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David R. Haigh KC

Nationality: Canadian Languages: English



David Haigh KC is recognised nationally and internationally as a leader in the field of international arbitration. David has practiced as a commercial litigation counsel in the Canadian courts and as an advocate and arbitrator in the field of international commercial arbitration.

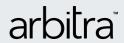
He has served as an arbitrator on numerous international commercial arbitration and investor-state panels. He has, in addition, acted as counsel on a wide variety of arbitration matters, including ad hoc, institutional, private, and investor-state disputes in the following sectors; Construction, Engineering & Infrastructure, Commercial Dispute Resolution, Energy, Oil & Gas, Investment Treaty Disputes, Technology, Mining, & Telecommunications.

His many achievements are consistently recognized in global directories and awards. He has been honoured by the Chartered Institute with the "Distinguished Service in Canadian Arbitration Award", one of the highest honours for Canadian arbitrators. It was presented to David in recognition of his exceptional contribution as a leading advocate and arbitrator in the field of international commercial arbitration, and his longstanding commitment to the advancement of the practice of arbitration in Canada.

He is a Chartered Fellow of the Construction Lawyers Society of America and a member of the Trial Law Institute and Diversity Institute, as well as a Fellow and Chartered Arbitrator of the Chartered Institute of Arbitration (FCIArb). David served as the national Chair of the Canadian ICC Committee for 6 years and as a Director of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) for 12 years. He was a Founding Member of the Western Canada Commercial Arbitration Society (WCCAS).

Sector Expertise

- Energy, Oil & Gas, Gas and LNG Price Reviews, Pipelines, Joint Ventures
- Investment Treaty Disputes
- Commercial Disputes and Complex Financial Issues
- Construction, Engineering, Mining & Infrastructure
- Technology & Telecommunications



Energy, Oil & Gas

David has served as arbitrator in disputes relating to exploration, production, marketing, storage, pipelines, supply and pricing disputes.

Investment Treaty Disputes

David has represented both Claimants and states in various investor-state matters.

Commercial Dispute Resolution

David has worked on corporate finance and complex commercial transactions; and numerous other contractual, and corporate/commercial disputes including such subject matters as coal, potash, and gold mining, pharmaceuticals, telecommunications, intellectual property, and construction.

Academic & Professional Qualifications

David Haigh was Called to the Bar of Alberta in 1965. He then took Silk in 1984 and has appeared several times in the Supreme Court of Canada.

Professional Associations & Recognitions

David is a panelist member with numerous well-recognised international arbitration centres including conducting arbitrations in recent years among a large variety of nationals and state entities.

He served as the national chairman of ICC Canada for six years and as a director of the American Arbitration Association for 12 years. He is a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a founding member of the Western Canada Commercial Arbitration Society and is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Panel memberships include:-

- AAA-ICDR
- ICDR Specialist Energy Arbitrators List



- London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)
- British Columbia International Commercial Arbitration Centre
- Kuala Lumpur Regional Centre (AIAC)
- ADGM Arbitration Centre
- Japan Commercial Arbitration Association (JCAA)

Directories & Client Quotes

David is frequently referred to in publications as a leading practitioner in this field.

Chambers Global Guide

"[he is] well respected in the international sphere" and is endorsed as "one of the pioneers of international arbitration".

"He is a highly qualified and very diligent arbitrator."

"He is highly regarded for his expertise in cross-border arbitration and is frequently appointed to handle investor-state cases in addition to complex disputes arising within the energy sector."

"One of the godfathers of arbitration in Canada."

"One of the greats in Canada."

David has most recently been ranked in Who's Who Legal - Arbitration Thought Leaders 2025