

Alumni Profile

Paul Fox

BA '70 French and Philosophy

Current Career

Organization: Dire Brown Law

Title: Lawyer

Career Overview

I practiced law for six years at Cram & Associates here in London. Then I left the practice of law to become in-house legal counsel for Bell Canada International. I became the Director of Legal Operations for the Middle East and was posted in Saudi Arabia where I lived there for two years. We operated out of Saudi, but also worked in Dubai, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, and other countries.

After that I came back to London and worked at Western as their legal officer for eight years. I did industry liaison with intellectual property and licenses of patents developed by professors doing research.

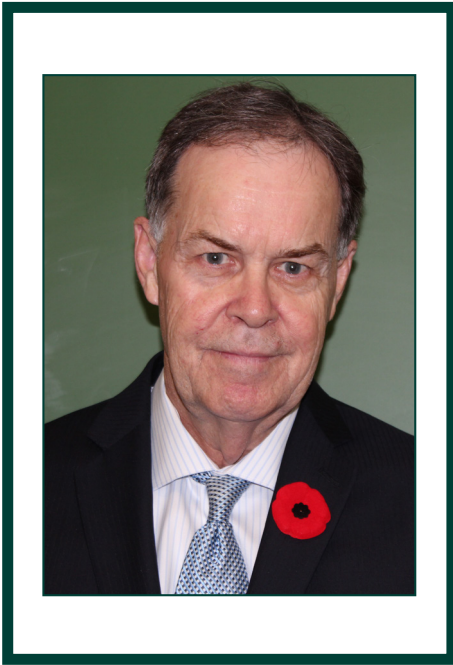
Then I left Western to work at General Motors as General Counsel for their defense division. I was there for five years and then went to University of Windsor as General Counsel for one year.

Next, I worked at London Life for 10 years and retired from there in 2015. I returned to practice law at Dire Brown Law Firm here in London. I focus on corporate commercial and estate work.

How did King's help you get where you are today?

I always had the feeling that the professors here took a real interest in me as a person. I've had the opportunity to stay in touch with a lot of my professors over the years and they've turned out to be some of my closest friends. I had the opportunity to join the Board of Directors at King's and served for two years as the chair. King's has played a great role in my life.

At King's, I studied French and I have found that has been quite a good thing to have. A lot of the positions that I held over the years had a requirement for French. I found I used French in various positions more than I would have expected to. Certainly in Ottawa, but also in North Africa, Morocco, Tunisia, Belgium, Switzerland and Germany. To negotiate contracts, having a facility in the language has really helped me.



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What advice do you have for someone who is interested in a similar line of work?

It's a wonderful opportunity where you can help people. Because of your professional expertise, people do rely on your counsel, your opinion and your direction. I've always found that to be quite redeeming. You can come away from representing a client or if you're working for a company, doing a good job for a company getting a good feeling of fulfillment that you've been able to make a real contribution.

What do you wish you knew before starting your career?

I think probably the firm conviction that if you work hard and are good to people, good things will come your way. I think I always knew that maybe in the back of my mind, but not as fully as I know it now. I think it's only life experiences that teach you that over and over again. Now, I am absolutely convinced that it's a good way to look at things.

Further Degrees / Certifications

Juris Doctor Degree

Western University
