

Julia R. Ibanescu  
Barrister and Solicitor  
Red Deer, Alberta  
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I am a Barrister and Solicitor based in Red Deer, Alberta, and the founding lawyer of Kensian & Associates. I practice in the areas of family law, civil and estate litigation, wills and estates, and real estate, serving clients across Central and Southern Alberta.

I was born and raised in Transylvania, Romania, where I completed a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Journalism at Babeş-Bolyai University. After immigrating to Canada and establishing my life here - while raising three children - I returned to school and earned my Juris Doctor from the University of Alberta.

Completing law school while parenting three very young children was a formative experience. As any lawyer-parent knows, balancing readings, exams, and court deadlines with school drop-offs and bedtime routines requires a level of time management that very few professional development courses can teach. That experience strengthened my discipline, resilience, and perspective, and it continues to shape my approach to legal practice through empathy, adaptability, and solution-focused thinking under pressure.

I was called to the Alberta bar in 2015, and have since developed a broad litigation practice. I have appeared before the Alberta Court of Justice, the Court of King's Bench of Alberta, the Alberta Court of Appeal, and the Federal Court, in multiple locations throughout the province. My work frequently involves complex disputes that require both strong advocacy and principled, solution-focused problem-solving.

In addition to my legal practice, I bring governance and leadership experience to the profession. I have served as Secretary of the Community Legal Clinic Board of Directors and as a board member for Habitat for Humanity, Family Services of Central Alberta, and the Humane Society. I am also a qualified arbitrator and a collaborative lawyer, reflecting my commitment to access to justice, alternative dispute resolution, and the responsible evolution of the legal profession.

I have been actively involved in my community for many years, including extensive volunteer service as a coach with local youth basketball and soccer associations, as well as participation on school councils and with community organizations. I am a member of the Canadian Bar Association, the Central Alberta Bar Society, and the Central Alberta Association of Collaborative Lawyers.

## **Why I Want to Serve on the CBA Alberta Board of Directors**

I am seeking to serve on the CBA Alberta Board of Directors, in hopes to contribute the perspective of a mid-career regional practitioner who balances litigation practice, law firm management, family commitments, and meaningful community engagement outside Alberta's major urban centres. I am particularly interested in supporting initiatives that strengthen access to justice, enhance member well-being, and ensure CBA Alberta remains responsive to the practical realities faced by lawyers across the province, particularly those in smaller centres.

Having built and managed law firms and served in governance roles, I understand the importance of strategic oversight, fiscal responsibility, and inclusive leadership. I am motivated to give back to the profession that has afforded me meaningful opportunities and to help shape a strong, forward-looking CBA Alberta that supports lawyers at all stages of practice.

In my role as a firm leader, I have fostered a practice that reflects the diversity of the communities we serve, with lawyers and staff from around the world who speak multiple languages and bring varied cultural perspectives to their work. I believe my commitment aligns closely with the CBA's emphasis on promoting equality within the profession and ensuring that the legal system is accessible and responsive to all communities. Bringing this perspective to CBA governance is important to me, as meaningful inclusion strengthens both the profession and public confidence in the administration of justice.

I am also motivated to help strengthen the presence and impact of CBA Alberta in Central Alberta by ensuring that regional practitioners feel included, supported, and represented. Lawyers in this region often manage broad practices and unique access-to-justice challenges, and I believe the CBA plays an essential role in connecting them to relevant professional development, advocacy, and a strong provincial network. Bringing a Central Alberta perspective to the Board would help reinforce CBA Alberta's relevance and responsiveness beyond major urban centres.

When I am not practicing law, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I am an avid supporter of musical theatre and basketball, enjoy travelling to the mountains, and am a devoted pet owner. I am fluent in Romanian.

I would be honoured to serve the CBA Alberta Board of Directors and to contribute thoughtfully to the continued strength, integrity, and inclusiveness of our profession.

Thank you for your consideration.



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