

Ralph Kroman

Partner

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Practice Areas

Corporate & Commercial

Privacy & Access to

Information

Private Equity

Regulatory

Technology & Intellectual

Property

Telecom

Ralph Kroman brings broad experience and high-level expertise to his business law practice with an emphasis upon contract negotiations, intellectual property, information technology and commercial transactions.

Ralph practises business law and has provided his expertise to many significant mergers, financings, acquisitions, reorganizations and joint ventures. He is adept at helping clients deal with intellectual property and technology matters such as the acquisition of information technology, and the licensing and protection of copyright, trade-marks and confidential information. He negotiates complex contracts (including statements of work) for goods and services.

His clients are in many industries including retail, transportation, manufacturing, information technology, finance and professional service industries. He creates solutions for difficult commercial transactions but also helps entrepreneurs to start up and grow new businesses. Ralph's expertise includes the public sector and he acts for government and regulatory agencies who are in unique legal environments.

Called to the Bar

- Ontario (1984)

Education

- LL.B., Queen's University, 1982
- B.A., University of Toronto, 1979

Affiliations

- Canadian Bar Association
- Intellectual Property Institute of Canada
- Canadian IT Law Association

WeirFoulds LLP

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Significant Transactions

Ralph has in-depth experience regarding a multitude of transactions which vary in size and scope including that he:

- helped a Canadian client who is a major international supplier of video chips to go public on Nasdaq – prior to the client going public, Ralph guided the client through several rounds of financing including angel and institutional investors, and also helped the client register critical trade marks
- guided a key developer of health technology in connection with the establishment of a research and business relationship with a public company including the creation of a joint venture
- helped the Government of Ontario to draft new regulations regarding the distribution of a major agricultural product in Ontario
- acted for a major financial institution regarding the refinancing of over \$30,000,000.00 in railway rolling stock throughout Canada
- provided assistance to a statutory board regarding the commencement of the sale of government controlled products on the Internet
- helped a major municipal police force and other public emergency personnel acquire a digital radio system which consisted of both hardware and software components with a purchase price which exceeded \$35,000,000.

Awards

- David Sabbath Prize for highest standing in Debtor/Creditor Law at Faculty of Law, Queens University.
- Reuben Wells Leonard Prize for highest standing in Administrative Law at Faculty of Law, Queens University.

Speaking Engagements

- Speaker, "RGD Creativity & The Law Webinar: Protecting Your Intellectual Property and Technology Assets" Designers Promoting Designers, Online, May 13, 2021
- Speaker, "Startup Legal and IP", Founder Institute, Toronto, March 14, 2016
- Co-Presenter, "Startup Legal Basics (Intellectual Property)", Founder Institute, August 10, 2015
- "Protecting Intellectual Property In The Workplace", WeirFoulds Employment & Labour Group Client Seminar, Toronto, Ontario, April 17, 2015
- "Cloud Computing: Opportunities and Risks", WeirFoulds Continuing Professional Development Seminar, co-presented with John Wilkinson, May, 2012.
- "Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation - New Rules for Business Communications", presented to the Association of Communicators for Agricultural Organizations, May, 2012.
- "Contracting with Suppliers - A Balanced Approach to Indemnities and Limitations of Liability", co-presentation of the Association of Corporate Counsel and WeirFoulds LLP, June, 2011.
- "Partnering with Angel Investors" at Software Showcase.
- "What's New in Internet Law" at the Sudbury Regional Economic Development Association.
- "Protection of Trade Marks" at the Institute of Internal Auditors.
- "Angel Investing" (Head Panellist) at High-Tech Financing North.

Papers

Trade-Mark Law for Businesses – Practical Advice “, The Association of Registered Graphic Designers, April 2015

Top Ten Issues: Social Media “, Caribbean Corporate Counsel, November 2013

“Licensing in Canada” and “Improvements in Licensed Technology”, *International Technology Transfers for Profit* – Kluwer Law & Taxation Publishers

“Mergers and Ac

“Protecting Confidential Information, Trade Marks and Other Intellectual Property” *Second Annual Contemporary Legal Issues Conference, 1991*(WeirFoulds LLP client seminar publication)quisitions”, *Selling Up-Selling Out The Corum Group*

“Preventative Legal Medicine for Corporations” (co-author) *Third Annual Contemporary Legal Issues Conference-Law 1992: Problems, Preventatives, and Predictions* (WeirFoulds LLP client seminar publication)

“Protecting Assets from Creditors”, *Sixth Annual Contemporary Legal Issues Conference: Legal Update '95* (WeirFoulds LLP client seminar publication)

“Drafting Indemnities for Directors”, *Canadian Corporate Law Reporter*

“Important News About the New .ca Domain Name Registry”, “Tips for Safe Linking on the Internet”, “The High Risk of Hi-Tech Misuse by Employees” and “So You Want to Expand Your Business: If You Don't Take Care of Your Trade Marks, Your Plans Could be Ruined” in *Intellectual Property Today* (WeirFoulds LLP newsletter published by the Intellectual Property, Information Technology and Privacy Law Group)

“So You Want to Start Your Own Business“, *The Iron Warrior*, University of Waterloo Engineering Society

“Partnering with Angel Investors”, Software Showcase.

“One Way to Protect The Value of Your Business” (WeirFoulds LLP newsletter published by the Intellectual Property, Information Technology and Privacy Law Group)

“Creditor Proofing and How to Plan For It”, *CICA Magazine*

“Tips For Employers Who Serve Alcohol at Office Parties”, WeirFoulds LLP

“Tips For Employers Who Serve Alcohol at Office Parties – An Update”, WeirFoulds LLP website publication

“Stricter Rules for Telemarketers”, *Commercial Times*– CCH

“Have You Done Enough to Protect Your Trade Secrets” (WeirFoulds LLP newsletter published by the Intellectual Property, Information Technology and Privacy Law Group), August 2006

“How to Build Up and Cash Out”, *Enterprise Magazine*

“Employees: Your Greatest Asset, Your Greatest Liability”, *CRN Canad*

Ralph Kroman was quoted in “Olympic Trademark Games” *Canadian Business*

Publications

- Canadian Trademarks: A Great Time to File (Part 2), May 27, 2019
- Canadian Trademarks: A Great Time to File (Part 1), April 02, 2019
- Canada’s Anti-Spam Law Update: Private Right of Action Suspended, June 08, 2017
- Canada’s Anti-Spam Law has New Teeth on July 1, 2017, June 02, 2017
- National Cyber Security Awareness Month: 10 Tips For Businesses, September 30, 2016
- National Cyber Security Awareness Month: 10 Tips For Businesses, September 30, 2016
- Quiz: Managing Cybersecurity Risk in Contracts, January 07, 2016
- Client Newsletter – Fall 2014, September 29, 2014
- How the New Anti-Spam Act Will Affect Your Business – Update, April 14, 2014
- Canada’s Federal Court of Appeal Endorses a Forward-Looking Approach to Prevention of Competition, March 25, 2013
- Canada’s New Anti-Spam Act Moves Forward, January 21, 2013
- How the New Anti-Spam Act Will Affect Your Business, September 04, 2012
- Client Newsletter – Fall 2012, September 01, 2012
- Contracting with Suppliers – A Balanced Approach to Indemnities and Limitations of Liability, June 02, 2011
- Canada’s New Copyright Bill and Consumer Rights – What’s the Fuss?, July 19, 2010