

## BRETT STEWART



**Categories:** [People](#), [Lawyers](#)

Brett Stewart is a highly experienced business law practitioner, known for her expertise in mergers and acquisitions and private equity investments. She assists domestic and foreign clients with negotiated transactions, including acquisitions, private equity financings, asset and share sales, complex corporate reorganizations, private placements, venture capital financings and management buyouts.

Advising clients on corporate governance issues, Brett also assists with day-to-day corporate and commercial matters, including the review and preparation of complex agreements. She represents clients in a number of sectors, including food, beverage and agribusiness, venture capital, and aerospace and defence.

Brett is the chair of the American Bar Association's Private Equity and Venture Capital Committee. She is a leader of McMillan's Cross-Border Transactions group and the firm's Private Equity & Venture Capital practice.

Brett was recognized by *Lexpert Magazine* as a rising star / leading lawyer in Canada under 40 years of age,

and as a corporate lawyer to watch in the *Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Corporate Lawyers in Canada*. As an adjunct professor for Osgoode Hall Law School, she taught a course on business associations.

**Email:** [brett.stewart@mcmillan.ca](mailto:brett.stewart@mcmillan.ca)

**Expertise:** Aerospace & Defence, Business Law, Food, Beverage & Agribusiness, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity & Venture Capital

**Location:** Toronto

**Phone:** 416.865.7115

**Position/Title:** Partner, Mergers & Acquisitions | Private Equity & Venture Capital | Chair of the Risk and Finance Committee

**Directorships & Affiliations:**

- Canadian Bar Association
- Women in Private Equity, Executive Committee member
- Canadian Venture Capital Association
- American Bar Association
- Association of Capital Growth

**Publications:**

- "[The International Comparative Legal Guide to Private Equity – 8<sup>th</sup> edition](#)," Canadian Contributor (2022)
- "[Private Equity Laws and Regulations Canada 2022-2023](#)," Co-author, The International Comparative Legal Guides, (2022)
- "[The International Comparative Legal Guide to Private Equity - 7th edition](#)," Canadian Contributor (2021)
- "The International Comparative Legal Guide to Private Equity - 3rd edition," Canadian Contributor (2017)
- "The International Comparative Legal Guide to Private Equity - 2nd edition," Canadian Contributor (2016)
- "[Comparative Advertising: The Basics](#)," Advertising & Marketing Bulletin (May 2005)

**Education & Admissions:**

**Degree:** Called to the Ontario bar

**Year:** 2005

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**Degree:** JD

**University:** University of Toronto

**Year:** 2004

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**Degree:** B.Sc. (Honours)

**University:** Queen's University

**Year:** 2001

### **Rankings & Recognition:**

- Recognized in the 2023 Lexpert Special Edition on Finance and M&A as one of Canada's Leading Finance and M&A Lawyers
- Recognized in the 2023 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended Lawyer in the area of Corporate Mid-Market
- Recognized in the 2022 Lexpert Special Edition on Finance and M&A as one of Canada's Leading Finance and M&A Lawyers
- Recognized in the 2022 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended Lawyer in the area of Corporate Mid-Market
- Recognized by *IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate Guide 2022* as a Rising Star in Investment Funds and Banking
- Recognized in the 2020 Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory as a Repeatedly Recommended lawyer in the area of Corporate Mid-Market
- Recognized by *IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate Guide 2020* as a Rising Star in Investment Funds and Banking
- Recognized by the 2019 Lexpert Guide to the US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyers in Canada as a leading Canadian lawyer in cross-border practices
- Recognized by *IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate Guide 2019* as a Rising Star in Investment Funds and Banking
- Ranked by Lexpert Guide (2018) as a leading US/Canada Cross-Border Lawyer in Canada
- Recognized in *IFLR1000 Financial and Corporate Guide 2018* as a rising star in the areas of Investment Funds and Banking
- Ranked in Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Corporate Lawyers in Canada 2015 as a Corporate Lawyer to Watch in the area of Corporate Commercial Law

- Named one of Lexpert's Rising Stars: Leading Lawyers Under 40, 2014

**Speaking Engagements:**

- Drafting Critical Boilerplate Provisions, Speaker, CBA Skilled Lawyer Series 2018, Toronto, Ontario
- March 2018

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- CVCA Insights, Toronto, Ontario
  - September 2015

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- Raising Capital: Equity Financing, Canadian Bar Association, Skilled Lawyer Series II
  - November 2011

**Representative Matters:**

- Acted as Canadian counsel on a share purchase and leaseback of a real estate portfolio for a net lease REIT for a purchase price of \$145M
- Acted for large engineering firm in acquisition and disposition of a series of engineering concerns
- Acted as Canadian counsel for a U.S. private equity fund in the acquisition of a publicly traded U.S. company with a Canadian subsidiary for a purchase price of approximately \$525 million
- Acted for Canadian generic drug manufacturer in series of acquisitions of Canadian wholesale drug distributors
- Acted as counsel to Regimen Equity Partners in completion of equity investment in a Montreal manufacturer.
- Acted for US private equity fund in series of Canadian based acquisition transactions
- Represented closely-held, family-owned company in a series of food industry transactions
- Represented the Ontario Emerging Technology Fund in venture capital investments in Investment in B5 Media Inc., Morega Systems Inc. Investment, Shoplogix Inc., Covarity, Peraso Technologies Inc., Verold Inc., and Affinium Pharmaceuticals
- Acted as Canadian counsel for a U.S. private equity fund in the acquisition of a business line from a S&P 500 company for a purchase price of \$500 million
- Advising a real estate investment bank in connection with a series of real estate acquisition transactions
- Negotiated critical services agreement with a value in excess of \$100 million for Vancouver Olympic Games
- Acted for Canadian private equity fund in series of acquisitions of closely held, family-owned

manufacturing entities

- Acted for international shipping company in acquisition of truck line
- Represented regional municipality in consolidation of municipal bus services to regional services
- Acted for Canadian/US closely-held shipping concern in the disposition of its assets
- Worked on corporate team representing Brookfield on corporate matters relative to Brookfield's intraconsortium documents for the acquisition of O&Y REIT, involving real estate assets valued in excess of \$2.1 billion

**Industries:** Aerospace & Defence, Food, Beverage & Agribusiness, Private Equity & Venture Capital

**Practices:** Business Law, Mergers & Acquisitions