



## Barbara J. Stratton KC

Edmonton Managing Partner

*Co-Head of Health Practice*

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Edmonton

### EDUCATION

University of Alberta, BEd, 1987

University of Alberta, LLB, 1991

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Alberta, 1992

Barbara Stratton supports clients navigating the complex aspects of wills and estates disputes, including acting as a mediator in this area. She also assists employers and employees with health-related employment law issues and regularly represents physicians and surgeons in administrative, litigation and health law matters.

Repeatedly recognized as a leading lawyer in the areas of medical malpractice and estate planning, clients turn to Barbara for strategic advice when faced with health law matters or wills and estates disputes. She is an expert litigator on professional negligence matters, accomplished mediator in the areas of wills and estates and family law, and a steadfast advocate for her clients. Consistently bringing her expertise to the forefront of conflict resolution, Barbara has been named one of Canada's leading lawyers in the areas of Healthcare, Medical Negligence, Professional Liability and Estate Planning.

"The advice she has given has been excellent. She is a strategic thinker who can deal with complex issues and get great results."

#### What Clients Say

In addition to maintaining a busy litigation and mediation practice, Barbara also serves as Managing Partner for Bennett Jones' Edmonton office. Her extensive court experience speaks volumes, having appeared before all levels of Court in Alberta and various

administrative panels, public inquiries and professional regulatory bodies, including the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta. Barbara's experience mediating wills and estates and family law disputes rounds out her practice, showcasing her ability to find meaningful resolutions for her clients both inside and outside of the courtroom. She is a proud alumna of the Mediation and Conflict Management Seminar with Harvard Law School, and is committed to continuous professional development to serve her clients better.

"Barbara consistently supplies useable and reliable advice. She is aware of the client's political and operational constraints, offers credible advice, and will always brief decision makers, doing so in an understandable way."

#### **What Clients Say**

## **Health Law**

As co-head of Bennett Jones' health law practice, Barbara represents physicians and surgeons in civil litigation, hospital and College complaints. Recognized as a leading lawyer for medical negligence matters, she represents defendants and is a top choice for healthcare professionals requiring assistance to resolve health-related legal disputes.

## **Wills and Estate Litigation**

Barbara not only assists families facing disputes over wills and estate-related matters, but also acts as a mediator to bring resolution to challenging situations. Her focus includes issues pertaining to personal directives, enduring powers of attorney and family maintenance or support claims. Through proactive advice and mitigation strategies, Barbara aims to reduce the risk of claims made against an estate. When disputes arise, she leans heavily into alternative dispute remedies, has a proven track record acting as a mediator and is able to help family members reach resolutions outside of the courtroom.

## **Employment Law, Privacy Law and Human Rights Breaches**

Employers and employees alike rely on Barbara's strategic advice in health-related employment law matters, including terminations, privacy and human rights. Her experience includes representing employers in court and successfully defending claims made to the Human Rights Commission and Privacy Commission. She also assists employees on a variety of matters including job loss, human rights and privacy breaches, and settlement negotiations.

## **Speaking Engagements and Volunteer Organizations**

Barbara is regarded as a thought-leader in the Canadian legal community, frequently presenting to various groups on wills and estates disputes, mediation, health law, employment law and civil litigation.

Her dedication to the community extends well beyond her litigation and mediation practice. Barbara is a proud member of the Legal Forum, a mentor with the Alberta Lawyer's Assistance Society and has facilitated the Alberta bar admission course (CPLED). She remains a committed member of the Canadian Bar Association (Alberta Branch), notably contributing her time to the Planning Committee for the Alberta Court of Appeal 100 Year Anniversary Symposium and is a past Chair of multiple sections. Remarkably, Barbara still finds time to give back to the next generation and is a dedicated mentor to young lawyers within the firm and beyond.