

**Melanie Cole****Partner**

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Toronto



Whether advising her clients on public and private financings, mergers and acquisitions, or corporate commercial matters, Melanie takes a client-first approach and makes their priorities her own. She is quick-thinking, highly responsive and skilled at providing her clients with the information they need to make business decisions that matter.

Melanie is Practice Group Leader of the firm's ESG & Sustainability Group and Chair of the Associates Committee. She is also a member of the firm's Capital Markets, Corporate/Commercial and Mergers & Acquisitions Groups, as well as a number of industry groups, including the Life Sciences, Cannabis and Mines & Minerals Groups. Melanie practises corporate and securities law with a focus on public and private financings, mergers and acquisitions, ongoing securities and continuous disclosure, corporate governance, and going-public transactions, including reverse takeovers and initial public offerings. She advises domestic and international clients, ranging from small startups to large public companies, including those listed on the TSX.

Outside of her practice, Melanie is deeply committed to community engagement. She actively contributes to the charitable sector and serves as a mentor to junior lawyers. Melanie chairs the firm's Associates Committee and is a Director of the Eating Disorders Foundation of Canada, a charity dedicated to funding evidence-based care, advancing research and raising awareness about eating disorders in Canada. She is also Past Chair of the Breast Cancer Support Fund.

Prior to her legal career, Melanie was a legislative advisor to a federal Cabinet Minister.

Expertise

- > Capital Markets
- > Corporate/Commercial
- > Mergers & Acquisitions

Industries

- > Blockchain, Cryptocurrencies & ICOs
- > Cannabis
- > ESG & Sustainability
- > Life Sciences
- > Mines & Minerals

Awards & Recognition

- > Recognized in *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* as a leading individual in Corporate Mid-Market
- > Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in Canada* in the field of Cannabis Law
- > Recognized in the *Global Top 200 Psychedelics Lawyers Directory*, 2022-2024
- > Listed in *Lexpert's* 2025 Special Edition on Finance and M&A
- > Mondaq Thought Leadership Award Recipient (Finance and Banking - Canada), 2024
- > Recognized as a *Thomson Reuters Stand-Out Lawyer – Independently Rated Lawyers*, 2022
- > Recognized as an *Acritas Star*

Professional Involvement

Memberships

- > OSC Small Business Advisory Committee
- > International Bar Association
- > International Cannabis Bar Association

Community Involvement

- > Director of the Eating Disorders Foundation of Canada, a charity committed to raising funds to support evidence-based care for, research into and increased awareness about eating disorders in Canada.
- > Past Chair of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Breast Cancer Support Fund, a charitable organization whose mission is to support breast cancer patients on their journey to wellness by providing short-term financial support, educational workshops and by raising awareness about the impact of the environmental factors affecting breast cancer.
- > Past Chair of the Board of Directors of On-Track Career and Employment Services, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to facilitate sustainable employment opportunities for marginalized populations in Malvern, a high-priority neighbourhood in Scarborough.

Education

- > LLB, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, 2008
- > BA (Hons, with Distinction), University of Guelph, 2002