



## Robert H. Pineo

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### Biography

Rob is a partner at Patterson Law. Rob focuses his practice on four main areas of litigation: Expropriation, Property Disputes, Business Disputes and Civil Trial Advocacy. Rob has extensive litigation experience, regularly representing clients at all levels of Court and various Administrative tribunals in Nova Scotia and across Canada. In addition, Rob is committed to ongoing education to ensure that his clients receive the most in-depth and up-to-date representation possible. He is currently a contributor editor of the leading expropriation law text, Coates & Waque: The New Law of Expropriation in Canada. Additionally, he has been recognized as a Litigation Star in the Atlantic for six consecutive years in *Benchmark Canada's* "Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys". In 2016 Rob was the recipient of *Benchmark's* "Litigator of the Year" award for Atlantic Canada. Rob was recently selected by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers™ in Canada since 2019 in the field of Expropriation Law.

### Experience

#### *Property Dispute Litigation:*

- **Expropriation:** Rob acts for landowners in asserting their rights to compensation for market value, business loss and injurious affection claims in highway, pipeline and utility expropriations in Nova Scotia, Alberta and New Brunswick. Rob acts for municipal authorities in complex expropriation matters including industrial development projects
- **Trespass:** Rob acts for landowners who have suffered damages due to trespass, including: unauthorized possession of property; destroyed landscaping; improperly harvested and misappropriated timber; and business losses
- **Easement Disputes:** Rob acts for landowners involved in right-of-way and easement disputes, including: claims of interference with use; excessive use; necessity and prescription
- **Adverse Possession:** Rob acts for both plaintiffs and defendants in claims of adverse possession (squatters claims)
- **Boundary Disputes:** Rob acts for landowners in disputes with neighbours concerning the boundaries of their property, including:

### Areas of Law

Aboriginal Law  
Administrative Law  
Appeals and Judicial Reviews  
Civil Litigation  
Class Actions  
Commercial Litigation  
Expropriation  
Insurance Defence and Subrogation  
Personal Injury  
Professional Liability  
Property Dispute Litigation

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actions for a declaration of the actual boundary, structural encroachment, business loss claims; and nuisance claims

- **Commercial Leases:** Rob acts for both landlords and tenants in commercial lease disputes, including: distraint of goods, eviction of tenants; and negligence and misrepresentation claims
- **Property Sale Disputes:** Rob acts for vendors, purchasers and real estate agents in claims of misrepresentation in the sale of property

### *Employment Disputes:*

- **Employment Advice:** Rob regularly provides legal advice to employers on termination issues
- **Wrongful Dismissal:** Rob acts for both employers and employees in wrongful dismissal actions
- **Union Certification:** Rob acts for employers facing union certification
- **Duty of Fair Representation:** Rob acts for employees against unions in complaints of unfair representation

### *Business Dispute Litigation:*

- **Procurement Disputes:** Rob acts for both owners and contractors in tendering and request for proposal (RFP) disputes
- **Business Losses:** Rob acts for clients in commercial disputes including breach of contract; sale of goods; economic negligence claims; and losses arising from breach of fiduciary duties by directors and insurance coverage disputes
- **Business Ownership Disputes:** Rob acts for clients in shareholder and partnership disputes, including oppression remedies, derivative actions, and breach of partnership agreements or duties
- **Agricultural Clients:** Rob acts for agricultural producers in various matters including: asset division upon divorce; partnership and shareholder disputes; expropriation matters; contractual disputes, property disputes and insurance coverage disputes

### *Leading Decisions:*

- **Insurance Coverage:** In 2010, Rob successfully argued the now leading decision on punitive damages before the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal *Kings Mutual Insurance Co. v. Ackermann*, 2010 NSCA 39). This case is the first decision in which a punitive damages damage award against an insurance company has been upheld by the Court of Appeal
- **Expropriation:** In 2007, Rob successfully argued before the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal the now leading decision on the jurisdiction of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board to order discovery examinations and other procedural aspects (*Nova Scotia (Attorney General) v. Bishop*, 2006 NSCA 114).

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- **Employment:** In 2006, Rob successfully argued the now leading decision on frustration of employment contracts before the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal (*Ulnooweg Development Group Inc. v. Wilmot* 2007 NSCA 49). This case was featured in the May 11, 2007 edition of *Lawyers` Weekly*.

## Recognition

- Best Lawyers in Canada: recognized in Expropriation Law, 2019-2022

## Associations and Memberships

- Canadian Bar Association
- Nova Scotia Barristers' Society
- Bar Council, Nova Scotia Barristers' Society (2009-2011 and 2013-2015)
- Past President, Colchester County Bar Association
- Ontario Expropriation Association
- Alberta Expropriation Association
- British Columbia Expropriation Association
- Litigation Group Chair - Patterson Law
- Supreme Court Liaison Subcommittee (Civil) - Nova Scotia Barristers Society
- Credentials Committee, Nova Scotia Barristers' Society

## Community Involvement

- Served on the Appointments Committee at Dalhousie Law School
- Acts as a judge for various 4-H activities
- The Honourable G. I. Smith Memorial Trust Scholarship

## Publications and Speaking Engagements

- Contributor, Patterson Law Expropriation Blog

## Education and Bar Admission

- Bar Admission: Nova Scotia, 2002
- Canadian Institute - Class Actions Conference (Toronto), 2011
- Osgoode Hall Law School - Evidence Conference, 2010
- Canadian Bar Association Expert Evidence Conference, 2007
- Osgood Hall Law School - Shareholders Dispute Litigation Seminar, 2006
- Osgoode Hall Law School - Intensive Trial Advocacy Workshop, 2005
- LL.B. (Dalhousie University, 2001)
- Saint Mary's University - Analyses of Financial Information, 2003
- Undergraduate studies in Political Science (Dalhousie University, 1986-1989 )