Appendix "A"

Current Status

Mr. Popik is a Partner with Kingston Ross Pasnak LLP and practices across Western Canada in the areas of financial litigation support, corporate finance, business valuations, forensic investigative accounting and general accounting and income tax services. Mr. Popik is also a Director with Medallion Business Brokers Inc. and actively involved in merger and acquisition transactions across Western Canada.

Education

Mr. Popik obtained a Bachelor of Commerce degree, majoring in accounting, from the University of Alberta in June 1990 and his designation as a Chartered Accountant with the Alberta Institute in January 1994. In December 1997 he gained membership with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators (with a dual specialization in business valuation and quantification of economic damages) as jointly administered through the University of Toronto and York University while, distinguishing himself by obtaining the highest mark in Canada on the Law and Valuation course. In September 1999 he was admitted to membership with the American Society of Appraisers, earning the professional designation Accredited Senior Appraiser, accredited in business valuations. In November 2000 he became an associate member with the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. In 2012 Mr. Popik completed the final examination requirements of the Association of Certified Forensic Investigators of Canada and was admitted as a member. In 2015, Mr. Popik became a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada, Alberta, and the Yukon. In 2016, Mr. Popik became Certified in Financial Forensics by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In 2020, Mr. Popik became a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia. In 2023, Mr. Popik became a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Saskatchewan.

Experience

Mr. Popik has over thirty years of public practice experience and has developed an expertise in the provision of financial litigation support, business valuation, forensic investigative accounting, advisory, income taxes (personal and corporate) and corporate finance services. Mr. Popik completed his articles and practiced approximately nine years of his public practice career with one of Canada's largest national accounting firms, Deloitte & Touche LLP. Mr. Popik has been a partner with Kingston Ross Pasnak LLP since joining it in 1999, and is the practice group leader of its Financial Litigation Support Practice.

Selected Financial Litigation Support Experience

Mr. Popik estimates he has prepared over 500 financial litigation support reports over his thirty-year career, including:

- Pursuant to the Rules of Court, Form 25 and the former 218.1 Statement, our preparation and presentation of our independent assessment and quantifications of economic damages, including surrebuttal reports involving personal injury (motor vehicle accident, slip and fall) pursuant to the applicable Insurance Act, fatality, wrongful dismissals, commercial damages, tort claims, breach of contract actions pursuant to the specific terms of the contract, fraud claims, and business valuation disputes in litigation, including the preparation of Expert Reports complying with the Rules of Court for both Plaintiff and Defendant actions filed in Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon;
- Quantifications of special damages for self-employed individuals and employees, including bodily injury claims for past and future loss of income, future costs of care, loss of housekeeping capacity, and income tax gross-ups, including the preparation of Expert Reports complying with the Rules of Court for both Plaintiff and Defendant actions in jurisdictions encompassing Western Canada;
- Business Valuations opining on Fair Value pursuant to S. 190 and S. 241 of the Business Corporations Act of Alberta as regarding dissent and oppression actions in litigation;

Selected Financial Litigation Support Experience (continued)

- Quantifications of Equalization Payments and Guideline Income calculations in matrimonial matters in litigation pursuant to the Federal Child Support Guidelines, specifically Sections 16, 17, 18, and 19, and the Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines;
- Quantifications of damages pursuant to the Expropriation Act of Alberta as regarding municipal and provincial expropriations of businesses in litigation in contemplation of appearance before the Alberta Land and Property Rights Tribunal of Alberta, most notably acting for several confidential clients forced to relocate or close following the expropriation of the Edmonton City Centre Airport and the LRT expansion in Edmonton, AB; and,
- Quantification of business interruption claims pursuant to the insurance policy in place, most notably acting for several confidential clients suffering a loss as a result of the Fort McMurray, AB wildfire of 2016.

Selected Forensic Investigative and Governance Experience

- Conducted a forensic review of a trust account precipitated by allegations of mismanagement of funds by the trustee;
- Review of cash handling procedures of several bar operators with Video Lottery Terminals so as to ensure the completeness of cash for deposit and financial statement reporting;
- Assisted a municipality in completing a review of its cash handling procedures necessitated by their discovery of theft in excess of \$1 million which had been perpetrated;
- Assisted a federal police detachment with a review of its cash handling procedures necessitated by allegations of theft at the payment window and vault perpetrated by an employee of the detachment;
- Numerous internal control reviews and investigations in to fraud and defalcation allegations as regarding several Municipal Districts in Alberta;
- Assisted a client in the quantification and recovery of over \$400,000 in marketable securities and cash that were taken by his investment advisor over a period of eight years and assessed the tax implications to determine an appropriate settlement;
- Assisted the shareholder of a road construction company with a comprehensive review of its books and records identifying defalcations perpetrated by an employee of the company via payments made to fictitious companies controlled by said employee;
- Numerous matrimonial related engagements involving the forensic tracing and tracking of funds from a joint or sole bank account(s) of the divorcing couple to suspected diverted transfers at the exclusion of the other party thereby skimming funds in an attempt to defraud the other party of a fair settlement of matrimonial property;
- Assisted a labor union in the investigation of ballot stuffing pursuant to a counterfeit mail-in ballot scheme perpetrated;
- Conducted a comprehensive forensic review of a public library pursuant to allegations of impropriety by the treasurer over a four-year period;
- Assisted numerous clients in reviews of fictitious payments, cloned vendors, payroll irregularities, diversion of cash, and cash handling procedures;
- Conducted advisory forensic procedures as regarding an alleged warranty claim against a provider of non-destructive testing on ships;
- Advising and assisting an engine repair facility to improve business processes, cash management, and assisting with matters related to an alleged breach of contract;
- Advising an insurer regarding a financial auditor's potential responsibility to detect fraudulent payroll activity in excess of \$1 million;
- Advisory and forensic procedures to assist a Municipal District regarding specific allegations. Advising regarding said specific allegations and identifying and advising regarding mitigating actions to be taken to mitigate against tax filing risks; and,

Selected Forensic Investigative and Governance Experience (Continued) Advisory and forensic procedures to assist a Municipal District regarding specific business transactions and advising regarding: internal control weaknesses, segregation of duties, asset stewardship, and the effective use of budgets as part of the asset stewardship function of the Municipal District.

Selected Business Valuation Experience Valuations of numerous privately-owned Alberta based businesses, including: home construction companies, auto body repair shops, custom fabrication shops, automobile dealerships, agricultural supply stores and grain distributors, retail stores, restaurants, hotels, hardware and lumber stores (including numerous Home Hardware branded stores), cabinet manufacturing, security and monitoring, spindle manufacturing, fitness equipment and supply stores, golf courses, health clubs, carpet and flooring supply stores;

- Goodwill impairment testing and purchase price allocations on transactions across Western Canada:
- > Valuation of numerous professional corporations including those involved in the provision of engineering, accounting, medical, dental and legal services;
- Comprehensive Valuation Reports pursuant to 61-501 going private transactions posted on www.SEDAR.com;
- Valuation of numerous financial planning, asset management companies, insurance companies;
- > Valuation of numerous oilfield servicing companies in the Alberta oil patch;
- Valuation of a company operating a tramway in the tourism industry in Jasper, Alberta;
- Valuation of a company operating a chain of Sylvan Learning Centers in Western Canada;
- Valuation of several steel fabrication companies located across Western Canada;
- Valuation of several plant maintenance companies with a focus on Fort McMurray, Alberta and the tar sands;
- Valuation of intellectual property associated with Timber Quotas for several sawmills in Western Canada;
- Valuation of an entertainment promotion company which operates the Big Valley Jamboree, Alberta;
- Valuation of a company operating a meat processing and packing facility in Alberta, said operations were inclusive of direct marketing to Canadian retailers and export to international markets;
- Valuation of one of Alberta's largest family-owned farm implement manufacturing companies located in Southern Alberta, including the valuation of proprietary trade secrets and intellectual property developed through refinement of the manufacturing process used;
- Valuation of one of the largest family-owned and locally-operated home improvement, building materials and lumber Home Centers with retail stores in each of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Northwestern Ontario employing approximately 600 staff in over 750,000 square feet of retail, manufacturing, distribution and office space;
- Valuation of several USA based fast food chain franchises located throughout Western Canada;
- Numerous valuations of intellectual property relating to biomedical and high technology products;

Selected Business > Valuation Experience (Continued)

- Valuation of a film and audio products company with intellectual property consisting of one of the world's largest privately assembled collection of animal action, birds, bugs, fish and mammals Stills Library, Sound Library and Completed Films gathered from various locations such as North America, Europe, China, Australia, New Zealand and Africa;
- Valuation of several aviation companies, avionics companies and avionic products (i.e. thick film dielectric electroluminescent display panels) and companies involved in private charter services including a company involved in the refurbishment of helicopters and the operation and sale thereof throughout North America;
- Valuation of a publicly traded science and technology company servicing the atmospheric and meteorological industry through manufacturing and sales facilities in Western Canada, the Netherlands, United States, France, Germany and the United Kingdom;
- Valuation of a company constructing a multi-million dollar molten sulphur terminal on the Port of Prince Rupert, the second deepest port in the world;
- Valuation of a company operating 16 retail liquor stores in Edmonton and Calgary, Alberta for purposes of assisting the shareholders in negotiations regarding a buyout of one of the shareholders;
- Valuation of a company operating a multi-million dollar mountain gondola lift, restaurants and souvenir shops in Banff National Park;
- Assisted a US real estate appraiser in valuing one of the world's largest retail/entertainment/hotel properties in Edmonton, Alberta;
- Valuation of a marina on the west coast of Canada, Pender Island:
- > Valuation of one of Canada's largest furniture manufacturers and retailers;
- Valuation of a holding company for nine General Motors automobile dealerships, an insurance company and various real estate projects located throughout Western Canada for estate planning purposes;
- Valuation of a public company trading on the Alberta Stock Exchange, primarily involved in the hospitality industry in Jasper, Alberta and various real estate projects located throughout Western Canada for estate planning purposes;
- Valuation of a real estate holding company developing real estate ventures located throughout Western Canada for purposes of estate planning;
- Valuation of several software development companies located across western Canada involved in the global sale of software licenses and support services specific to support software in the: health care industry, financial industry, utility industry, livestock industry, petrochemical and natural gas industry, gaming industry, bitcoin and cyber currency industry and counter ransomware industry;
- Valuation of a multi-million dollar real estate holding company with extensive properties located throughout Western Canada, a manufacturing company engaged in the manufacturing of heating and ventilation products and multiple holding and investment companies located throughout Western Canada;
- Valuation of several sawmill and pulp and paper mills in Western Canada; and,
- Valuation of a group of companies in the advanced stages of the Health Canada application process for the production of medicinal marijuana;
- Valuation of numerous privately held companies with land ownership of sand and gravel pits;
- Valuation of several luxury goods retailers with prominent brand exclusivities; and,
- Valuation of an exclusive, and prominent privately held USA company manufacturing high end luxury Yacht accessories located in Florida.

Selected Corporate Finance and Due Diligence Experience

- Due diligence on the sale of shares of a multi-national oil and gas extraction service company with operations headquartered in Edmonton, Alberta with offices located in the Middle-East and Bermuda;
- Due diligence on the sale of shares of a company headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, operating a borate mine in Argentina and a coal mine in Western Canada;
- Due diligence on the sale of shares of a newspaper publishing company servicing Northern Alberta;
- Due diligence and assistance with the restructuring of a national retail chain operating sports apparel and sporting goods stores located throughout Canada;
- Due diligence on the raising of mezzanine financing for a trucking company servicing Western Canada;
- Due diligence on the raising of mezzanine financing for a vegetation control and reforestation consulting company servicing Alberta and interior British Columbia;
- Due diligence on the sale of shares of a hotel/entertainment property operating out of Edmonton, Alberta;
- Numerous due diligence engagements with Aboriginal Business Canada (ABC) and an approved Consultant with ABC;
- Assessment of the purchase price of a Casino operated by a First Nations Band and the assistance with the determination of the purchase price for negotiations of a buyout between the casino owner operator in Las Vegas, Nevada and the casino owner operator in Enoch, Alberta including the detailed analysis of the cash flows of the Casino and normalization thereof;
- Cash flow analysis and debt sustainability study for the debt restructuring of a Casino located near Whitecourt, AB, relating to \$45 million of debts with a mezzanine financier located in the United States:
- Cost allocation of an Alberta Casino for the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission and the First Nations Development Fund as regarding allocation of operating costs between gaming and non-gaming operations to assist them with ascertaining compliance with Provincial Regulations;
- Acted as transaction advisor on numerous multi-million dollar transactions on deals across Western Canada; and,
- Due diligence relating to power purchase required for Bitcoin data mining services for a TSX Venture Exchange listed company.

Qualification as an Expert Witness The Court of King's Bench of Alberta

Mr. Popik has been qualified and accepted by the Court of King's Bench of Alberta as an expert in economics, the quantification of pecuniary damages, quantification of past and future loss of income, economic damages, accounting, personal and corporate income taxation, business valuations, quantification of guideline income, and equalization payments, and has testified in The Court of King's Bench of Alberta (including attendance in Calgary, Red Deer and Edmonton). Reported cases and / or attendance as an Expert at Trial include:

Action No. 4803 105743 -Allan Bruce Edie and Linda Frances Edie;

Action No. 4803 128067 -Peter Ahpin and Say Nai Ahpin;

Action No. 0003 04499 Maurice Prefontaine and Alison Martin and Peter Martin:

Action No. 9803 17422 Diane Gardner and Seema Saeed Farooqui and Rafi Ul Farooqui;

Action No. 0403 20696 Mary Kassian and Paul Roy;

Action No. 0503 10139 James Robinson et al and Fiesta Hotel Group Resorts

Action No. 0503 16142 MS, a minor, by his next Friend TS and DM Junior and John Doe:

Action No. 0303 12682 Motkoski Holdings Ltd. and Yellowhead County; Action No. 0601 04702 Robert Charles Egglestone and Brock Norman Cox;

Action No. 0610 00098 Sandra Elizabeth McLaren v. Estate of Kayla Elizabeth McLaren. et al:

Jacqueline Fernet and The Board of Governors of the Action No. 0803 15387 University of Calgary;

Vermilion & District Housing Foundation v. Binder Action No. 0603 10566 Construction Limited, The Guarantee Company of North America, and Group2 Architecture Engineering Ltd.;

Action No. 0101 18428 Dennis Woronuk and Cybercorp Inc. v. David Varley Woronuk et al.:

C.M.K. and G.S.K.: Action No. 4803 161308 -

Action No. 1703 02005 -Biocomposites Group Inc. v. 0975138 BC Ltd.;

Action No. FL03 21147 -JDL and TLGM:

Action No. 1101 13829 Patrick Alan Mason v. Daniel Harry Thompson et al;

Action No. 1201 13287 Pat Mason v. Krista Anna Hayes:

Action No. FL03 60913 -Lisa Sharon Bartlett v. Cameron Michael Martin;

Jason Paul v. The Iron Horse Eatery and Watering Action No. 0703 08416 Hole Inc., Jason Szymanski, Dan Covelli, Mark Levers, John Doe #1, John Doe #2, acting as manager of The

Iron Horse Eatery and Watering Hole Inc.;

Action No. 0803 08328 Jason Paul v. Wilson Quan, Jane Doe, John Doe #1,

John Doe #2, John Doe #3, and Michael J. Boyd (Chief of the Edmonton Police Service); and,

Jason Paul v. Richard Begin, Susan Boonstra, Chris Action No. 0803 05179

Deluca and Michael J. Boyd.

Action No. 4803 169554 -Raquel Adrienne Maurier and Ernie Maurier.

Qualification as an Expert Witness - Supreme Court of Yukon

Qualified as an expert in business valuations and accounting and has testified in the Supreme Court of Yukon (including attendance in Whitehorse). Reported case includes:

Action No. 08-A0004

Harvey v. 5505 Yukon Ltd. et al.

Qualification as an Expert Witness - Supreme Court of British Columbia

Qualified as an expert in economic damages quantification, valuation and accounting matters in the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Reported cases include:

Docket: B131424

Asian Concepts Franchise Corporation (Re),

2017 BCSC 1452.

Docket: B131424

Asian Concepts Franchise Corporation (Re),

2017 BCSC 1986.

Other Expert Witness Qualifications -Municipal Government Board

Qualified as an expert in accounting and business valuations in the Municipal Government Board (MGB) and provided expert evidence in this regard on several occasions, including the preparation of numerous Witness Reports for the MGB's use in addition to numerous critique and rebuttal reports. Reported cases include:

MGB 094/06

MTS Allstream Inc. and Designated Linear Assessor for

the Province of Alberta;

MGB 036/07

Pan Canadian Energy Services (Encana Corporation) and The Crown in Right of the Province of Alberta;

MGB 053/08

Ag Pro Grain Management Services Ltd. and Louis Dreyfus Canada Ltd. and Lacombe County et al;

MGB 109/09

Daishowa Marubeni International Ltd. and Municipal

District of Northern Lights; and,

MGB 2017/2018 AY

Canadian Natural Resources Limited and the Provincial

Assessor of the Province of Alberta.

Alberta Land & **Property Rights** Tribunal

2022 ABLPRT151

- Newton Aviation Services v. Edmonton (City)

2023 ABLPRT

- International Paper Canada Pulp Holdings v. Provincial Assessor.

Other Expert Witness Qualifications-Alberta Utilities Commission

independent review and appear as an expert witness at a public hearing before the Alberta Utilities Commission (AUC), including preparation of Written Argument and Reply in the following matter:

2009-176

Utilities Consumer Advocate (UCA) and AltaGas

Utilities Inc. (AUI).

Qualified as an expert in accounting and business valuations and to carry out an

Other Expert Witness **Qualifications-**Mackenzie Valley Land and Water **Board**

Qualified as an expert in accounting and damage quantification and appearing as an expert witness at a public hearing before the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board in Yellowknife, NT, including preparation of an Economic Loss Report in the following matter:

Other Expert Reports Federal Tax Court of

2017 L4-0002 - Carter Family and Northwest Territories Power Corporation (as reported on by CBC News Canada

Preparation of Numerous Expert Reports for the Federal Tax Court of Canada.

Canada **Alternative** Dispute Resolution

Mr. Popik has attended and presented viva voce evidence at Mediations, Arbitrations, Special Chambers Applications and both binding and non-binding Judicial Dispute Resolutions; and,

Court of King's Bench of Alberta Appointment as Arbitrator

- Mr. Popik has acted as a formal Adjudicator.
- Mr. Popik was appointed, by way of Court of King's Bench of Alberta Court Order, as an arbitrator under the Arbitration Act of Alberta in regards to a contractual arbitral process involving a multimillion-dollar dispute involving contested adjustments pursuant to a Share Purchase Agreement in the following matter:
 - 1903 16772 Obcorp Holdings Inc. et al and 7911939 Canada Ltd.
- Approved and Registered as a Financial Agent with Elections Canada and has acted in that capacity for a Federal Elections Nominations Candidate, 2014 and 2018. Responsibilities include stewardship over donations and bank account(s), approving and rejecting expense submissions, disbursing funds, issuance of donation receipts, accounting and reporting to Elections Canada of the financial activity of the Nomination Candidate and filing the Elections Return with Elections Canada at the conclusion of the nomination period pursuant to the Elections Act of Canada.

Continuing Education

- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Chicago, Illinois, 2011;
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Phoenix, Arizona, 2012;
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference San Antonio, Texas, 2013;
- Uniform Standards and Principals of Appraisal Practice (USPAP) recertified, Cleveland, Ohio, 2014;
- Recertified with the American Society of Appraisers, September 2014;
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Las Vegas, Nevada, 2015;
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Boca Raton, Florida, 2016;
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Houston, Texas, 2017;
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Anaheim, California, 2018;
- Uniform Standards and Principals of Appraisal Practice (USPAP) recertified, 2018;
- > Recertified with the American Society of Appraisers, February 2019;
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference New York, New York, 2019:
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Chicago, Illinois, 2020 (COVID virtual conference);
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Las Vegas, Nevada, 2021 (COVID virtual conference);
- American Society of Appraisers Advanced Business Valuation Conference Tampa Bay, Florida, 2022 (COVID virtual conference); and,
- Ongoing technical readings of learned papers and studies, including attendance at formal courses, conferences, workshops and webinars as offered by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators, the American Society of Appraisers, the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada, and other professional bodies.

Presentations

- Northern Alberta Risk Management Society (Northern Alberta Chapter), "How to Accurately Evaluate Your Business Interruption Exposure";
- Western Canada Business Valuation Conference, "Searching for Public Company Comparables";
- Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners, STEP Edmonton Branch Seminar, "Valuation of Closely Held Corporations";
- Canadian Bar Association Alberta Taxation Group, "Business Valuations Valuation Reports, Methodologies, and CRA Requirements"; and,
- Numerous "in-house" presentations to law firms regarding the expert accountant's role in the context of matrimonial disputes regarding "Guideline Income" and Business Valuations and the quantification of economic damages regarding: personal injury claims, loss of income claims, business interruption claims, forensic accounting and shareholder disputes (i.e. pursuant to dissent and oppression remedies sought under the provision of the Canada Business Corporations Act).

Publications

Quoted in <u>Business in Calgary Magazine</u>, December 2022 "Where Did All the Money Go?" A profile in fraud.

Professional Memberships

- Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants;
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of Alberta;
- Canadian Institute of Chartered Business Valuators;
- American Society of Appraisers Accredited Senior Appraiser, Business Valuation, Chapter 33 Member, Chicago, Illinois, USA;
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, USA;
- Association of Certified Forensic Investigators of Canada;
- ➤ Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and the Yukon; and,
- > American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Certified in Financial Forensics, USA.

Website

www.krpgroup.com