

A close-up photograph of a person's hands writing in a lined notebook. The person is wearing a dark grey business suit jacket over a light blue and white striped shirt. They are holding a black pen with silver accents. In the background, another person's hands are visible, also writing in a notebook with a blue pen. The scene is set on a dark wooden desk.

Corporate/Commercial



AIRD BERLIS

TORONTO
VANCOUVER



Corporate/Commercial

Attentive and proactive corporate counsel is vital to meeting the competitive demands of carrying on business domestically and internationally. At Aird & Berlis, we advise public and private corporations, partnerships and trusts on matters requiring both immediate action and long-term planning, including:

- > Structuring and negotiating business transactions, including corporate acquisitions, divestitures and reorganizations
- > Corporate restructurings - establishing domestic and international franchises, licensing arrangements, distributorships and joint ventures
- > Corporate governance issues
- > Arrangements for the commercial exploitation and use of technology
- > Competition issues along with restrictive trade practices, including monopolization, restraint of trade, predatory pricing, price maintenance and discrimination and misleading marketing practices

Specialized Expertise

Private Business Services

The legal needs of family-owned, privately-managed and owner-operated businesses are unique. Owners and managers of private businesses need strategic legal advisors who understand the company's past, recognize the need for continuity and can position the company for future growth. The Aird & Berlis Private Business Services Group has hands-on advisors who can guide you through the initial planning, everyday transactions and challenging transitions faced by all businesses. It's a wise investment: careful drafting of a shareholders' agreement can future-proof the business, while prudent tax and succession planning ensures that your eventual transition is a cause of celebration, not turmoil.

We advise clients on a broad spectrum of issues ranging from day-to-day matters of managing and operating companies to key junctures such as reorganizations, acquisitions, divestitures, franchising, shareholder disputes and negotiating, drafting and settling commercial agreements of all descriptions. We also advise on employment and termination agreements, privacy and data security, tax and succession planning.

Advising private business clients requires a multidisciplinary approach. The members of this group work closely with other professionals within the firm, especially from areas such as banking & finance, intellectual property, employment and occupational health & safety law, litigation & dispute resolution, municipal & land use planning, real estate, and tax, estate & succession planning, to provide our clients with a full range of services. We also have a large referral network of other professional service providers, including accountants, insurance agents and wealth management professionals, who can advise on non-legal matters.

Owners and managers of private businesses wear many hats. We wear one: strategic legal advisor. Trust us to handle your legal matters so that you can focus on your business.



Corporate/Commercial

Startups & Emerging Companies

You are familiar with the challenges of being an entrepreneur: the long days and nights spent building your business from the ground up and the sacrifices to make your dream become reality.

A solid legal foundation will fuel your development, growth and expansion plans. We put mechanisms in place to minimize risk.

Let us incorporate your business, protect your intellectual property and draft a shareholders agreement so that you can get organized, raise money and gain credibility to expand your business.

Our Startup Suites

We offer a Startup Suites package which is intended to give your business a firmer legal footing. The package includes:

- > Initial Meeting
- > Federal or Ontario incorporation, including:
 - director and shareholder resolutions
 - articles and bylaws
 - subscription agreements and share certificates
 - director, officer and shareholder registers
 - your minute book
- > Access to basic confidentiality, non-disclosure and IP transfer agreements
- > Form of employment or consultant agreement
- > 2 hours of IP consultation
- > 2 hours of corporate law consultation

You will also gain access to our firm's local, regional, national and international connections in the legal, banking and venture capital communities, as well as agreement precedents.

Leverage Our Expertise for Your Business

We have worked with thousands of businesses, ranging from startups to major multinationals. Our experts will walk you through the entire process so you understand exactly what is taking place and why. As your business grows and expands, we will continue to be there for you every step of the way.

Corporate/Commercial

Protect Your Intellectual Property

We work closely to provide a full range of services in IP procurement, litigation, technology transfer and corporate transactions in connection with all forms of IP, including patents, trademarks, copyrights, industrial designs, trade secrets and domain names.

Contacts



Jeremy D. Burke
T 416.865.4644
jburke@airdberlis.com



Lisa E. Moreau
T 416.865.3068
lmoreau@airdberlis.com