

Aaron Bickman

TEP, KC

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PRACTICE AREAS

Wills, Trusts & Estates
Estate Planning
Estate Administration
Estate Dispute Resolution
Trust Planning
Guardianship & Trusteeship
Business Law

The team's knowledge and experience help us deliver efficient, effective advice to our clients.

Aaron has a diverse practice with a focus on Wills, Trusts, and Estates. He has extensive experience in estate planning, administration, and dispute resolution. His practice experience includes business law and real estate law. He is a certified mediator and is taking engagements to act as mediator for Estate Disputes and Guardianship & Trusteeship Disputes.

Aaron is a recognized thought leader in the application of The Surrogate Rules and complicated court applications, which helps him generate positive, timely results for his clients. He shares his knowledge with colleagues and the public through teaching and speaking roles.

Clients have highly recommended Aaron, giving him a top rating on [Martindale-Hubbell.com](https://www.martindale-hubbell.com). He is also included in *The Best Lawyers™ in Canada* for Trusts and Estates.

Education

2018 Executive Certificate in Conflict Management, University of Windsor Faculty of Law

2017 Advanced Alternative Dispute Resolution, University of Windsor Faculty of Law

2003 University of Manitoba, LLB

1998 University of Calgary, BA

Admissions

2004 Alberta

Experience

Aaron has been a partner at McLeod Law since 2013. Clients rely on him to help them navigate complex and stressful life-cycle issues. The diversity of his experience helps him understand his clients' needs and give complete advice and comprehensive solutions.

- Represents clients at the Alberta Court of King's Bench for various estate, Represented Adult, and civil litigation matters.
- Preparation of wills, enduring powers of attorney, and personal directives.
- Preparation of all documentation required for the administration and probate of estates.
- Preparation of all documentation required in Represented Adult matters.
- Preparation of documentation required in corporate transactions.
- Advising and drafting Trusts and advising Trustees on Trust Administration

Recognition

HONOURS & AWARDS

- Appointed King's Counsel by the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, 2024
- Aaron is recognized by *The Best Lawyers* in Canada for work in Trusts and Estates (2022-2024).
- Aaron comes highly recommended by clients, giving him a 5 out of 5 ("Gold" rating) by *Martindale-Hubbell*.
- University of Manitoba, Faculty of Law
 - Frank Billinkoff Prize for top standing in wills and succession
 - Jane Evans QC Prize for demonstrated excellence in property, trusts, and wills and succession

PUBLICATIONS

- "The importance of succession planning," *The Constructor*, Calgary Construction Association, March 2019

Memberships

- Law Society of Alberta
- Calgary Bar Association
President
- Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners
Trust and Estate Planner (TEP) designation, (2016-Present)

Community

- Alberta Surrogate Rules Advisory Committee
- STEP Canada
STEP Inside Editorial Board, 2021-present
- Jewish National Fund of Canada
Board Member, Calgary Board of Directors, 2012-2019
President, Calgary Board of Directors, 2013-2016
Board Member, National Board of Directors, 2014-2017
- Pro Bono Law Alberta, King's Bench Amicus Court Assistance Program
Volunteer
- Canadian Bar Association (Alberta South)
Provincial Council (former)
Alberta Law Conference Committee, 2012, 2014, 2016
Law Day Calgary Committee co-chair, 2009, 2010, 2012
Law Day Calgary Volunteer, 2008-2015
- Canadian Bar Association (Alberta South) Wills & Trusts Section
Former Co-Chair and Executive Member
Wills and Succession Act Committee co-chair
- Canadian Bar Association (Alberta South), Residential Real Estate Section
Former Chair and Executive Member
- Legal Archives Society of Alberta
Board of Directors, 2015-Present
- Calgary Surrogate Court Roundtable
Participant in surrogate process review, 2017-2020
- Alberta Justice, Wills and Estates
"Technical Discussions" with specialists regarding the proposed amendments to the *Matrimonial Property Act* contained within the *Wills and Succession Act*, May 2012
- Consultation with the Office of the Public Trustee for the Province of Alberta
On a committee including the Public Trustee for the Province of Alberta and senior wills and estates practitioners regarding the implementation of the *Adult Guardianship and Trusteeship Act* and regulations, May 2009

Teaching Roles & Speaking Engagements

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

SPEAKER

ESTATE PLANNING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Hazak group, June 2020

SPEAKER

"HONING THE SOLICITORS' SPIDEY SENSE" - RED FLAGS IN DRAFTING WILLS RELATED TO FAMILY MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT APPLICATIONS

Legal Education Society of Alberta (LESA), November 2019 (Calgary), November 2019 (Edmonton)

SPEAKER

SOLICITOR POTPOURRI: ESTATE PLANNING PRACTICE TIPS

Canadian Bar Association (Alberta South), Wills and Trusts Section, April 2019

SPEAKER

ADVANCED ESTATE ADMINISTRATION

Legal Education Society of Alberta, May 2018, November 2018, 2016 (Note taker)

SPEAKER

WILLS AND ESTATES PRACTICE FUNDAMENTALS

Canadian Centre for Professional Legal Education, October 2014, November 2016, November 2017, March 2018

SPEAKER

WILLS AND ESTATES CASE UPDATE

Society of Trust and Estates Practitioners, Calgary Chapter, January 2018

SPEAKER

"LIMITED GRANTS - WHAT'S THE RUSH?"

Canadian Bar Association (Alberta South), Residential Real Property Section, November 2017

SPEAKER

ESTATE PLANNING

Friends of Fish Creek, October 2017

SPEAKER

PLANNING FOR INCAPACITY

Retired Teachers Association of Alberta, April 2017

SPEAKER

OBLIGATIONS OF AN EXECUTOR/TRUSTEE/ATTORNEY TO PROPERLY ACCOUNT: BEYOND THE BASICS & TALES FROM THE TRENCHES

Society of Trust and Estates Practitioners, Calgary Chapter, October 2016

SPEAKER

PERSONAL PLANNING

University of Alberta, October 2016

SPEAKER

WILLS 101

Beth Tzedec Synagogue, Hazak group, October 2016

CHAIR

WILLS AND ESTATES FOR LEGAL SUPPORT STAFF

Legal Education Society of Alberta, September and October 2012

SPEAKER

REAL ESTATE BOOT CAMP

Legal Education Society of Alberta, November and December 2009

TEACHING ROLES

DEVELOPED COURSE MATERIAL

ALBERTA WILLS AND ESTATES PRACTICE MANUAL

Legal Education Society of Alberta, July 2023

DEVELOPED COURSE MATERIAL

ALBERTA WILLS AND ESTATES PRACTICE MANUAL

Legal Education Society of Alberta, April 2019

DEVELOPED COURSE MATERIAL

ALBERTA ESTATE ADMINISTRATION MANUAL

Legal Education Society of Alberta, 2015-2016

EDITOR

TABLES OF NATIONAL CONCORDANCE, ALBERTA MATERIAL

Canadian Bar Association Wills and Trusts Section, 2011-2012

DEVELOPED COURSE MATERIAL

REMEDIES FROM THE 2007 ALBERTA RESIDENTIAL CONVEYANCING MANUAL

Legal Education Society of Alberta, October 2011