

ARI KAPLAN

SUMMARY

Leading expert in pensions and benefits law, litigation and dispute resolution. Author of leading authority in pension law and an accredited handbook in mindfulness meditation. Qualified Mediator with 2,000 hours as an impartial neutral, has facilitated multiple class action settlements and mediates complex and multiparty commercial disputes, benefits, employment and family disputes. Currently retained as commercial arbitrator in benefits disputes. Facilitates accredited group wellness and mindfulness meditation programs for professionals, fiduciaries, workplace and industry communities. PhD student researching law and emotions and designed a law school course in that area.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016-Present Principal & Founder, *KaplanLaw*. Toronto. Lawyer, mediator and arbitrator of legal disputes. Over 24 years of litigation, advice and settlement experience in pension and benefit claims, governance, regulatory compliance, investment, surplus deficits, trusts and fiduciaries, conversion and exchange, insolvency and restructuring, spousal rights, family and marriage breakdown, workplace and labour disputes, administrative proceedings and class actions. Counsel on some of Canada's leading court decisions. Retained as expert witness in U.S./Delaware commercial litigation. Has appeared before the Supreme Court of Canada, Ontario Court of Appeal, Quebec Court of Appeal, New Brunswick Court of Appeal, Federal Court of Appeal, the superior courts of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick, and the Financial Services Tribunal, Human Rights Tribunal, Labour Relations Board, grievance arbitration. Acts as Ninth Trustee and educator in fiduciary wellness and mindfulness meditation programs.

1997-2016 Koskie Minsky LLP. Toronto. Articled 1997. Associate 1999. Partner 2005.

PRINCIPAL PUBLICATIONS

2023 Author, *Toronto Method Mindfulness Handbook*. (Friesen Press, 176pp), accredited by the Law Society of Ontario for professionalism and EDI hour credits and approved by the Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario.

2021, 2013, 2006 Author, *Pension Law* (Irwin Law), 656pp; Co-author (with M. Frazer), *Pension Law 2nd Ed.* (Irwin Law), 622pp and *Pension Law 3rd Ed.* (Irwin Law), 726pp. Leading authority in Canadian pension law. Recipient of 2007 Walter Owen Book Prize for outstanding new contribution to Canadian legal literature. Cited as authority in seven decisions of the Supreme Court of Canada and by numerous appellate and trial courts, tribunals and commissions.

QUALIFICATIONS

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| 1994 | McGill University, B.A. (Hons) |
| 1997, 2001 | Osgoode Hall Law School at York University, LL.B. (1997), LL.M. (2001) |
| 1999 | Law Society of Ontario, Member |
| 2015 | ADR Institute of Canada, Q.Med. |
| 2023 | Mindfulness Meditation Teacher Certification Program, Awareness Training Institute at University of California, Berkeley, Greater Good Science Center. |

PEER RECOGNITION

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| 2022-2024 | Chambers Canada®: Dispute Resolution: Mediators Nationwide (Band 2) |
| 2005-2024 | Best Lawyers in Canada® Directory |
| 2006-2023 | Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory, Leading Practitioner (Most Frequently Recommended: 2012-2023) |
| 2012-2017 | Chambers Global® - World's Leading Lawyers (Band 1) |
| 2011-2013 | Lexpert®/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada |
| 2013 | Lawyer of the Year, Best Lawyers® (Toronto Employee Benefits Law) |

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

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| 2022-Present | PhD Candidate, Western University Faculty of Law, London |
| 2020-Present | Member of Board of Directors, MAiDHouse Toronto. Researching non-profit providing supportive and inclusive setting for medical assistance-in-dying |
| 2015-Present | Founding Member, Family Dispute Resolution Institute of Ontario (FDRIO) |
| 2007-2017 | Adjunct Professor, University of Toronto Law. <i>Private Pensions, Public Responsibilities: Law & Regulation of the Canadian Pension System</i> (LAW390H1) |
| 2011-2017 | Member of Board of Directors, Ontario Justice Education Network |
| 2011-2016 | Co-owner, Paper Bag Records Inc. (est. 2003). Invested and started a revenue generating publishing and licensing operation and signed music artists to roster |
| 2010-2012 | Member of the Board of Trustees, Law Foundation of Ontario, appointed by the Attorney General for Ontario. Since 1974, the LFO has disbursed over \$1 billion for public good and access to justice initiatives |