



Joel Heard

Partner, Commercial

.....
Toronto

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Bar Admission: Ontario, 1994

Areas of Expertise

Major Projects

Nuclear Energy

Defence, Security and Aerospace

Hydrogen and Alternative Fuels

Renewable Energy

Power and Utilities

Energy

Mining and Natural Resources

Infrastructure

Health

Public Private Partnerships (P3)

Construction

Procurement

Joel has more than 25 years of experience in construction and infrastructure law. He has acted for public and private-sector owners, operators, lenders, engineers, contractors, subcontractors and suppliers on capital projects across a variety of industries including energy, infrastructure, mining, manufacturing, defence, housing and healthcare.

His practice is focused on the “front-end” of projects: planning, advising on project and commercial structures and procurement, and contract drafting and negotiation, with the objective of minimizing risk and avoiding claims and disputes. Joel’s experience includes design-build (including progressive design-build), EPC, construction management (services and at-risk), public-private partnerships, joint ventures, and advising on project execution issues.

Prior to joining Osler, Joel was a partner at a major Canadian law firm and worked as in-house counsel for several years at one of the world’s largest engineering and construction companies before establishing his own boutique firm focused on construction and commercial projects.

Joel is a Fellow of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers, and a Fellow of the Construction Lawyers Society of America, both invitation-only honorary associations of preeminent construction lawyers dedicated to promoting advocacy and ethical standards in construction law. He is the immediate past-Chair of the Project Delivery and Construction Technology Division of the American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law.

Awards and Recognition

- **Chambers Canada: Canada’s Leading Lawyers for Business:** Recognized in Construction (Nationwide – Canada). Respondent comments made to Chambers:
 - “Joel Heard understands construction and manages risk and reward concepts fluidly.”
 - “Joel provides excellent and timely advice.”
 - “He is whip-smart and I can always count on him for thorough and thoughtful advice”.
- **The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory:** Recognized in Construction Law; Infrastructure Law
- **Best Lawyers In Canada:** Recognized in Construction Law
- **Construction Lawyers Society of America:** Fellow
- **Adam Scott Collegiate Vocational Institute:** Hall of Honour

Credentials

Education

- University of Toronto, J.D.
 - Queen’s University, B.Comm. (with Honours)
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Professional Affiliations

- Law Society of Ontario
- Fellow, Canadian College of Construction Lawyers
- Fellow, Construction Lawyers Society of America
- Ontario Bar Association, Construction and Infrastructure Section; former Executive Member
- Canadian Bar Association, National Construction Law Section
- American Bar Association, Forum on Construction Law; Immediate Past Chair, Project Delivery and Construction Technology Division