

she/her

PARTNER

CHARLOTTETOWN

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Employment & Labour • Administrative • Municipal • Regulated Professions • Health

Crisis Management

BIOGRAPHY

Karen is the senior partner in Cox & Palmer, PEI. She regularly works out of the Charlottetown office. Karen has more than 30 years of experience, practicing primarily in the areas of labour and employment law, municipal law, and public law. She represents employers in collective bargaining negotiations, rights and interest arbitrations, human rights, privacy law, and occupational health and safety matters. She has many years of experience in municipal law and represents municipalities in a variety of areas.

Karen also appears before the Prince Edward Island Labour Board and the Supreme Court in matters such as transfer of business and successor rights, unfair labour practice complaints, bargaining unit composition matters, certification applications, and jurisdictional complaints.

Karen has represented employers and employees in wrongful dismissal cases, and with employment contract preparations under both provincial Labour Act and the Federal Labour Code.

Karen is experienced in human rights matters and maintains a pro-active approach to advising employers on issues of discrimination and workplace accommodations.

EXPERIENCE

• Currently acts as legal Counsel to public and private sector employers, large municipal and institutional clients.

INDUSTRY RECOGNITION & AWARDS

- Best Lawyers in Canada 2022 Charlottetown Employment and Labour Lawyer of the Year
- Listed as a leading practitioner by the publication The Best Lawyers in Canada since 2012 for her practice in the area of Labour and Employment Law
- Consistently recognized in the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a leading practitioner in Employment Law (both Employee and Employer) and Labour Law (Management)

LANGUAGES

English



LAW SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- Canadian Bar Association
- · Law Society of Prince Edward Island
- Nova Scotia Barristers' Society

BAR ADMISSION

- Nova Scotia (1987)
- Prince Edward Island (1988)

LAW SCHOOL

Dalhousie University

EDUCATION

- · University of Prince Edward Island (B.Ed. 1982)
- Dalhousie University (LL.B. 1986)

PUBLICATIONS

- Preparing for Cannabis Legalization: Federal and Atlantic Canadian Regulations
- PEI Municipalities: Preparing for Cannabis Legalization
- · Recent Changes Affect Parental and Maternity Leave in Atlantic Canada
- Wal-Mart's Store Closure Contrary to Quebec Labour Code

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

- Frequent speaker at Labour & Employment Seminars in Atlantic Canada
- Presenter CACE 2006 and 2016 National Conference
- Presenter at various Municipal Law Seminars

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

- Founding Board Member Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers (CACE) and member (2002 present)
- Member at Large Canadian Bar Association National Labour & Employment Law Section (current)

ACTIVITIES WITHIN FIRM

- Cox & Palmer Practice Group Committee
- Library Committee Chair PEI

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Executive Vice President Charlottetown Minor Hockey Association (past)
- Member of the PEI Hockey Mommas who plays hockey badly, but raise money and awareness for Breast Cancer
- Board Member/Honorary Solicitor PEI Division of the Canadian Cancer Society (past)
- Organizing committee member Bob Bateman Memorial Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament

