



Patrick Fitzgerald

PARTNER

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PRACTICE AREAS

Corporate & Commercial • Securities & Corporate Finance • Intellectual Property & Technology
• Banking & Finance • Mergers & Acquisitions • Start-Ups • Cybersecurity & Privacy

BIOGRAPHY

Patrick is a partner in the Halifax office of Cox & Palmer. Born in Toronto and raised in Wedgeport, NS, Patrick was admitted to the Nova Scotia Bar in 1998, having completed his education at Saint Mary's University (B. Comm. 1990), University of Windsor (M.B.A. 1991), and Dalhousie Law School (LL.B., 1997).

Patrick serves on the board of directors for the Canadian Technology Law Association. He is the past chair of the CBA – NS Securities Law and Intellectual Property Law subsections and former officer and director of Digital Nova Scotia (formerly, Information Technology Industry Alliance of Nova Scotia).

Patrick is also a member of Cox & Palmer's Halifax Executive Committee with specific responsibility for creating an innovation culture and identifying, assessing and implementing innovative processes, improvements and technology to allow Cox and Palmer to better serve its clients.

An endurance athlete, Patrick has completed many marathons and long distance triathlon events, including several Ironman branded events.

EXPERIENCE

With clients ranging from entrepreneurs and startups to publicly listed companies, Patrick is frequently called upon to advise and assist on all aspects of business law, including issues relating to unlimited companies (ULC's). His experience includes assisting clients in complex mergers and acquisitions as well as public offerings, private equity transactions, financings and providing strategic advice to business owners, executives and boards of directors.

Patrick's practice also consists of advising on intellectual property and technology law issues including protection and commercialization, as well as privacy, data protection and cybersecurity law issues. He has significant experience in technology transactions including licensing, acquisitions and sales of intellectual property assets, multi-year IT outsourcing and agreements relating to the internet and cloud based applications and services. He is a Registered Trade-mark Agent (Canada).

Patrick is actively involved in Nova Scotia's start-up ecosystem having championed Cox & Palmer's early sponsorship of Volta in Halifax as well as providing pro-bono advice to start-ups across Nova Scotia and judging various pitch competitions in the region.

INDUSTRY RECOGNITION & AWARDS

- Listed as a leading practitioner by the publication The Best Lawyers in Canada since 2008 for his practice in the areas of Corporate Governance, Corporate Law, Information Technology Law, Mergers and Acquisitions, and Technology Law

- Consistently recognized in the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a leading practitioner in Corporate Mid-Market, Private Equity, Corporate Finance and Securities, Intellectual Property, and Computer & IT Law
- Best Lawyers' 2017 Halifax Information Technology Law Lawyer of the Year

LANGUAGES

- English

LAW SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

- Canadian Bar Association
- Nova Scotia Barristers' Society

BAR ADMISSION

- Nova Scotia (1998)

LAW SCHOOL

- Dalhousie University

EDUCATION

- Saint Mary's University (B.Comm., 1990)
- University of Windsor (MBA, 1991)
- Dalhousie Law School (LLB, 1997)

PUBLICATIONS

- Nova Scotia Aims to Supercharge Start-up Growth With Revised Equity Tax Credit - Updated following Spring 2019 Provincial Budget: Corporate Investors Now Eligible
- Nova Scotia Aims to Supercharge Start-up Growth With Revised Equity Tax Credit
- Canada's new data breach notification rules: What you need to know
- The Day After: Canada's Breach Notification Rules Soon to be in Effect
- The Latest on Crowdfunding Exemptions in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick
- Deciding on the Structure of Your Business? Things You Need to Know
- Are You Ready to Comply with Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation?
- Canada's New Not-for-Profit Corporations Act

LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

Patrick has lectured and written on numerous topics in the areas of corporate governance, technology start-ups and commercialization, technology contracting, securities law, venture capital, intellectual property, business expansion, and e-commerce.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Board of Directors, Halifax Partnership (2019-)
- Intellectual Property Institute of Canada
- Member, Board of Directors, Canadian Technology Law Association

- Past Member, International Technology Law Association (2014)
- Past Chair, Canadian Bar Association, Securities Nova Scotia Branch
- Past Chair, Canadian Bar Association, Intellectual Property, Nova Scotia Branch
- Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations Liaison Committee, Nova Scotia Barristers Society
- Mentor First, Mentor Network (operated by Innovacorp)
- Member, Investment Committee, Venture Grade Program at Saint Mary's University

ACTIVITIES WITHIN FIRM

Patrick is the Halifax office Practice Innovations Lead, a member of the Halifax office Executive Committee, chair of Cox & Palmer's Halifax Technology & Life Sciences group and chair of Cox & Palmer's Regional Start-up Industry Group. In this capacity he leads the **alt** business start-up initiative for high growth innovation companies in Nova Scotia.

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

- Past Director of Triathlon Nova Scotia
- Member of Halifax Triathlon Club