

## **Legal Counsel**

**Innovate Calgary**  
**Calgary, Alberta**

### **Overview of the Company**

Innovate Calgary was formed in 1989 with the purpose of supporting the University of Calgary (UCalgary) with its innovation needs. Today we are ranked #1 in Canada for startup creation (AUTM 2020 licensing survey), producing one-fifth of all registered research-driven startups from Canadian Universities and research hospitals last year. We help to create economic and societal impact from research, and we support UCalgary researchers, as well as inventors, entrepreneurs, and companies in Calgary and beyond.

Innovate Calgary has four business groups:

UIQ: We manage innovation-related real estate and programming in the newly created University Innovation Quarter, adjacent to the main campus of UCalgary.

UCeed: Today, we operate four investment funds under the UCeed program, investing in research-driven ventures from UCalgary members and partners.

IMPACT: Our clinical trials program targets early-stage ventures, working closely with the Creative Destruction Lab and other partners nationally and internationally.

Innovation: We operate a vibrant innovation office, managing technology transfer, and industry liaison functions, with a focus on energy transformation, social innovation, city building, life sciences, and digital worlds.

### **Position Summary**

The legal counsel will lead the legal operations of the company and report to the President and CEO.

### **Role and Responsibilities**

- Advise Innovate Calgary's departments and senior management on a wide range of legal, operational, and strategic issues, with a focus on intellectual property and technology-based commercial transactions, startup technology companies, investing in startup technology companies, and developing an innovation ecosystem
- Draft and review documents for making equity investments in companies, such as convertible notes, Simple Agreements for Future Equity (SAFE), Keep it Simple Securities (KISS), etc.
- Lead the department that manages the filing, prosecution, and maintenance of Innovate Calgary's patents and trademarks
- Develop and implement agreements for the launch and operation of various programs to support the growth of entrepreneurs and startup companies, such as:
  - UCeed, a program that provides pre-seed and seed funding to select startup companies
  - The University of Calgary Life Sciences Innovation Hub, a business incubator that provides resources, equipment, and support for the launch, development, and growth of life sciences companies
  - IMPACT, a program that provides clinical trial consulting services to life sciences companies

- GreenSTEM Fellowships, a program that provides funding for select University of Calgary entrepreneurs to launch startup companies in the cleantech sector
- Life Sciences Fellowships, a program that provides funding for select University of Calgary entrepreneurs to launch startup companies in the life sciences sector
- Draft and review various types of commercial agreements for intellectual property and technology-based transactions
- Review term sheets, articles of incorporation, by-laws, and shareholder agreements pertaining to startup companies
- Manage relationships with Innovate Calgary's external legal counsel
- Work with Innovate Calgary's external legal counsel on litigation matters and the enforcement of Innovate Calgary's legal rights

**Skills and competencies**

The position requires excellent communication, judgment, decision-making, and organizational skills, with the ability to prioritize and monitor multiple competing deadlines and to work with a diverse constituency of higher education, clinical, government, and business personnel.

**Required Qualifications and Experience**

- LLB or JD and an active member of a Canadian law society
- Minimum 6 years of experience
- Leadership experience
- Understanding of scientific and legal principles
- Knowledge of intellectual property laws, finance, accounting, and business practices
- Skilled in drafting and interpreting contracts, agreements, and other legal documents
- Industry experience is an asset
- The ability to think originally and to be an innovative and creative problem solver

**Preferred Qualifications**

- The ideal candidate will have at least ten years of experience practicing law either as an in-house corporate counsel or in private practice
- The ideal candidate will have an inquiring mind and possess strong interpersonal skills and judgment

Interested applicants are asked to forward their **resume and cover letter** to [hr@innovatecalgary.com](mailto:hr@innovatecalgary.com).

We thank all applicants for their interest. However, we will contact only those persons for whom we need further information or are being considered for an interview.

**Application deadline:** End of day **November 12, 2021**

*Innovate Calgary is an equal opportunity organization committed to building and fostering a fair and inclusive community that values diversity and encourages respect for all. We welcome applicants across any race, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, protected veteran status, Indigenous status, or any other legally-protected factors. We recognize the value of identifying and removing barriers for any applicants interested in participating in our programs.*