

## Paul Saunders

### Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer and Partner

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Language(s) spoken: English

Bar Admission(s): Nova Scotia, 2008

Legal Assistant(s): [Heidi Evans](#)

Paul is Stewart McKelvey's first Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer and Partner. Paul is responsible for driving strategies for Firm growth through innovation, continuous improvement, change management, Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies, business development, external consulting, financial data analysis and application development, and Partner coaching, compensation and knowledge transfer. This includes facilitating the development and execution of Stewart McKelvey's strategic plans and staying up to date on legal industry trends and best practices.

Paul partners with lawyers, staff, and business professionals both internal and external to the firm, to solve problems by implementing strategies and developing new tools and processes. Paul's work, and that of his team in the firm's Practice Innovation team, results in streamlined processes, reduced costs, and increased profitability. Using his background in IT and an innovative approach to the practice of law, Paul applies his technical skills to offer clients greater efficiencies. He does so by leveraging cutting edge technologies and creative problem solving to maximize client value while minimizing costs and waste.

Paul is an expert in process improvement, legal project management, pricing, profitability analysis, data analytics, financial dashboards, law firm partner compensation redesign, database design, application development, MS Excel, SharePoint, automated document assembly, and other related fields and technologies. Ten years of corporate practice experience, specializing in M&A and coordinating large corporate transactions, combined with eight years as a member of the Firm's senior leadership team in an innovation role, has enabled him to develop countless solutions that have had far reaching benefits for the firm and its clients.

## Education & Career

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## Education

Dalhousie University, LLB, 2007  
Dalhousie University, MBA., 2003  
Dalhousie University, BComm, 2002  
Master Certified CPM Coach, Next Gen LPM, 2021  
Change Management Practitioner, Prosci, 2017  
Lean Six Sigma Green Belt, McGill, 2016

## Activities

Member, Canadian Bar Association  
Chair, AI Task Force, Stewart McKelvey  
Task Force Member, Task Force for the Digital Transformation of the Courts of Nova Scotia  
Member, Technology Sub-Group, Nova Scotia Barristers' Society, Law Office Management Standards Committee  
Member, Nova Scotia Barristers' Society, Law Office Management Standards Committee  
Past Instructor, Legal Aspects of Business, Dalhousie School of Business Administration  
Past Instructor, Legal Aspects of Business, Mount Saint Vincent University School of Business and Tourism

## Accolades

[Lexpert® Rising Star: Leading Lawyer Under 40](#), 2019  
Lexpert rating: Computer & IT Law, 2020

## Publications

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Interviewed for "Litigation's future", CBA/ABC National  
[February 14, 2022](#)

Author, *Tips for Successful Technology Adoption in Legal Teams*, Nova Voce, Winter 2019

## Presentations

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*AI-Powered Legal Research*, CBA Legal Futures Subcommittee, June 6, 2024

*Artificial Intelligence as a Super Power*, CBA-IP Privacy law Series, October 19, 2023

*AI is Coming for Lawyers Again*, Stewart McKelvey In-House PD Days, June 1, 2023 and September 28, 2023

*Minimizing Non-Billable Time: The Secret to Law Firm Profitability*, Thomson Reuters On-Demand Webinar, July 2022

*LegalTech Outlook: What's New and On the Horizon for 2022 and Beyond*, LegalTech Summit 2022, June 15, 2022



*A Case Study on Law Firm Profitability: Stewart McKelvey's Five-Year Journey*, Ark Law Firm Profitability Summit, April 27, 2022

*Emerging Technologies in Law Practice*, CBA – NS Branch 2021 Annual Conference, December 2, 2022

*Cloud Computing Checklist Proposed Approach – Law Office Management Standards Committee*, LIANS/NSBS Solo and Small Firm Virtual Conference 2021, November 24, 2021

*Transforming the Legal Client Experience and Business Process of Running a Law Firm*, LegalTech Summit 2021, June 29, 2021

*Winning Data Visualization Strategies*, Ark BI Conference, June 25, 2021

*Legal Service Delivery: Integrating Tech into Your Practice*, CBA Digital Literacy Series, June 2020

*Change Management and Technology: Lessons Learned from the Pandemic*, Canadian Lawyer LegalTech Virtual Summit, September 15, 2020

*Practical Automation Tools to Maximize Your Firms Efficiency and Reduce Overhead*, Canadian Lawyer LegalTech Virtual Summit, September 15, 2020

*Practice Innovation in Civil & Commercial Litigation*, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers Conference, October 2019

*Law+ Session: Getting and Staying Organized*, Dalhousie Schulich School of Law, October 2019

*Learning from Failure: Tips for Successful Implementations*, EPIQ Roundtable: Legal Innovation & Technology on the Atlantic Coast, September 2019

*Emerging Technologies in Business Law*, CBA Business Law Section, May 2019

*Business Intelligence Workshop*, Institute for the Future of Law Practice Boot Camp, May 2019

*Technology Adoption*, Northwind 19th Annual Law Leaders Invitational Forum, April 2019

*Prepare For Practice: How Technology Is Changing Legal Practice*, Schulich School of Law, October 2018

*The Flipside of Failure*, 2018 Emerging Legal Technology Forum, September 2018

*Calendar and Time Management*, CBA-NS mid-winter conference, November 2017

*Accelerating Innovation Across the Profession*, Thomson Reuters 2017 Emerging Technology Forum Road Show, October 2017

*Practice Innovation for Law Clerks*, ILCO Conference, May 2017



*Innovate Your Practice by Adapting Technologies and Proven Methodologies Outside of Legal*, Legal Tech Toronto, September 2016

*An Introduction to Law Practice Innovation for Legal Marketing Professionals*, ALFA International, March 2016

*Stop the Insanity: Tech Tips for a Busy Practice*, CBA-NS mid-winter conference, January 2016

*The Assembly Line: Efficient and Effective Document Assembly*, CBA-NS mid-winter conference, November 2014

*Commercial Transactions: Document Management and Assembly*, ILCO Conference, May 2014