institute of Canada| 2018.

*Substance Over Form? A Review of the Evolving Practice of Approving the Fees of Court Officers*  
Annual Review of Insolvency Law| 2016.

*Is That My Receivable?*  
Annual Review of Insolvency Law| 2016.

*TLC The Land Conservancy of Canada: The Evolution of the Role of “Other Interests” in Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act Proceedings*  
Annual Review of Insolvency Law| 2015..

*New Developments in Receivership Law: A Survey*  
Journal of the Insolvency Institute of Canada, Vol. 1| 2012.

## Selected Speaking Engagements

---

Annual Review of Insolvency Law, Virtual, 2020, panel member and presenting paper *Caught in the Rye: The Canada Grain Act, Security, Title and Insolvency* noted above.



Insolvency Institute of Canada, Charlottetown, 2018, panel member and presenting paper *Inequitable Equity: When your Debt is Re-Characterized* noted above.

Annual Review of Insolvency Law, Montreal, 2017, panel member and presenting paper *Substance Over Form? A Review of the Evolving Practice of Approving the Fees of Court Officers* noted above.

Annual Review of Insolvency Law, Vancouver, 2016, panel member and presenting paper *TLC The Land Conservancy of Canada: The Evolution of the Role of "Other Interests" in Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act Proceedings* noted above.

Panel member and speaker at the Young Insolvency Professionals 2016 and 2018 conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Frequent lecturer for the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia on bankruptcy and insolvency matters.

Speaker on numerous local and national Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals panels and the 2016 Northwest Chapter TMA conference.

Adjunct professor, University of British Columbia law school, co-teaching Insolvency Law (2012-2016).

## **Selected Mandates**

---

- Counsel for Great Panther Mining in its proceedings under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* that included a companion judicial reorganisation of its subsidiaries in Brazil, as well as an insolvency in Peru and a Chapter 15 recognition in the United States.
- Restructuring counsel to the Northern Pulp Group in its ongoing proceedings under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, involving a recent precedent setting decision regarding court-ordered mediation with a provincial government.
- Counsel to a foreign senior secured creditor in the receivership of Yukon Zinc Corporation, which resulted in several key appellate level decisions (leave to the Supreme Court of Canada denied) regarding security for environmental obligations and the nature of mineral claims.
- Counsel to a foreign purchaser of a 'fitness wearables' development company in an insolvency proceeding, with the additional complexity of a large amount of intellectual property registered around the world
- Counsel to the Monitor in the first *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* proceedings of a cannabis company, which included large US operations in several states and the novel issues and determinations for cross-border insolvency for cannabis.
- Counsel to the proposal trustee and receiver in the restructuring of a cross-border plastics manufacturer, involving a number of union/labour issues and production operations in several US and Canadian jurisdictions.
- Counsel for the information officer appointed by the Supreme Court of British Columbia in the cross-border mining restructuring of Atena Gold, with the foreign main proceeding under Chapter 11 of the *United States Bankruptcy Code*.
- Counsel for the debtor in the cross-border mining restructuring of Midway Gold, with the foreign main proceeding under Chapter 11 of the *United States Bankruptcy Code*.



## Selected Recognition

---

- *Best Lawyers in Canada*
  - Insolvency and Financial Restructuring.
  - Vancouver ‘Lawyer of the Year – Insolvency and Financial Restructuring’, 2023 and 2024
- *Canadian Lexpert Legal Directory*
  - Insolvency & Financial Restructuring – Insolvency Litigation – *Consistently Recommended*
  - Insolvency & Financial Restructuring – Financial Restructuring – *Consistently Recommended*
- Lexpert Rising Star – Canada’s Top Lawyers Under 40
- Lexpert Special Edition – Litigation
- Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Corporate Lawyers in Canada, 2017 – *Lawyer to Watch*
- IFLR 1000 – Restructuring and Insolvency – *Highly Regarded*
- Legal 500 – Restructuring - *Recommended*