JOANNE ZHAO

ASSOCIATE

BIOGRAPHY

Joanne is a member of the firm's Business Law and Real Estate practice groups. She provides business-focused, solutions-oriented advice to help clients manage risk and capture opportunities.

She advises clients on a broad range of real estate matters, including acquisitions and dispositions, commercial leasing, financing and refinancing transactions, and easements. Joanne works with landlords, tenants, lenders, borrowers, commercial property managers, and business owners to provide practical, strategic advice that helps them achieve their business objectives.

Fluent in Mandarin Chinese, Joanne assists both local and international clients with a wide spectrum of legal and commercial matters. Her ability to navigate legal, commercial, and cultural considerations helps facilitate transactions efficiently and enables clients to make informed, business-driven decisions.

Prior to practicing in British Columbia, Joanne worked as a legal professional overseas where she gained significant cross-border experience in international legal and business matters. She subsequently obtained her MBA from the University of Alberta before commencing her legal career in Canada.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Outside the office, Joanne enjoys nature and outdoor activities. In her spare time, she is an avid tennis player, loves traveling to exotic destinations, and enjoys exploring new cultures, cuisines, and experiences.

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EDUCATION

2022 NCA Certification Federation of Law Societies of Canada

2014 MBA University of Alberta

2007 LLB Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture

BAR ADMISSIONS

2023 Admitted to the British Columbia Bar

PRACTICE AREAS

BUSINESS

- Banking + Lending
- Corporate / Commercial
- Corporate Finance + Securities
- Mergers + Acquisitions

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- **Real Estate Transactions:** review and draft contracts of purchase and sale and related real estate documentation for both commercial and residential transactions
- **Commercial Leasing:** review, draft and negotiate commercial leases
- **Land-Related Agreements:** advise on, draft and negotiate easements, rights-of-ways and covenants
- **Commercial Banking Transactions:** review security documents and prepare opinion letters
- **Share and Asset Purchase Transactions:** draft and review share and asset purchase agreements and ancillary documentation

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- Law Society of British Columbia, Member
- Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers, Member
- Mortgage Brokers Association of BC, Member

- Real Estate

INDUSTRIES

- Real Estate
- Banking + Finance
- Property Management