

# Tara Piurko

## Partner

**Toronto**

**OFFICE**

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## Industries & Expertise

**INDUSTRIES**

Charity & Not-For-Profit | Retail

**EXPERTISE**

Municipal, Planning & Land Development | Real Property Assessment and Taxation | Real Estate

## Biography

**BAR ADMISSION**

Ontario, 2002

**EDUCATION**

- LL.B. Queen's University, 2000
- Master of Urban and Regional Planning, Queen's University, 1999
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Carleton University, 1994

**LANGUAGES SPOKEN**

English, French

Tara Piurko brings over 15 years of experience to the table, excelling in planning, development, property assessment, taxation, and municipal law. As the Leader of Miller Thomson's Planning, Development &

Condominium Group, Tara crafts strategic solutions for property owners, navigating development approvals, assessment appeals, and taxation issues with finesse. Her negotiation skills shine through in settling various agreements and amendments, demonstrating a keen eye for adding value to her clients.

Tara's academic background in urban planning reinforces her comprehensive understanding of legal and urban development intricacies. Not only has she co-authored the Taxation chapter in Halsbury's Laws of Canada, but Tara also actively shares her knowledge by presenting at CREW Network and Toronto CREW events, showcasing her dedication to professional development and industry knowledge dissemination.

With a string of accomplishments, Tara's reputation precedes her. She holds the honour of being the first Canadian President of Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Network and has been acknowledged as a visionary within the industry. Additionally, her recognition in The Best Lawyers in Canada as a leading figure in Municipal Law underscores her exceptional legal aptitude and commitment to excellence.

## Industry involvement

### Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in Canada* – Administrative and Public Law, 2024-2025; Municipal Law, 2018 – 2025; Real Estate Law, 2021-2025; Environmental Law, 2022-2025
- *Chambers Canada*, Recognised Practitioner, Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use (Ontario), 2020, 2023-2025
- *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*, Property Development, 2022

### Thought leadership

- Co-author, Taxation (General) chapter of Halsbury's Laws of Canada
- Presenter, CREW Network and Toronto CREW events on matters related to professional development and CREW Network's research

### Notable matters

#### **Secured planning and development approvals for the following notable matters:**

- Art Gallery of Ontario – Frank Gehry Renovation
- Grange Park Renovation
- 100 Yorkville mixed-use development, including the adaptive reuse of the historic facade of Mt. Sinai hospital
- 582 Sherbourne mixed-use development, including the adaptive reuse of the James Cooper Mansion
- 188 University Avenue, Shangri-La hotel, including the adaptive reuse of the historic Butcher's Block
- St. Michael's Hospital 3.0 redevelopment, including work related to its heliport

- Canada Life Head Office Campus, including 330 University Avenue, 180a, 180b and 190 Simcoe Street and 160 Queen Street West.
- Four Seasons Yorkville
- 18 Yorkville

**Notable Other Matters:**

- Bank Towers assessment appeals, 2005 – 2016 involving the six bank towers located in the downtown of the City of Toronto. The assessment appeals involved hearings before the Assessment Review Board, a series of motions, and attendance before both the Divisional Court and the Ontario Court of Appeal.
- Ground rent arbitration related to the lands under the Cumberland Terrace plaza located at the north-west corner of Yonge Street and Bloor Street West

**Corporate directorships**

- Board of Directors, Real Estate Roundtable, 2018 – 2019
- CREW Network Board of Directors, 2015 – 2019
- Toronto CREW Board of Directors, 2012 – 2015

**Memberships & affiliations**

- CREW Network
- Toronto CREW
- Canadian Bar Association, Municipal Law Section
- Urban Land Institute
- Canadian Property Tax Association
- International Council of Shopping Centres
- NAIOP