Gaming

The Aird & Berlis LLP Gaming Group is a highly-experienced, multi-disciplinary team that provides specialized and sophisticated service to clients in the gaming industry. We advise clients across Canada and internationally on regulatory compliance and licensing, as well as all corporate matters.

Aird & Berlis has played a major role in the growth and development of Ontario’s gaming industry since its inception. We advise industry leaders in all types of gaming, from pure gambling to hospitality and entertainment. Our expertise in areas such as technology, regulatory compliance, commercial contracting, licensing, real estate, tax, corporate structuring and litigation enables us to provide clients with comprehensive legal service.

Building on exceptional experience in traditional gaming matters, Aird & Berlis’s lawyers frequently advise on novel gaming platforms and models. In recent years, we have led the way on the expansion into online and off-shore gaming, social gaming, skill-based gaming, e-sports and fantasy sports. We have developed novel regulatory and commercial approaches to accommodate emerging technologies and the increased connection between the gaming, hospitality and entertainment sectors.

Clients trust our knowledge of the legal, regulatory and enforcement positions, and they rely on us to analyze and take advantage of any possible differences between them. We provide practical advice, with a focus on identifying and mitigating risk, so that our clients can achieve their objectives and carry on business within their chosen risk profile.

Through strong relationships with the regulatory and enforcement authorities, we are able to navigate the intricacies of interpretation applicable to gaming legislation. This allows us to maximize legal compliance while reducing taxes payable and increasing operational efficiencies.

Further, we have key contacts at private industry operators, service providers and policy creators, both across Canada and internationally, keeping us informed of all industry developments and trends.

Aird & Berlis’s lawyers frequently write and speak on gaming law topics, and are active in gaming industry groups and associations.

Client Focused
We take the time to partner with each of our clients in order to learn their business and to provide the most efficient, effective and cost-sensitive counsel available.

Diverse Breadth
Because of the diversity of experience within our Gaming Group, we are able to work with gaming licensees, doing business in Ontario, Canada or internationally, to address all of their regulatory, corporate, finance, taxation and litigation needs.

Choose Experience
Our Gaming Group has expertise in handling all types of gaming-related matters, including:

- Business ownership and operations structuring, often on a multi-jurisdictional basis, and optimizing them from a legal, tax and operational perspective
- Negotiating buyouts and mergers of gaming facilities and operators
- Gaming and licensing process and related approval processes
Legal and policy structures of various gaming enterprises
Government procurement processes and bids
Protection and enforcement of intellectual property in gaming systems and software
Online gaming regulatory matters and Internet gaming opportunities, both foreign and domestic
Requirements of the *Ontario Gaming Control Act, 1992* and regulations, the *Criminal Code*, the *Competition Act* and other pertinent legislation, regulation, polices and guidelines
Mergers and acquisitions, corporate reorganizations and other corporate transactions affecting Ontario casinos or other gaming licensees
Obtaining liquor, gaming and all other licenses and permits required for gaming operations
Legal policy developments
Foreign gaming interests considering entering the industry in Ontario
Gaming regulations outside of Ontario
Encryption and security issues
Data and information protection policies, procedures, contracts and audits
Reorganizations under the *Companies’ Creditors Arrangement Act* and Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code
Corporate transactions and financing matters
Board and special committee advisory work

**Who We Help**

*We Represent:*
- Commercial casinos
- Government agencies
- Bingo operators
- Industry associations
- Regulators
- Special events organizers
- Gaming equipment manufacturers
- Financing parties
- Underwriters
- Institutional investors
- Online gaming providers
- Racetracks
- Racing operators
- Suppliers and service providers
- Contest promoters

The members of the A&B Gaming Group advise clients in the following areas:

- Regulatory compliance and licensing
- Gaming (casino) law
- Government relations, legislative affairs and policy
- E-Commerce law
Advertising, marketing and consumer relations
Labour and employment
Government procurement
Tax planning
Technology and intellectual property licensing
First Nations
Data management, protection and privacy
Financial services
Mergers and acquisitions
Real estate acquisition and construction
Municipal law, zoning and development
Government procurement
Litigation and other dispute resolution
Criminal avoidance

Contact

Peter K. Czegledy
Partner
T 416.865.7749
pczegledy@airdberlis.com

Group Members

Paige Backman
Partner
T 416.865.7700
pbackman@airdberlis.com

Aaron Baer
Partner
T 416.865.4636
abaer@airdberlis.com

Peter K. Czegledy
Partner
T 416.865.7749
pczegledy@airdberlis.com

Joel M. Rose
Partner
T 416.865.3408
jrose@airdberlis.com

Jesse Rosensweet
Partner
T 416.865.3063
jrosensweet@airdberlis.com

Liam Tracey-Raymont
Associate
T 416.865.3964
ltracey-raymont@airdberlis.com