



Ronak Shah

Counsel

Contact Information

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Office

Toronto

Expertise

- Business
- Blockchain & Digital Assets
- Information Technology & Data Privacy
- Aerospace & Defence

Biography

Ronak Shah (he/him/his) serves as counsel in the Information Technology & Data Privacy Group at Cassels. Ronak's practice focuses on data- and technology-centric regulatory issues, including related to artificial intelligence, privacy, cybersecurity, and data governance. He advises national and international clients on matters relating to data use and ownership, complex business transactions involving data-based assets, outsourcing, and artificial intelligence.

Ronak routinely advises clients on AI, privacy, and data protection issues, including cross-border transfers, global AI and privacy compliance considerations, workplace privacy issues, data subject rights requests, developing data inventories, anti-spam, data ethics, and data governance. He regularly counsels clients on the implications of ongoing international AI, privacy, and data protection law reform, and works with clients to make submissions before regulators and policy makers on the development of technological regulatory frameworks, including those related to AI and privacy. Ronak also works with clients to undertake enterprise-wide privacy audits and privacy check-ups.

Ronak regularly liaises with IT and forensic professionals in managing breach investigations and implementing remediation plans. Ronak's background in intellectual property, commercial contracting, and litigation allows him to assess relevant industry standards for data protection, business objectives, and legal risks when assisting clients in designing cyber security strategies and resolving information security incidents. He also regularly assists clients in developing effective privacy and AI training and awareness, including breach and safety preparedness. Additionally, he advises and represent clients in responding to AI and privacy investigations and complaints raised before the appropriate regulatory authorities.

Prior to joining Cassels, Ronak was Privacy and Regulatory Affairs Counsel at an enterprise-focused generative AI model developer and brings private practice experience including from two top-tier Canadian international firms.

Achievements

- *Best Lawyers in Canada: Ones to Watch* (Privacy and Data Security Law) (2023)
- *Chambers Canada* (Privacy & Data Protection) (2023)
- *Euromoney's Rising Stars Expert Guide* (Privacy and Data Protection) (2022)

Recent Representative Work

- Trivest Completes Sale of Sentinel Dock & Door Solutions
- GNQ Insilico to Go Public via US\$500 Million Business Combination With IB Acquisition Corp.
- Elemental Altus and EMX to Merge to Create New Mid-Tier Gold Focused Royalty Company Elemental Royalty
- Davies Agrees to Acquire SCM
- True North Acquires Smiles on 5

Insights

- From Code to Compliance: Understanding AI and its Evolving Regulatory Landscape (Cassels Webinar)
- Update from the Government of Canada on Issues of Copyright in the Age of Generative Artificial Intelligence
- Update from the United States Copyright Office on Issues of Copyright in the Age of Generative Artificial Intelligence

Pro Bono & Community Involvement

- Buddies in Bad Times Theatre, Board of Directors (2018-2020)
- Give a Night Fundraiser, Co-Chair
- Law Help Ontario's Civil Litigation Project, Volunteer

Education / Bar Admissions

- J.D., Osgoode Hall Law School, 2012
- M.Phil., University of Cambridge, 2006
- B.Sc. (Honours) (Microbiology), University of Guelph, 2005
- Ontario, 2013

Associations

- Canadian Bar Association
- Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Past Co-Chair, AI Council

Cassels

- Ontario Bar Association, Past Chair, Privacy and Access to Information Law Executive
- South Asian Bar Association