



Richard G. Willoughby

PARTNER

Richard Willoughby is a senior corporate partner with Torys LLP. He has a wealth of experience in cross-border and international mergers and acquisitions, giving practical and strategic counsel to some of Canada's largest institutional investors, businesses and family enterprises.

CONTACT

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Overview

With Canadian and U.S. experience, Richard provides commercially minded counsel on mergers and acquisitions and securities transactions, whether domestic or cross-border. He has particular experience in the financial services sector, regularly working alongside institutions, companies, private equity firms, pension plans and family enterprises in their strategic transactional work.

Richard's cross-border acumen comes from a background helping clients execute transactions in various jurisdictions. Currently in Toronto, Richard was formerly based in the firm's New York office from 2000 to 2008; and from 1989 to 1992, Richard practiced in the Torys office in London, England.

Richard co-heads the family enterprise practice and is a member of the firm's Executive Committee.

Featured Work

Sale of key global player in the premium pet food industry

Torys acted as counsel to Champion Petfoods in its sale to Mars Petcare, part of Mars, Incorporated

Duo Bank acquires Canada's leading provider of responsible credit solutions

Torys acted as counsel to Duo Bank of Canada in its acquisition of Fairstone Financial Holdings Inc. from an investor group led by J.C. Flowers & Co. LLC and Vårde Partners, Inc.

Investment in one of Canada's largest networks of veterinary practices

Torys acted as counsel to Peloton Capital in its investment in P3 Veterinary Partners, one of Canada's largest networks of veterinary practices with partners in British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario

Smith Financial in the merger of Home Trust Company with Fairstone Bank of Canada to create the leading alternative lender in Canada

Meriplex, a portfolio company of Clairvest Group Inc., in its recapitalization with Vitruvian Partners, including Vitruvian's acquisition of a majority interest

123Dentist, a portfolio company of Peloton Capital Management, in its merger with Altima Dental and Lapointe Group, including an equity investment by KKR & Co. Inc. and strategic partnership with Heartland Dental, a portfolio company of KKR

Peloton Capital Management in its investment in Edgewood Health Network (EHN) Canada, a national provider of inpatient and outpatient mental health and addiction services

Rogers Control Trust in Rogers Communications Inc.'s C\$26 billion acquisition of Shaw Communications Inc.

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Recognition and Awards

2022-2023 *IFLR1000: The Guide to the World's Leading Financial Law Firms*—Notable practitioner in corporate and M&A

2015-2025 *Best Lawyers in Canada*—Leading lawyer in corporate law

2017-2023 *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*—Leading lawyer in mergers and acquisitions and corporate commercial law

Insights

PE Pulse 2025

Transaction trends: insurance and reinsurance

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News

[IFLR1000 recognizes 61 Torys lawyers as leaders in their fields](#)

[179 Torys lawyers recognized in the 2025 Best Lawyers guide](#)

[161 Torys lawyers named in the 2024 Best Lawyers guide](#)

[Torys recognized as Tier 1 in eight practice areas by IFLR1000](#)

[Torys once again recognized in IFLR1000's 2022 Leading Lawyers guide](#)

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Education and Bar Admissions

Education

LLB, 1985

Queen's University

Bar Admissions

Ontario, 1987