

Mike Hollinger

Partner



Partner

Toronto

D +1 416 863 4568

mike.hollinger@dentons.com

Overview

Mike Hollinger practices securities, corporate and commercial law with a focus on the venture technology sector. Mike leads Dentons' Toronto venture technology practice and has transactional experience gained from mergers and acquisitions as well as private and public markets financings in a wide range of industries.

Mike advises entrepreneurs, emerging growth companies, investors and acquirers at all stages of growth. He also acts as corporate secretary and adviser to boards and executives facing bet-the-company transactions.

Mike joined Dentons' Toronto office as a partner in 2014, after practicing with another large Canadian law firm.

Experience

- **LumiereVR:** Advised in the acquisition of Montreal-based VR data analytics company RetinadVR.
- **Endy:** Represented Endy in its CA\$89 million sale to a subsidiary of Sleep Country Canada.
- **Napier Park:** Acted for Napier Park, the lead investors in Q4 Inc.'s CA\$49 million series C financing.
- **Relay Ventures:** Represented Relay Ventures in leading the Series A financing for Blue J Legal.
- **Confidential Client:** Led the \$100+ million sale of a Toronto-area software firm to a Private Equity Firm.
- **Confidential Client:** Acted for a Canadian growth-stage company in its acquisition of an industry player headquartered in the Baltics.
- **Confidential Client:** Acted for a Canadian financial institution in its CA\$15+ million investment in a Fintech start-up and related commercial collaboration.
- **Confidential Client:** Led the \$4.5 million series A for an insurtech start up.
- **Confidential Client:** Acted as lead partner in a \$1.8 million series seed financing for a payments-tech start-up.
- **Confidential Client:** Represented a Toronto-area startup in its \$2 million series A extension financing.

- **Cloud DX Inc.:** Advising one of Canada's 20 most innovative companies in connection with its acquisition of its core technology, seed financing and various IP and commercial matters.
- **Confidential client:** Advising on various Canadian and foreign acquisitions of technology companies for a confidential client controlled by Madison Dearborn Partners.
- **Confidential client:** Representing a Canadian semi conductor company in relation to the sale of its business to Square Inc.
- **Confidential client:** Representing a Canadian based digital media company in connection with its acquisition by Google Inc.
- **SecureKey Technologies Inc.:** Advising in relation to strategic equity investments worth CA\$27 million from six leading Canadian financial institutions.
- **Dream Payments Corp:** Advising in relation to its CA\$10 million series A financing.
- **Relay Ventures:** Advising in respect of its seed round investments in Automat Technologies Inc., Amp Me Inc. and TouchBistro Inc.
- **Independent Committee of Brookfield Renewable Power Fund:** Advising on the strategic combination with Brookfield Renewable Power to form Brookfield Renewable Energy Partners with 170 hydropower facilities in Canada, the United States and Brazil.
- **Confidential Client:** Representing a specialized content and online marketing company in its various global acquisitions.
- **Confidential client:** Advising a major international broadcaster in its investment in a Canadian production house.
- **Confidential client:** Advising the various early-stage and later-stage companies in connection with financing, commercial and M&A transactions.

Recognition

First recognized in 2019, Mike has been commended for his extensive knowledge and experience in the following respected publications:

- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory:* Technology Transactions
- *Chambers FinTech:* Legal services (Canada)
- *Chambers Canada:* Start-ups & Emerging Companies

Insights

- Co-author, "Fintech future: How financial technology firms are building Canada's new economy," *Lexpert*, June 21, 2021
- "Balancing blockchain technology and Ontario securities laws", *Dentons Client Alert*, November 3, 2017
- "Securities regulators provide guidance on cryptocurrency offerings", *Dentons Client Alert*, August 31, 2017

Activities and Affiliations

- Member, Canadian Bar Association
- Member, Ontario Bar Association

- Member, Law Society of Ontario

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Mentor, Techstars Toronto Accelerator
- Mentor, Colliers Proptech Accelerator Powered by Techstars

Presentations

- Speaker, “Ask an Expert: All Things Legal with Dentons”, FFCON21: Breaking Barriers, May 2021
- Presenter, “Financing for Growth”, Futurpreneur Canada’s Growth Accelerator, April 2021
- Speaker, “Start Me Up: Practical Tips for Entrepreneurs and Professionals Navigating the Innovation Economy”, CANBIM: Fall Virtual Session, October 2020
- Presenter, “Legal 101 for Startups”, DeFi Toronto Meetup, April 2020
- Speaker, “Responding to Covid-19 – Government Economic Relief Measures for Canadian Businesses”, Techstars AMA, April 2020
- Speaker, "Focus: Transactions", Canadian Legal Innovation Forum, Toronto, March 2020
- Moderator, “Venture Capital”, 2020 Startup Finance Conference, Toronto, March 2020
- Speaker, "Private Equity and Exits", 2020 Startup Finance Conference, Toronto, March 2020
- Presenter, “Doing Business in Canada”, NASSCOM Business Program, Toronto, December 2019
- Speaker, "Growing a Blockchain Startup", BitAngels Investor Breakfast, Toronto, November 2019
- Moderator, Venture Panel: “Smart Exits: How can we help?” , Web Summit, Lisbon, Portugal, November 2019
- Speaker, “Working with Startups” Session, The Accelerator, Calgary, October 2019
- Speaker, AI Panel: "Is AI as the “World’s Most Disruptive Technology” Worth to Invest?" , AMI Innovation & Investment Forum, Toronto, October 2019
- Speaker, "How to Maximize the Chance to Close an Investor", Lozard Institute, Toronto, October 2019
- Speaker, "Canadian Unicorns: What are some Proptech Startup Companies to pay attention to?", Real Trends Conference, Toronto, September 2019
- Speaker, Lunch and Learn Session, University of Toronto Early Stage Technology (UTEST) Program, Toronto, September 2019
- Speaker, Raising Capital from Private Investors, The Gaming Society Conference, Toronto, June 2019
- Speaker, Do Fintechs Have a Chance with Banks Investing into Digital Transformation?, Mobey Day, Toronto, June 2019
- Speaker, “A \$1 trillion road to innovation [Part 1]” , Collision, Toronto, May 2019
- Presenter, “Entrepreneurs & Lawyer/Law Firms”, Techstars, Toronto, March 2019
- Speaker, “How to Maximize the Chance to Close an Investor”, Lozard Institute, Toronto, March 2019
- Speaker, “Startup Program”, Canadian Dream Summit, Toronto, February 2019
- Presenter, “Startup Visa Program”, Kiga Labs, Toronto, November 2018
- Speaker, “SaaS Masterclass”, Elevate, Toronto, September 2018

- Moderator, “Cryptocurrency / ICO sales: Securities Laws and Compliance”, FFCON18: Velocity, Toronto, March 2018
- Speaker, “Private Sector Finance for SmallSats”, The CSCA Canadian SmallSat Symposium, February 2018
- Presenter, “Startup Legal and IP”, Founder Institute, Toronto, 2017

Areas of focus

Practices

- Venture Technology and Emerging Growth Companies
- Banking and Finance
- Corporate
- Finance
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Securities and Corporate Finance

Industry sectors

- HealthTech

Issues and opportunities

- Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology
- Transformative Technology and Data Strategy

Education

- University of Toronto, 2002, LLB
- Dalhousie University, 1998, B.Comm. (First Class Honours)

Admissions and qualifications

- Ontario, 2003