



# Michael D. Heikkinen

he/him

**PARTNER**

**MONCTON**

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## PRACTICE AREAS

Construction Litigation • Estate Litigation • Family • Estates & Trusts

## BIOGRAPHY

Michael received an LL.B (cum laude) from the University of Ottawa in 2010, and was called to the bar of Ontario in 2011.

Following his call to the Bar, Michael practiced with a prominent litigation law firm in Ottawa, where he gained significant experience carrying on a general litigation practice. During his time there, he achieved results for his clients in a multitude of family matters involving complex property division and support issues, in addition to those concerning difficult parenting and inter-jurisdictional circumstances. Michael subsequently spent two years practising in his home town of Thunder Bay, where he continued to sharpen his litigation skills by representing clients throughout Northwestern Ontario, including those with matters before fly-in courts held in remote First Nations communities.

Michael has represented clients in the New Brunswick Court of King's Bench Trial and Family Divisions, the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, the Ontario Divisional Court, the Ontario Court of Justice and the Ontario Criminal Injuries Compensation Board. He has also appeared on behalf of clients in a multitude of private mediations in civil and family matters, in addition to arbitrations pursuant to Ontario's *Arbitration Act*. This experience underlies Michael's strategic advice to his clients, and assists him in determining whether a client will be best served by negotiating, mediating, arbitrating or litigating in a particular case.

His practice areas primarily include construction litigation, family law with a focus on complex property and support issues, estate litigation, and estate planning and administration.

He is the current chair of the Canadian Bar Association New Brunswick's Construction Section, sits on the Moncton Area Lawyer's Association (MALA) Council and is a member of Cox & Palmer's Construction, Insurance and Family Law practice groups.

The hallmarks of Michael's practice are timely, open and honest communication, individualized service and client satisfaction.

## LANGUAGES

- English

## **LAW SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS**

- Canadian Bar Association
- Law Society of New Brunswick
- Law Society of Ontario

## **BAR ADMISSION**

- New Brunswick (2019)
- Ontario (2011)

## **LAW SCHOOL**

- University of Ottawa

## **EDUCATION**

- University of Ottawa (LLB, 2010)
- University of Ottawa (BSocSc with Honours in Criminology, 2006)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- A Step Back for Holdback Trust Accounts: Amendments to New Brunswick's Construction Remedies Act
- In New Brunswick, Can You Make a Claim Against Your Common-Law Partner's Assets?
- In New Brunswick, When Do You Become "Common-Law"?
- This Month in New Brunswick Family Law – April 2023
- Residential Contractors Beware: Trappings of New Brunswick's 'Notice to Owner' Requirement
- Change Afoot: New Brunswick's Construction Remedies Act

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS**

- Chair – Canadian Bar Association New Brunswick's Construction Section (2023)
- Member – Advocacy Club (2012 – )