

Tamar Silverbrook

OWN
OSGOODE WOMEN'S NETWORK

ALUMNAE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Q: Did your time at Osgoode shape what kind of law you wanted to pursue, and if so how?

Definitely. Osgoode provided a broad range of courses, blending theory with practice. I particularly enjoyed attending Wills and Estates lectures and listening to Professor Black's interesting anecdotes. I could see myself having sensitive discussions with clients on issues raised in class and finding it fulfilling to help clients arrange their personal affairs, thereby helping to protect their families.

Q: What do you like about working at a Bay Street firm?

In working with a full-service Bay Street firm (Fasken), there is teamwork among practice groups, covering a broad range of practice areas. Not only do I like the sense of community that this creates, but it is also a benefit when working with complex, large estate planning to have this collaborative environment. Since complexity is the norm in my work, collaboration may involve colleagues with expertise in practice areas such as corporate, securities, tax and real estate (and of course trusts, wills, estates, and family law). Not only is this benefit great from a learning and social perspective, but it also helps my practice by being able to support clients in establishing an estate plan that addresses each of their unique circumstances.

Q: What excites you about wills and estates?

Many days I feel as though estate planning is a complex puzzle. You have all these pieces, including: (i) different personalities (including those of your clients, their family members, friends, charities/whomever they wish to benefit as part of their estate plan), (ii) your clients' wishes and expectations, (iii) your clients' legal obligations, and (iv) your clients' assets, that you have to consider within the context of how to transfer to intended beneficiaries while fulfilling your clients' wishes. Wishes may include protecting the ongoing financial health of clients' assets, such as a family business. Solving this puzzle, and particularly the human component of getting to know your clients, their beneficiaries and any family business, if applicable, is exciting.

BIO

Tamar Silverbrook is a member of Fasken's Private Client Services practice group. As part of her practice, Tamar advises clients on a variety of wealth management, estate, and family planning issues. In addition, Tamar assists clients with Wills, powers of attorney, domestic contracts, trusts and other documents relevant to succession planning.