

**Leanne M. Williams**  
Partner

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Leanne is a member of TGF's restructuring and insolvency practice group and is a recognized leader in insolvency law. Leanne's practice includes a variety of mandates, including workouts, refinancing, receiverships, bankruptcies, debtor protection and the enforcement of creditors' rights. Leanne represents both debtors and financial institutions across a broad spectrum of industries, and she also represents court officers such as trustees in bankruptcy, receivers and CCAA monitors.

As an experienced insolvency lawyer, Leanne is known for her collaborative and innovative approaches to resolving complex legal challenges. Her clients commend her strategic thinking and business expertise as keys to her success in the industry, often in ground-breaking mandates that set new precedents.

Leanne is a passionate leader of and advocate for the practice of restructuring and insolvency law. She has been repeatedly recognized by Chambers Canada and Chambers Global as a legal leader for Restructuring and Insolvency, has been named a "Thought Leader" by Who's Who Legal and as a leading practitioner by The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory and Expert Guides for restructuring and insolvency. Leanne is also a co-author of Lexology and International Financial Law Review (IFLR), and served as the President of the Toronto Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association.

Outside of her practice, Leanne is an active community leader and regularly engages with local and national community organizations as part of TGF's ongoing social responsibility endeavours. Leanne also plays a role in building the culture of the firm through its recruitment and development initiatives, and is an active mentor.

**Representative mandates**

- + Counsel to the Trustee in Bankruptcy of Aiden Pleterski (and his related corporation), the self-proclaimed Crypto King who has been charged with defrauding investors out of millions of dollars.
- + Counsel to the Court-appointed Receiver of the Peace Bridge Duty Free Inc., the operator of the duty free store on the Fort Erie bridge to the United States.

- + Canadian counsel to the Unsecured Creditors' Committee in the US Chapter 11 proceeding and Canadian recognition proceeding of Nevada Cooper Inc.
- + Counsel to the Pride Group in their CCAA proceedings, which have been recognized under Chapter 15 of the US Bankruptcy Code. The Pride Group is a trucking and logistics conglomerate that operates across Canada and the United States and is undergoing a restructuring of its secured liabilities in excess of \$1.6 billion, involving over 20 lending institutions.
- + Counsel to FTI Consulting Canada Inc. as court-appointed monitor of Fire & Flower Holdings Corp. and its affiliates pursuant to the CCAA.
- + Counsel to Carriage Hills and Carriage Ridge timeshare resorts in their Court-supervised restructuring involving over 30,000 timeshare members.
- + Counsel to debtors Sproutly, Inc. and Toronto Herbal Remedies Inc. in their restructuring and asset sale under the CCAA.
- + Counsel to the Unsecured Creditors' Committee in the US Chapter 11 proceeding of Bumble Bee and the Canadian CCAA proceedings of Clover Leaf.
- + Counsel to Business Development Bank of Canada in the CCAA proceedings of North American Fur Auctions.
- + Counsel to Stantive Technologies Group in their CCAA proceedings.
- + Counsel to JTI-Macdonald Corp., one of the largest tobacco companies in Canada, in its proceedings under the CCAA with a goal to achieve a global resolution of the myriad of litigation claims against it exceeding \$500 billion. The two other largest tobacco companies have also filed for CCAA protection resulting in unprecedented industry-wide proceedings.
- + Counsel to BDC Capital Inc. in the Quebec CCAA restructuring of BioAmber Inc., a sustainable chemicals company.
- + Counsel to Whirlpool Canada in the CCAA restructuring of Sears Canada.
- + Counsel to BDO Canada Limited as court-appointed receiver of Emmanuel Village Residence Inc.
- + Represented Endurance Energy Ltd. in connection with its proceedings under the CCAA, an Alberta-based oil and gas production company, which successfully sold its assets as part of its restructuring efforts.
- + Counsel to the court-appointed monitor of the Mobilicity group of companies.
- + Advisor to U.S. Steel in the restructuring of U.S. Steel Canada.
- + Counsel to the syndicate of lenders to Allen-Vanguard Corporation, a publicly-traded international military defense corporation, during its restructuring through the CCAA and recapitalization as a private entity.
- + Counsel to Flextronics Corporation, Nortel's largest supplier and significant creditor, during the CCAA restructuring of Nortel.
- + Represented Hollinger and certain of its subsidiaries in its CCAA filing in Canada.
- + Advisor to the court-appointed monitor of AbitibiBowater.
- + Represented the monitor of a retailer, Athletes World, in its restructuring and successful Plan of Arrangement under the CCAA.
- + Counsel to the court-appointed Interim Receiver of Mosaic Group, a cross-border marketing and technology company, during the liquidation of its assets for the benefit of its creditors.
- + Represented the largest secured creditor of Canada 3000 during the liquidation of the airline's assets.

- + Counsel to the largest unsecured creditor of Irwin Toy during the liquidation of its assets.

## Professional Involvement

Leanne is a member of:

- + Insolvency Institute of Canada; Co-chair of the IIC Ontario Regional Development Committee
- + Canadian Bar Association
- + Ontario Bar Association, Insolvency Section
- + American Bankruptcy Institute
- + Association for Corporate Growth
- + Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals
- + International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation
- + INSOL International
- + The Advocates' Society
- + Toronto Lawyers Association
- + Turnaround Management Association
- + Women's Executive Network

### Recent professional appearances include:

- + [Oct 21, 2023](#)

Leanne M. Williams was a panelist on "Set-Off Rights - Where Are We Now?" at the 2023 IIC annual conference.

- + [Feb 08, 2022](#)

Leanne Williams interviews Bill Kennedy as part of TMA's Podcast Series.

- + [Oct 04, 2021](#)

John Finnigan, Leanne Williams & Mitch Grossell are panelists at the ACFI 23rd Annual Fraud Conference.

- + [Oct 28, 2020](#)

Leanne Williams is a panelist on OsgoodePD's "Advanced Issues in Secured Lending & Debt Finance: Navigating Complex Issues & Emerging Trends" webinar

- + [May 07, 2020](#)

Leanne Williams is a panelist on IWIRC's webinar, "Business Development During COVID-19", which includes counsel from Brazil, Hong Kong and Cayman

- + [Sep 26, 2019](#)

Leanne Williams is moderating the Judicial & Legal Update panel of the 4th Annual CAIRP Insolvency & Restructuring Exchange.

- + [Sep 28, 2018](#)

Leanne M. Williams will be speaking on the topic "Beware the Civil Remedies Act" at the Insolvency Institute of Canada's Annual conference

- + [Nov 09, 2017](#)

Leanne M. Williams is co-presenting on "Enforcing and Realizing on Security" at OsgoodePD's Intensive Short Course in Secured Lending & Debt Finance

+ [Jun 07, 2017](#)

Robert I. Thornton and Leanne M. Williams are speaking at The Advocates' Society Program "Insolvency Litigation" on June 7, 2017.

+ [Apr 20, 2017](#)

L. Williams is speaking at the annual TMA Symposium on a panel entitled "Shaping the Restructuring Outlook for 2017: Economics, Politics, Government"

+ [Feb 07, 2017](#)

Leanne M. Williams is co-chairing the OBA Institute's program entitled "What's New and Notable in the World of Insolvency Law?"

+ [Oct 18, 2016](#)

Leanne Williams is speaking on the lunch and learn panel "West Meet East" hosted by IWIRC on October 18, 2016.

+ [Feb 16, 2016](#)

Leanne Williams is co-chairing the Ontario Bar Association's Institute 2016 Insolvency Law Program, Insolvency "Law or Uncertain Economic Times".

+ [Jan 19, 2016](#)

Leanne Williams is co-chairing and presenting at The Federated Press - "2nd Loan Documentation Course".

+ [Oct 07, 2015](#)

Leanne Williams is presenting at Osgoode Professional Development - "Enforcing and Realizing on Security".

## Recognition

Leanne is recognized as a leading lawyer in:

- + The Best Lawyers in Canada® 2025 and prior years (Insolvency & Financial Restructuring Law)
- + Chambers Canada Guide 2025 and prior years (Restructuring & Insolvency)
- + Chambers Global Guide 2024 (Restructuring & Insolvency)
- + The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory 2025 and prior years (Financial Restructuring)
- + Who's Who Legal - Thought Leader - Restructuring & Insolvency 2023 & 2022
- + Who's Who Legal - Global Leader - Restructuring & Insolvency 2021
- + Who's Who Legal - National Leader - Restructuring and Insolvency 2023 & 2021
- + Benchmark Canada: The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys 2025 & prior years (Litigation Star in Ontario)
- + Euromoney's Expert Guides 2018 (Restructuring & Insolvency)

## Publications

+ [Nov 14, 2022](#)

Leanne Williams co-authored the article "The Pandemic – An Unconventional Review of Where We Are and Where We Should Go From Here?"

+ [Jan 05, 2022](#)

Leanne Williams, Puya Fesharaki & Derek Harland co-authored the 2022 Canadian Restructuring & Insolvency chapter of Lexology Getting the Deal Through.

+ [Apr 27, 2018](#)

Leanne M. Williams and Puya Fesharaki are the Canadian contributors to the International Comparative Legal Guide to: Corporate Recovery & Insolvency 2018.

+ [Jun 01, 2017](#)

Leanne M. Williams and Puya Fesharaki co-authored the Canadian Chapter of the International Comparative Legal Guide to: Corporate Recovery & Insolvency

+ [Apr 10, 2017](#)

Co-author of the Canadian Chapter of the Lexology Navigator for Insolvency & Restructuring

+ [Dec 31, 2007](#)

ABCP Crisis: The Canadian Solution

## Education

### Bar Admissions

+ [Ontario, 1999](#)

### Education

+ [LL.B. \(University of Manitoba\), 1997](#)

+ [B.A. \(Hons.\) \(Western University\), 1994](#)