

Defence & Security

Helping clients deliver for Canada's Defence Industrial Strategy

Canada's Defence Industrial Strategy (DIS) is reshaping how defence and security capabilities are procured, built, and sustained in Canada. Success today depends on a clear understanding of how government procurement works, how to build and partner in Canada, how to meet security requirements, and how to deliver meaningful Canadian industrial participation.

We advise Canadian and international clients on operating at the intersection of government procurement, national security, and advanced industry in Canada. Working with prime contractors, SMEs, investors, and partners across the defence and security ecosystem, we translate policy, compliance, and procurement requirements into practical, executable business strategy.

Our team offers fully integrated advice across corporate, commercial, regulatory, trade, and disputes, to help organizations compete, partner, invest, and perform, while aligning with Canada's evolving defence, security, and industrial policy objectives. Our services include:

- **Procurement & Contracting:** Advising across the full defence procurement lifecycle, including corporate structuring and restructuring to support bid strategy, efficiency, and risk management.
- **Industrial and Technological Benefits (ITB) & Value Proposition:** Structuring ITB and Value Proposition commitments that are auditable, achievable, and commercially sound, including Canadian content, supplier development, R&D, workforce development, and Indigenous participation.
- **Security, Controlled Goods & Sensitive-Technology:** Integrating security and compliance requirements into contracts, facilities, and supply chains.
- **Investment, M&A & Foreign Investment Review:** Advising on national security considerations related to ownership,

governance, and technology control, including the structuring of strategic partnerships, joint ventures, and acquisitions.

- Export Controls, Sanctions & Cross-Border Trade: Supporting operations across allied markets while protecting intellectual property and maintaining regulatory compliance.
- Indigenous & Northern Project Structuring: Structuring defence-adjacent projects involving Northern, Arctic, and Indigenous participation, consistent with DIS objectives for local participation, workforce development, and dual-use benefits.
- Disputes, Performance & Delivery Risk: Managing legal and commercial risk during long-term contract delivery, sustainment, and serviceability.

Practical advice grounded in how defence decisions are made

In the defence and security sector, legal risk is business risk. Successful programs are built on credibility, compliance, and performance over decades, not just at bid stage.

We stay current on developments in defence procurement, industrial policy, and security regulation, and bring deep experience working with federal procurement frameworks. Our

approach is procurement-first and execution-focused, grounded in how defence decisions are actually made and how programs are delivered in practice.

If you are pursuing defence or security opportunities in Canada—or looking to invest, partner, or scale within the DIS framework—we can help you move forward with confidence.

Related Professionals

2 Lawyers



Liam Phipps

Associate



John Paul (JP) Smith

Partner