



Neil Ezra Hazan

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Neil's practice is focused on cross-border mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and joint ventures. He also assists businesses with their expansion into Canada and advises on local and international agency and distribution agreements.

Neil regularly advises strategic and private equity buyers in diverse industries on Canadian and international platform and bolt-on acquisitions.

Experience

- Acted for New York City based private equity firm Achieve Partners in its investment in Toronto and Philadelphia based Ascend Partners, a provider of enterprise performance management (EPM) technology.
- Advised industrial heater manufacturer Wattco Inc. and its shareholders on its sale to an affiliate of U.K. engineering company Smiths Group plc.
- Advised Davie in connection with its acquisition of the assets of Finland's Helsinki Shipyard Oy, a landmark transaction in the Arctic shipbuilding space, including the negotiation of \$110 million (€77 million) in equity and debt financing from the Québec government.
- Advised Pennsylvania-based Frontage Laboratories, Inc. in connection with the acquisition of Nucro-Technics, a pharmaceutical contract research organization.

- Advised the shareholders of Gibbys, an iconic Montréal steakhouse, in connection with the sale of Gibbys to restaurant group, Grandio Group.
- Advised Kongsberg, Inc., a Canadian affiliate of Kongsberg Automotive (OSE: KOA.OL) in connection with the carve-out and sale of its powersport business to an affiliate of BRP Inc.
- Advised LA-based Marlin Equity Partners and its portfolio company Skuid in connection with the acquisition of employee experience platform company InFlight.
- Advised The New York Times on Canadian matters in connection with its US\$550 million acquisition of The Athletic.
- Advised MACH Capital in connection with its acquisition of approximately \$1.5 billion of retail and office properties from Cominar REIT.
- Advised Atlanta-based East West Manufacturing in connection with its acquisition of Varitron Group.
- Advised Playtika Holding Corp, a leading mobile gaming company and monetization platform, in US\$1.9 billion initial public offering.
- Advised the founders and shareholders of Bad Monkey Popcorn in connection with its sale to an investor group led by Champlain Capital Corporation.
- Advised Triple M Metal in connection with its joint venture with ArcelorMittal Long Products Canada to create Integrated Metal Recycling Inc.
- Advised private equity firm MACH Capital in connection with its acquisition of outdoor equipment retailer La Cordée Plein Air following the approval of the Québec Superior Court.
- Advised VetStrategy in connection with Berkshire Partners' acquisition of a majority stake in VetStrategy from Imperial Capital with a deal value of over US\$1 billion.
- Advised Revision Military Inc. and its affiliates in connection with the carve-out and sale of its global eyewear business.
- Advised LA-based private equity firm PMC Capital Group in connection with its acquisition of StyroChem Canada, a leading manufacturer of expandable polystyrene grades used in food service, packaging, construction, casting and speciality applications.
- Advised Indiana-based Elanco Animal Health in connection with its acquisition of biotechnology company Prevtex Microbia Inc.
- Advised Illinois-based Hilco Global, an independent financial services group, in connection with La Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec's acquisition of a 27% stake in Hilco.
- Advised Textiles Amalgamated Inc. and its shareholders, including Capital régional et coopératif Desjardins, in connection with the sale of the company to Town & Country Holdings, an H.I.G. Capital Portfolio Company.
- Advised QuintilesIMS regarding its acquisition of STI Technologies Limited, an outsourced pharma services and tech provider, from private equity firm Imperial Capital Group.
- Advised HollyFrontier Corporation regarding its acquisition of Suncor Energy's Petro-Canada Lubricants business for C\$1.125 billion.
- Advised Caesars Interactive Entertainment regarding its US\$4.4 billion sale of its Playtika social and mobile games business to Alpha Frontier Limited.

Insights & Events

- Co-Author, "Supply of Services in Canada: Overview," Thomas Reuters Practical Law, October 2023
- Author, "[Top Tips for Doing Private M&A Deals in Canada.](#)" Thomson Reuters Practical Law, October 2023
- Author, "What does the 'S' stand for?: Understanding the social pillar of ESG", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "10 tips for U.S. entities seeking to incorporate a Canadian subsidiary", BLG Article, August 2022

- Author, "10 tips for U.S. professionals doing private M&A deals in Canada", BLG Article, January 2022
- Guest lecturer, International Political Science Association-Concordia Summer School in Applied Diplomacy, June 2021
- [Co-Author, "Arbitration and COVID-19," NYSBA One on One, Fall/Winter 2020](#)
- Author, "Private Equity Rollups: Strategic Considerations", BLG Article, February 2020
- Chair, "Inside the Gaming World with Playtika's Eric Rapps," Montréal JCC, 2018
- Co-author, "Joint Ventures," Thomson Reuters' European Lawyer Reference Series and Practical Law Global Guide, 2012 and 2015 to present
- Co-author, Kluwer Law's International Encyclopedia of Agency and Distribution Agreements, 2011 to present.

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member of the Québec Bar
- Member of the New York State Bar
- Director of the Lord Reading Law Society since 2009

Community Involvement

- Director of Federation CJA between 2015 to 2021
- Co-chair of the 2010-2011, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 CJA Leadership Development Course
- Co-chair of a \$400,000 fundraising campaign benefitting the Paul-André Crépeau Centre for Private and Comparative Law (McGill University Law School)
- Volunteer, BLG Reads to Kids, 2005-present

Awards & Recognitions

- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2024) of *Best Lawyers in Canada* (Corporate Law) and since 2020 (Mergers and Acquisitions Law)
- Recognized in the 2024 (and since 2021) edition of *Lexpert Special Edition: Finance and M&A*
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2023) of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory* (Private Equity), in the 2024 edition (and since 2017) (Corporate Mid-Market), in the 2024 edition (Mergers & Acquisitions) and in the 2021 edition (Corporate Commercial Law).
- Recognized in the 2022 edition (and since 2019) of *IFLR1000 – The Guide to the World's Leading Financial Law Firms* (Private Equity)
- Winner of BLG Montréal's 2018 Mentor of the Year Award

Bar Admission & Education

- Québec, 2005
- New York State, 2003
- BCL/LLB, McGill University, 2002
- Graduate Diploma in Management, McGill University, 1999
- BA, McGill University, 1997



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As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 725 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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