

# William J. Taggart

## Partner

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Bill's practice focuses exclusively on Aboriginal and Indigenous law.

He began practicing in this specialty as in-house lawyer for Grand Council Treaty #3, and was a member of the legal team which represented Ontario First Nations in the 1981 First Ministers Conference which resulted in the inclusion of s. 35 in the Constitution Act, 1982.

Legislative drafting for Indigenous clients has remained one of the main bases of his law practice but he has also acted for First Nations in claims and other matters including, most recently, acting as legal counsel for Henvey Inlet First Nation in the creation of the environmental laws and land tenure system for Henvey Inlet First Nation's 300 MW wind energy centre, one of the largest Indigenous projects in Canada. He advises First Nations in Ontario and in other provinces in relation to the legislative and executive functions of Indigenous governments, and is Past Chair of the OBA's Aboriginal Law Section.

Bill Taggart's comprehensive review of the Anishnabek Nation Governance Agreement appears in *Key Developments in Aboriginal Law, Volume 2* edited by Thomas Isaac and published by Thomson Reuters.

Bill is recognized as a leading lawyer in the 2024 edition of *The Best Lawyers™ in Canada* and *The Canadian Legal LEXPERT® Directory* in Aboriginal law / Indigenous Practice.

## PRACTICE AREAS

**Indigenous**

## Recent Insights

### CORPORATE COMMERCIAL

#### 2024 Canadian Legal LEXPERT Directory Rankings

Announcement, Recognition

### INDIGENOUS

#### Adverse Possession and Reserve Land

Article

## Education & Memberships

### EDUCATION

**Osgoode Hall Law School, LL.B., 1979**

**University of Calgary, B.A. (Hons), 1974**

### MEMBERSHIPS

**Ontario Bar Association**

**Canadian Bar Association**

## Awards & Recognition

**The Canadian Legal LEXPERT® Directory**  
[Aboriginal Law](#)

**The Best Lawyers™ in Canada**  
[Aboriginal Law / Indigenous Practice](#)

## Speaking Engagements & Publications

**OBA Aboriginal Law Update: Emerging Issues and Game Changing Cases, June 2022**  
[Program Co-Chair](#)

**Key Developments in Aboriginal Law, Volume 2**  
[Edited by Thomas Isaac and published by Thomson Reuters, 2021](#)

**CORPORATE COMMERCIAL**

**41 Lawyers Profiled Across 24 Areas of Law in The Best Lawyers in Canada, 2024**

Announcement, Recognition

**LITIGATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

**2023-2024 OBA Section Executives**

Announcement

**INDIGENOUS**

**Aboriginal Law Update: Emerging Issues and Game Changing Cases**

Speaking Engagement

**INDIGENOUS**

**Key Developments in Aboriginal Law, Volume 2**

Article

**INDIGENOUS**

**Connecting Indigenous Communities To High Speed Internet**

Article

**INDIGENOUS**

**Celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day**

Diversity & Inclusion

**Eastern Canadian Aboriginal Land Resource Management Forum**

[“Organizing Off-Reserve Joint Ventures Involving Multiple First Nations”, Insight Information](#)

**Commercial Projects on First Nations Reserves: From Indian Act to First Nations Land Management Act, 2016.**

**Professional & Community Involvement**

Trustee, Rotary Club of Cobourg Robert S. Scott Charitable Trust

Town of Cobourg Heritage Advisory Committee

Past President, Rotary Club of Cobourg