



F. Richard Gosse

he/him

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ST. JOHN'S

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PRACTICE AREAS

Construction • Commercial Litigation • Corporate & Commercial • Insurance Litigation

BIOGRAPHY

Richard has a wide-ranging Commercial Litigation practice engaging on General Commercial and Construction related issues, including procurement, payment, performance and breach and Professional Defence whether through negotiation, mediation/arbitration or litigation, including as a class action.

His litigation perspective brings a unique insight to complex commercial drafting and resolution-focused project management to avoid litigation, particularly regarding professional services agreements and procurement issues in public and private sector tendering and RFP or NRFP contexts. Richard holds the Osgoode Certificate in Public Procurement Law and Practice and is regularly invited to speak to professional and industry groups.

Richard has appeared as lead counsel and as a litigation team member before various commercial arbitration panels and the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal of Newfoundland and Labrador, but also enjoys success in dispute resolution without recourse to litigation.

Richard served on the Board of Directors of the Newfoundland and Labrador Construction Association (NLCA) from 2019 to 2023 and as provincial Chair of the CBA Construction & Infrastructure Law Section (NL) from 2013 to 2023. Within Cox & Palmer, he co-chairs the local Construction Law Practice Group. In the community, he served as past-chair on the Board of Directors of Shallaway – Newfoundland and Labrador Youth in Chorus Inc. and is a current director of the Dr. Jack Hand Legacy Foundation Inc.

INDUSTRY RECOGNITION & AWARDS

- Recognized by the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a leading practitioner in Corporate Commercial Litigation and Construction Law
- Best Lawyers' in Canada 2025 St. John's Construction Law Lawyer of the Year
- Listed as a leading practitioner since 2020 by the publication Best Lawyers in Canada in the area of Construction Law

LANGUAGES

- English

LAW SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- Canadian Bar Association
- Law Society of Newfoundland & Labrador

BAR ADMISSION

- Newfoundland and Labrador (1994)

LAW SCHOOL

- University of Saskatchewan

EDUCATION

- Memorial University of Newfoundland (B.A. 1990)
- University of Saskatchewan (LL.B. 1993)

PUBLICATIONS

- Limiting Liability by Contract
- Learning from Losing: Debriefing under the Public Procurement Act
- More Effective Communications Between Parties to Construction Contracts
- Contracting Out of Delay?
- Tendering and COVID-19: bidders beware (or at least be aware)
- Beyond Prompt Payment: Processes and Options for Timely Compensation
- Who Owns That School? The Crown and the Validity of Lien Claims
- Notice of Delay: Simon says, "I am making a claim."

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

- Regular presenter to industry, including Newfoundland & Labrador Construction Association (NLCA), Professional Engineers and Geoscientists Newfoundland & Labrador (PEGNL), Heavy Civil Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, and Association of Newfoundland Land Surveyors
- Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador Bar Admission Course lecturer (Mechanics Liens)
- In-house client presentations

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

- Board Member, Newfoundland and Labrador Construction Association (NLCA), (2019 – present)
- Chair, CBA Construction Law Section (NL), (2013 – present)

ACTIVITIES WITHIN FIRM

- Co-chair of the Construction Law Group

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Director of the Dr. Jack Hand Legacy Foundation Inc.
- Past Chair: Shallaway – Newfoundland and Labrador Youth in Chorus Inc