

BEST OF 2025

Practical Guidance



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Capital Markets and M&A

Resource Kits

In 2025, we introduced 17 new resource kits designed to help customers quickly and easily find the content they need, including:

- ▶ [Executive Compensation Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Underwriting Agreements Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Board Resolutions for Corporate Governance and Continuous Disclosure Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Compensation Committee Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Due Diligence Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Management Information Circular and Annual Shareholders' Meeting Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Takeover Bids Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Audit Committee Resource Kit](#)

Market Trends 2023/2024 Reports

We added **eight** new Market Trends practice notes that analyze various deal points found in private and public M&A transaction agreements using Market Standards, the searchable database of publicly filed M&A deals from Practical Guidance. Notable additions include:

- ▶ [Market Trends 2023/2024: Break Fees and Reverse Break Fees](#)
- ▶ [Market Trends 2023/2024: Bring-Down and Material Adverse Change](#)
- ▶ [Market Trends 2023/2024: Deal Protection Measures](#)

Stay current with newly added content through this dedicated resource kit for the Capital Markets and M&A practice area: [New Content Resource Kit: Capital Markets and M&A](#).

Commercial

In 2025, the Commercial practice area strengthened foundational coverage, drove differentiation with high-value content and continued with our jurisdictional expansion. In particular:

- ▶ We developed the [Presidential Executive Actions Tracker](#), which monitors all executive actions issued by Donald J. Trump, the 47th President of the United States. The tracker also captures relevant Government of Canada responses and related Canadian content, helping users navigate and assess the potential impacts of the evolving Canada–United States relationship.
- ▶ A new content type — Playbooks — was introduced to help counsel streamline contract negotiations within the commercial practice area. Six new Commercial Playbooks are now available (see the [Playbooks Resource Kit](#)).
- ▶ At least 20 new documents have been added to expand coverage of Consumer Protection—one of Commercial’s key differentiator topics—significantly deepening both breadth and depth in this area. Coverage now spans a wide range of issues, including [AI and Consumer Protection](#); [Greenwashing and Green Claims](#); [Loyalty Programs](#); [High-Cost Credit](#); [Payday Lending](#); [Subscription Services](#); [Money Services Businesses](#); and [Privacy Issues in Consumer Protection Law](#).
- ▶ Additional content also explores the emerging field of [influencer marketing](#), its [regulatory framework](#) and [best practices](#).
- ▶ We significantly expanded our Québec French-language content with the addition of 80 new documents spanning key areas such as Contracts, Supply of Goods and Services, Franchising, Privacy & Cybersecurity, and Financing, among others. The updated [Trousse de ressources sur les accords commerciaux et les clauses types \(QC\)](#) highlights the full range of available resources. In addition, more than 10 new English-language documents were added to strengthen Franchising coverage in Québec.
- ▶ Jurisdictional expansion efforts also continued in Alberta and British Columbia, with over 20 new documents across [Contracts & Contracting](#), [Supply of Goods & Services](#) and [Cybersecurity Compliance](#).
- ▶ Several new Resource Kits were introduced, including the [Force Majeure Resource Kit](#), [Contract Clauses Resource Kit](#), and the [Businesses Impacted by Tariffs Resource Kit](#).
- ▶ Finally, our Contracting and Supply of Goods and Services coverage continues to grow, with notable additions focused on [risk-based due diligence](#) and [vendor selection due diligence](#).

Corporate

In 2025, we continued to deepen our coverage across the key areas that matter most to corporate and private M&A practitioners, introducing new content on limited partnerships, joint ventures, and startup financing. We also launched new resource kits and significantly expanded our Québec offering with **61 new documents**, including high-use precedents such as share purchase agreements, shareholders' agreements, and more.

Key New Content

- ▶ Limited Partnership Agreements ([Short Form](#) and [Carried Interest](#))
- ▶ Stock Option Plan (Simple)
- ▶ Practice note: [Acquisition Structures: Asset Purchase vs. Share Purchase](#)
- ▶ [Term Sheet \(Convertible Note Financing\)](#)

Key Resource Kits

- ▶ [Corporate Tax Resource Kit](#), [Joint Ventures Resource Kit](#), [Limited Partnerships Resource Kit](#)

Key New Quebec Content

- ▶ Share Purchase Agreements in various versions (Pro Vendor, [Pro Purchaser](#), [Short Form](#), [Between Shareholders](#))
- ▶ Unanimous Shareholders' Agreements ([Regular](#), Two-Party Majority/Minority)
- ▶ Letters of Intent ([Private Equity](#), [IP Licensing](#), [IP Asset Sale](#), [Sale of Assets and Business](#), [Share Sale](#), [Joint Venture](#))
- ▶ Practice notes on [Share Purchase Agreements](#), Due Diligence Investigations, [Asset Purchase Agreements](#)

Employment

In 2025, we delivered customer-driven Employment Law content that improves workflow and helps customers draft and negotiate faster, with greater confidence.

In particular:

- ▶ 50+ new French and Quebec-focused documents: Highlights include new French-language Full and Final Releases ([Pro Employer](#) and [Pro Employee](#)), Confidentiality Agreements ([Pro Employer](#) and [Pro](#)

[Employee](#)), and Termination Letters - both For Cause ([General](#), [Absenteeism](#), and [Breach of Policy](#)) and Without Cause ([Statutory Minimum Notice](#) and [Offering Some Additional Compensation](#)).

- ▶ Our first French-language automated template: In direct response to customer requests, we converted our Quebec [Employment Agreement](#) into an automated template, improving speed, consistency, and ease of use for customers generating Quebec-compliant employment agreements.
- ▶ Playbooks: We introduced our first two employment law playbooks designed to support both drafting and negotiation strategy: [Employment Agreement Playbook](#) and [Independent Contractor Agreement Playbook](#).
- ▶ New resource kits to expand workflow support: We added several new resource kits to help customers find what they need faster and move through common workflows more efficiently, including: [Employment Agreement Clause Resource Kit](#), [Wrongful Dismissal Consultation Resource Kit](#) and [Businesses Impacted by Tariffs Resource Kit](#).

Family Law

In 2025, we expanded our litigation and trial readiness content, strengthened provincial coverage across Alberta, British Columbia, and Ontario, and introduced additional practical tools supporting dispute resolution, family violence screening, and tax-related family law issues.

British Columbia

- ▶ Expanded [trial-focused resources](#), including direct examination, cross-examination, and re-examination questions, as well as final orders, affidavits to adduce evidence, subpoenas, and notices to admit.

Alberta

- ▶ Added core pleadings (including Statements of Claim, Statements of Defence, and Counterclaims), emergency protection orders, and practical guidance on [drafting tips and common pitfalls](#) in pleadings, applications, and conference materials.

Ontario

- ▶ Enhanced trial-ready tools, including [Re-Examination Questions \(Trial\) \(ON\)](#); [Trials: Qualifying an Expert \(Voir dire\) \(ON\)](#); and [Common Evidence Tips \(ON\)](#).
- ▶ Expanded Section 7 calculation resources, including [Section 7 Expenses Journal \(ON\)](#) and [Post-Secondary Expenses Cost-Sharing Calculations \(ON\)](#).

- ▶ Added intimate partner violence and family violence screening tools, including [Screening for Family Dispute Resolution \(ON\)](#); [screening clauses](#) for family dispute resolution processes; [Family Arbitration Screening Agreement \(ON\)](#); and [Screening Report for Family Arbitration \(Alternate Version\) \(ON\)](#).

Tax & Financial Guidance (Federal & ON)

- ▶ Expanded tax and family law content, including [tax elections and attribution planning](#), [business asset reorganization guidance](#) in divorce or separation, and best practices for drafting effective agreements, highlighting the benefits of family dispute resolution approaches. Plus, these Resource Kits: [Family Law Litigation Resource Kit \(AB\)](#), [Family Law Litigation Resource Kit \(BC\)](#), and [First-Year Lawyer Resource Kit: Family \(BC\)](#).

Finance

In 2025, we expanded our coverage across lending and secured finance, enhanced practical guidance within our asset-based lending topic, and deepened our resources in emerging areas such as ESG-linked financing and digital asset lending. We also tracked evolving market trends by focusing on key deal points in credit agreements and introduced a tracker to help users quickly access our most recent content. Key additions include:

- ▶ General Lending: [Financial Accounting Issues for Loans](#) and [Defaulting Lenders](#).
- ▶ Security Over Assets: [Insurance Issues in Secured Lending Transactions](#), [Security Interests: Federal Crown Debt \(ON, BC, AB\)](#), [Security Interests: Foreign Assets and Cross-Border Issues \(ON, BC, AB\)](#)
- ▶ Asset-Based Lending: [Cash Dominion](#) and [Asset-Based Lending vs. Leveraged Finance](#).
- ▶ Emerging Areas: [Sustainability-Linked Loan Provisions Clauses \(Credit Agreement\)](#) and [Master Digital Currency Loan Agreement](#).
- ▶ Market Trends: [Market Trends 2025: Incremental Facilities](#), [Market Trends 2025: Amend and Extend Provisions](#), [Market Trends 2024-2025: Voluntary and Mandatory Prepayments](#), [Market Trends 2025: Bail-In Provisions](#), [Market Trends 2024-2025: Yield and Increased Costs](#), and [Market Trends 2024-2025: Sustainability-Linked Loans](#).
- ▶ New Content: New Content Resource Kit: [Finance](#)

In-House Counsel

In 2025, the In-House Counsel practice area focused on content addressing risk management, legal compliance, AI, and the evolving role of legal departments and in-house counsel.

We developed resources to support legal teams navigating a rapidly changing legal landscape shaped by new technologies, including:

- ▶ [General Counsel's Role in a Changing Legal Market](#)
- ▶ [Legal Technology and the In-House Legal Team](#)
- ▶ [Generative Artificial Intelligence for In-House Lawyers: Getting the Best Out of AI Tools](#)
- ▶ [AI in the Workplace Training Presentation](#)
- ▶ [In-House Legal Team Strategic Management](#)

We also expanded our risk management content, adding practical, ready-to-use checklists in key areas such as:

- ▶ [Legal Risk Management](#)
- ▶ [Contract Liability Risk Management](#)
- ▶ [Contract Indemnity Risk Management](#)
- ▶ [Contract Payment Risk Management](#)
- ▶ [Contract Intellectual Property Risk Management](#)

A University of Sherbrooke study found that mental health and wellness among legal professionals in Canada is a critical concern. The research revealed high levels of psychological distress, anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, and burnout, particularly among younger professionals, women, and individuals from marginalized groups. Most concerning, approximately 56% of legal professionals reported experiencing burnout, and 54% have considered leaving the profession.

In response to the significance of these findings, we introduced a new focus area on Mental Health, with content covering:

- ▶ [Mental Health and Wellness Strategies](#)
- ▶ [Personal Well-Being Strategies](#)
- ▶ [Mental Health and Legal Professionals](#)
- ▶ [Mental Health and Hybrid Work](#)

We also expanded our suite of training presentations to further support in-house counsel, including:

- ▶ ESG Policy and Strategy Development Training Presentation
- ▶ Cybersecurity Compliance Training Presentation
- ▶ Legal Services Outsourcing Considerations: Training Presentation
- ▶ Legal Department as Profit Centres: Training Presentation
- ▶ Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Workplace: Training Presentation
- ▶ Legal Department Disaster Recovery Plan Presentation

Insolvency & Restructuring

In 2025, we advanced our insolvency portfolio, building on the momentum established in checklist development the year prior. Emphasizing practical, process-oriented guidance, we added new resource kits and presentations to assist practitioners with both commercial and personal insolvency matters. Our newest additions include:

Resource Kits

- ▶ First-Year Bankruptcy
- ▶ Sale Procedures
- ▶ Priorities (and Superpriorities)
- ▶ Commercial Bankruptcy
- ▶ Receiverships

Presentations

- ▶ Commercial Bankruptcies
- ▶ Personal Bankruptcies

Our 2025 enhancements further strengthen our national insolvency coverage and provide practitioners with clear, practical guidance across an expanding range of insolvency processes.

Intellectual Property & Technology

In 2025, we expanded our IP/IT content with a focused investment in the most pressing issues such as AI, privacy, software as a service (SaaS) agreements, IP commercialization and licensing, and brand protection.

- ▶ **AI Readiness and Governance:** Practical resources to help lawyers stay current, identify AI-related legal risks, and address them in practice, including: [Private Sector Artificial Intelligence Legal Development Tracker](#), [Artificial Intelligence and Copyright: Ownership, Infringement and Licensing](#), [AI-Specific Confidentiality Clauses \(Checklist\)](#)
- ▶ **Privacy, Security and Incident Response:** Tools to help organizations meet evolving privacy obligations, manage vendor risk, and respond effectively to breaches, including: [Federal Private Sector Breach Notification Requirements Checklist](#), [Provincial Private Sector Breach Notification Requirements \(Checklist\)](#), [Data Processing Agreement \(DPA\) \(Federal\)](#)
- ▶ **Software as a Service Agreements (SaaS)**
Expanded variations of these popular, high-use agreements, including: [Software as a Service Agreement Downloadable Software \(Provider\)](#), [Software as a Service Agreement \(SaaS\) Downloadable Software \(Customer\)](#), [Software as a Service \(SaaS\) Agreement Playbook \(Customer\)](#)
- ▶ **IP Commercialization, Licensing**
Agreements and clauses addressing assignment, sublicensing, and control, including: [Intellectual Property Licencing Resource Kit](#), [Anti-Assignment Provisions in Intellectual Property Licences](#), [Intellectual Property License Agreement \(Sublicensing Clauses\)](#), [Intellectual Property Licence Agreement \(Advertising\) \(Pro-Licensee\)](#), [Intellectual Property Licence Agreement \(Advertising\) \(Pro-Licensor\)](#)
- ▶ **Brand Protection and Trademark Portfolio Strength**
Documents that help users audit, enforce, and modernize trademark protection strategies, including protection for non-traditional marks and trade dress: [Brand Protection Online](#), [Trademark Transactions Resource Kit](#), [Trademark Audit Checklist](#), [Trade Dress Protection](#), [Protecting Non-Traditional Trademarks](#)

Litigation & Dispute Resolution

We expanded the Litigation and Dispute Resolution module with 20 new resource kits, each designed as a centralized hub of practical, ready-to-use guidance. Every kit delivers jurisdiction-specific content, ensuring customers get locally aligned support without the guesswork. The result: clearer direction, faster action, and resources built to work in the real world. Highlights include:

- ▶ [Amend Pleadings Resource Kit \(AB, BC, ON\)](#)
- ▶ [Oppression Remedy Resource Kit \(AB, BC, ON\)](#)
- ▶ [Security for Costs Resource Kit \(AB, BC, ON\)](#)
- ▶ [Certificate of Pending Litigation Resource Kit \(AB, BC, ON\)](#)

The [Provincial & Registry Notices, Practice Directions, and Civil Rules Tracker](#) is now live in British Columbia. The Provincial & Registry Notices, Practice Directions, and Civil Rules Tracker brings clarity to a constantly evolving court landscape. Monitoring updates across the BC CA, SCBC, and Provincial Court, it distills legislative, rule, and procedural changes into concise summaries with actionable guidance. Built in response to customer demand for an BC-style solution, it helps practitioners stay informed, aligned, and ahead of change.

Expanded Jurisdictional Coverage: In 2025 we strengthened our offerings in British Columbia and Alberta with the addition of key content for each jurisdiction — delivering more comprehensive coverage and enhancing the overall customer experience.

- ▶ [Applications: Anti-SLAPP \(BC\)](#)
- ▶ [Trial Evidence \(BC\)](#)
- ▶ [First Year Lawyer Resource Kit: Civil Litigation \(BC\)](#)
- ▶ [Offer to Settle Checklist \(AB\)](#)
- ▶ [Appellant's Factum \(BC\)](#)

Personal Injury

In 2025 we expanded and modernized our Personal Injury coverage by creating resources on timely and emerging issues that were shaping the legal landscape across Canada.

Our 2025 content focused on hot topics such as new mobility technologies, evolving standards of care, and the increasing prominence of psychological harm in litigation. Expanding our jurisdictional reach — especially in Western Canada — was a central goal for 2025. In British Columbia, we substantially strengthened our offerings with new BC-specific practice notes addressing emerging personal injury issues, including cosmetic procedure litigation and mental health-related claims.

- ▶ [Injuries Caused by Aesthetic / Cosmetic Procedures: Causes of Action \(BC\)](#)
- ▶ [Injuries Caused by Aesthetic / Cosmetic Procedures: Defences \(BC\)](#)

- ▶ [Mental Health and Emotional Distress Claims \(BC\)](#)
- ▶ [Ride-Share Liability \(Practice Note and Statement of Claim\)](#)
- ▶ [Self-Driving Vehicle Liability \(Practice Note\)](#)

These additions ensure that legal professionals have access to practical, current, and jurisdiction-specific guidance on some of the most rapidly developing areas in personal injury practice.

Real Estate

In 2025, Real Estate reached a new level of maturity as a growing and expanding new module and practice area. We continued our strong jurisdictional expansion into British Columbia and Alberta, while sustaining robust growth in Ontario content.

We enhanced municipal and residential materials across the module and, for the first time, introduced a Commercial Leasing Playbook along with several Real Estate Resource Kits, with many more planned.

Real Estate has now achieved critical mass, positioning it competitively in the market and on track to reach full competitive parity and greater maturity in 2026.

Among the highlights and key topics delivered in 2025 – driven largely by strong customer demand – are:

Three new Resource Kits

- ▶ [First Year Lawyer Resource Kit: Residential Real Estate \(ON\)](#)
- ▶ [Commercial Real Estate Acquisitions and Sales Resource Kit](#)
- ▶ [Commercial Real Estate Leasing Resource Kit ...](#) with many more in store for 2026.

Playbook

- ▶ [Commercial Lease \(Office Space\) \(Long Form\) Playbook \(ON\)](#)

New Special Practice Notes Including

- ▶ [Life Leases \(For ON, AB, and BC\)](#)
- ▶ [Navigable Waters \(ON\)](#)
- ▶ [Planning Act Validation Certificates \(ON\)](#)
- ▶ [Buying and Selling Real Estate: Charities and Not-for-Profits \(ON\)](#)

Wills, Trusts & Estates

In 2025, several important topics were added to the WTE module, including Elder Law, Indigenous Estates, and Cryptocurrency.

New documents within these areas include:

- ▶ Elder Law: Interviewing Clients, Documentation, and Enforcement (BC)
- ▶ Elder Law: Advance Planning and Guardianship (BC)
- ▶ Will Drafting: Prior Considerations for Indigenous Clients (Federal)
- ▶ Indigenous Wills: Legal Regime and Estate Interests Checklist (Federal)
- ▶ Indigenous Wills: Drafting Checklist (Federal)
- ▶ Will Questionnaire Checklist: Indigenous Client (Federal)
- ▶ Blockchain-Based Assets and Estate Planning

We also introduced new Resource Kits:

- ▶ Adult Guardianship Resource Kit (AB)
- ▶ Estate Accounting Resource Kit (BC)
- ▶ Estate Accounting Resource Kit (ON)

In addition, several key documents were added to expand coverage across jurisdictions, including:

- ▶ Will Drafting Considerations (AB)
- ▶ Client Intake Checklist (Will Drafting) (AB)
- ▶ Probate Application: Lost or Destroyed Wills (BC)
- ▶ Resealing Orders and Ancillary Appointments (BC)