



## Claudia Wheler

### Associate

T 604.640.4249  
F 604.687.1415  
Vancouver  
[CWheler@blg.com](mailto:CWheler@blg.com)  
[LinkedIn](#)

[Corporate Commercial](#)  
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Claudia specializes in helping her clients design strategies that integrate corporate decision-making with Indigenous law and cultural perspectives.

Claudia assists business, government, and Indigenous organizations on a range of partnerships, commercial arrangements, and governance matters.

Prior to joining BLG, Claudia built her expertise and knowledge through work that included writing impact assessment reports at the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada and delivering a sustainability framework for a Canadian mining company's operations in Peru.

Her time living in New Zealand and studying alongside students from around the world further enriched her appreciation for diverse cultures and perspectives.

Outside the office, Claudia remains active as a high-performance athlete, pursuing her passion for running and cycling after her career as a varsity soccer athlete.

## Experience

- Advising on Indigenous relations matters across Canada, including consultation & accommodation and the formation or implementation of business arrangements with Indigenous groups.

- Advising private and public developers on the creation and implementation of structures to allow First Nations to participate in ownership and development of significant (\$500M+) real estate development projects on private, public and First Nation lands.
- Advising on environmental matters in private M&A acquisitions

## Insights & Events

- Author, "Bill C-45 Legislative updates provide enhanced support to First Nations Financial Management", BLG Article, October 2023
- Author, "Gitxaala v. British Columbia and the impact on mineral tenure", BLG Article, October 2023
- Author, " Canada enacts into law the right to a healthy environment and more stringent chemical management requirements ", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "Kitselas First Nation and British Columbia reach Environmental Assessment Agreement", BLG Article, June 2023
- Author, "BC Supreme Court's Nuchatlaht land claim decision gives guidance on Aboriginal title litigation", BLG Article, June 2023

## Beyond Our Walls

### Professional Involvement

- Member, Law Society of British Columbia

## Bar Admission & Education

- British Columbia, 2024
- JD Law, University of Ottawa, 2023
- MBA, University of Ottawa, 2023
- B.Sc. (Hons.), Queen's University, 2019

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