

Mike (Michael) A. Hurst

Partner



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Overview

Mike is a partner and manager of the Firm's Energy Transactions practice section in the Calgary office. He is also the Firm's national and global Energy sector lead for Canada.

Mike's expertise is in the area of energy law. His advice has been sought with respect to oil and gas upstream, midstream and pipeline acquisitions, the structuring of greenfield projects, financing transactions and product sales arrangements.

Mike has worked on infrastructure projects in the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin, the Canadian arctic and offshore areas and South America.

Mike has acted in the structuring of three large oilsands joint ventures.

Experience

- **Cenovus Energy Inc.:** Advising on its \$940 million sale of its oil and gas properties and enhanced oil operations near Weyburn, Saskatchewan to Whitecap Resources Inc.
- **Enbridge Inc.:** Advising and negotiating the long term transportation arrangements pertaining to the CA\$1.4 billion Norlite Pipeline Project pertaining to the transportation of diluent from the Enbridge Stonefell site near Edmonton to terminal and tank facilities near Fort McMurray.
- **Enbridge Inc.:** Advising and negotiating the joint venture arrangement with Keyera for the construction, ownership and operation of the CA\$1.4 billion Norlite Pipeline Project that will transport diluent from the Enbridge Stonefell site near Edmonton to terminal and tank facilities near Fort McMurray.
- **Enbridge Inc.:** Advising and negotiating long term transportation arrangements for various multi-billion dollar diluted bitumen pipeline projects in Athabasca oil sands region.
- **Enbridge:** Advising on its CA\$30.4 billion drop-down to Enbridge Income Fund.
- **BP Canada:** Advising in connection with its US\$1.67 billion agreement to sell its Canadian natural gas liquids business to Plains Midstream Canada.

- **Confidential client:** Acting as lead external commercial counsel on transportation service agreements for four diluted bitumen pipeline projects.
- **Confidential client:** Acting on transportation service agreements for a major international gas pipeline.
- **Sasol Petroleum International:** Advising on its CA\$1.05 billion agreement to acquire from Talisman Energy a 50 percent stake in their Farrell Creek shale gas assets located in B.C.'s Montney basin.
- **BP Canada Energy:** Counseling, as project leader of FMC's team, on the CA\$3.25 billion sale of upstream natural gas assets to Apache Canada.
- **BP Canada Energy:** Counseling, as project leader of FMC's team, on the CA\$650 million sale to Devon NEC Corporation of a 50% interest in its Pike oil sands properties and its subsequent joint venture agreement to develop these properties with Devon.
- **BP:** Acting as the Firm's project leader in respect of a CA\$5 billion oil sands-refinery project with Husky.
- **Barrick Gold Corporation:** Advising on the acquisition of upstream oil properties from Day Light Energy.
- **Hunting PLC:** Acting as Canadian counsel on the CA\$1.26 billion sale of its subsidiary Gibson Energy Holdings Inc. and its subsidiaries to Riverstone/Carlyle Global Energy and Power Fund.
- **Confidential client:** Working on preparation and restructuring of long-term pipeline transportation and terminalling agreements.
- **Various clients:** Acting for the sellers in midstream asset dispositions.
- **Various clients:** Acting for oil, liquids and gas pipeline owners in the structuring of domestic and foreign greenfield projects.
- **Confidential client:** Acting for the owner of a major Canadian gas storage facility on land and commercial issues.
- **Various clients:** Acting for sellers and buyers in upstream oil and gas purchase and sale transactions.
- **Various clients:** Acting for sellers and buyers in long-term, high volume production sales contracts.

Recognition

- Recognized in *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* as one of Canada's leading lawyers in the areas of Energy: Oil & Gas (2005, 2007 and 2010–2019) and Corporate Commercial (2017)
- Recognized in the *Lexpert Special Edition on Canada's Leading Corporate Lawyers* (2017, 2019)
- Recognized in *Acritas* as an *Acritas Star™*(2019)
- Recognized in *Chambers Canada* as a leading lawyer in the area of Energy: Oil & Gas (Transactional) (2016-2020)
- Recognized in *Chambers Global* as a leading lawyer in the area of Energy: Oil & Gas (Transactional) - Canada (2006–2019)
- Recognized in *The Legal 500 Canada* in the area of Energy and Natural Resources – Oil and Gas as a “Leading Lawyer” (2015–2019) and as a ranked lawyer (2014)
- Recognized in *IFLR 1000: The Guide to the World's Leading Financial Law Firms* as a leading lawyer in Project Development (2019)
- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in Canada* as one of Canada's leading lawyers in Energy Law (2015–2020), Mergers and Acquisitions Law (2016–2020), Natural Resources Law (2006–2020), Oil and Gas Law (2015–2020) and Corporate Law (2017–2020)

- Recognized by the *Lexpert Special Edition – Canada’s Leading Energy Lawyers* (2013- 2019)
- Recognized by the *Lexpert Guide to the Leading US/Canada Cross-Border Corporate Lawyers in Canada* (2015–2017)
- Recognized by *Who’s Who Legal* as a leading lawyer in the area of Energy (2007–2017)
- Recognized by *Who’s Who Legal Canada* as a leading lawyer in the area of Energy (2007–2017)
- Recognized by *Expert Guides* in the area of Energy and Natural Resources (2013–2017)
- *Martindale-Hubbell* Distinguished BV Peer Review Rating
- Recommended by *The International Who’s Who of Business Lawyers*

In the Media

- Quoted in "Hunting for Calgary’s missing M&A deals" by Drew Hasselback, *Legal Post*, May 22, 2013
- Contributor, "Calgary now energy law focal point", *Legal Post*, April 27, 2012

Insights

- Co-author, "Alberta’s Bill C-12: A perfectly constitutional answer to BC’s Trans Mountain intransigence? " *Dentons Insights*, April 26, 2018
- Co-author, "Alberta announces new oil and gas royalty calculations," *Dentons Insights*, April 27, 2016
- Co-author, "Alberta announces Petrochemicals Diversification Program," *Dentons Insights*, February 8, 2016
- Co-author, "Alberta announces new oil and gas royalty framework," *Dentons Insights*, February 1, 2016
- Focus on Energy, May 2009
- Focus on Energy: AEUB Opens The Door For CBM Development On Split-Title Lands, March 2007

Activities and Affiliations

- Member and Past Director of the Canadian Petroleum Law Foundation
- Member of the Canadian Bar Association
- Member of the Calgary Bar Association

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

Teaching Roles

- Past instructor in the Alberta Bar Admission Course
- Past committee member for the Calgary United Way

Presentations

- Speaker, "Energy Transactions and Related Agreements", Insight - 2014 Advanced Edition Major Business Agreement: Negotiating, Crafting and Managing Corporate Transactions at Home & Abroad - Calgary, January 29-30, 2013
- Has often addressed oil and gas seminars on recent legal developments and trends, including those relating

to coal bed methane development, oil and gas asset purchase and sale agreements, rights of first refusal, case law and legislative developments and conflicts of interest for the Canadian Bar Association, the Canadian Petroleum Law Foundation and the University of Calgary

Areas of focus

Practices

- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Industry sectors

- Climate Change Strategies
- Energy
- Oil and Gas

Education

- University of Alberta, 1975, LLB
- University of Alberta, 1974, BA

Admissions and qualifications

- Alberta, 1976

Languages

- English