



# Jenna Bever

## Associate

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### ASSISTANT

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### PRACTICE AREAS

**Commercial Real Estate**

**Wills, Trusts & Estates**

**Estate Administration**

**Estate Planning**

**Guardianship & Trusteeship**

**Estate Dispute Resolution**



I'm dedicated to providing trusted counsel and aim to assist my clients through their complex or difficult estate disputes. It is important to me to work collaboratively with clients towards their goals.

Jenna has a depth of knowledge in estate disputes and planning. With over a decade of experience she understands estate disputes can often be stressful and difficult to navigate. She believes in working with clients to reach effective solutions, tailored to their unique circumstances. Jenna has experience at all levels of Court in Alberta and enjoys assisting clients on a wide range of estate related concerns, including:

- Estate Litigation
- Estate Dispute Resolution
- Estate Administration and Planning
- Guardianship and Trustee Matters
- Will and Trust Interpretation
- Will Challenges
- Applications for Advice and Direction on Probate Matters and Estate Administration

- Removal and Replacement of Personal Representatives and Trustees
- Testamentary Capacity and Undue Influence Matters
- Dependent Support and Maintenance Claims
- Dependent Adult Matters

In addition to her legal practice, Jenna is an active member of the Wills and Estates community. She frequently attends conferences, prepares presentations and actively seeks areas to expand and evolve her estate practice.

### Education

- 2014 University of Alberta, Spanish Language Certificate
- 2013 University of Alberta, J.D.
- 2011 University of Peking (Beijing, China), Survey of Chinese Law Certificate
- 2009 University of Calgary, BA (Political Science and Philosophy)
- 2007 Bow Valley College, Medical Terminology Certificate

### Admission

- 2014 Alberta

## Experience

Successfully resisted an application to find an entire parcel of land, including the home of the respondent, belonged to the surviving spouse of the deceased pursuant to both the *Dower Act* and through the Will of the deceased. The Court found that when determining what constitutes a homestead under the *Dower Act*, a contextual analysis of the facts relating to the intended purpose of the land by the deceased is required. In applying this contextual analysis, the Court found in this instance that providing the surviving spouse with dower rights to the entire parcel of land would provide her with a greater benefit than if the deceased were alive and so contrary to the purpose of the *Dower Act*, a protective Act.

### **Estate of Roy Widney, 2024 ABKB 441**

Successfully applied to the Court to have a testamentary writing validated as the last Will and Testament of the deceased despite it not complying with the legal requirements of a formal Will. The Court was satisfied that the proposed testamentary writing met the legal test and set out the intentions of the deceased and that the deceased clearly intended the writing to be his last Will.

### **Guttman Estate (Re), 2024 ABKB 309**

## Recognition

### RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE

- Interviewed for the Globe and Mail, “Do you have a financial contingency plan? Worried Canadians updated wills amid coronavirus pandemic” – Anna Sharratt (March 2020)

## Memberships

- **Law Society of Alberta**
- **Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)**
- **Canada Bar Association, Wills, Estates, and Trusts Section**

- **Unison (formerly the Kirby Centre)**

- Volunteer speaker and assist with providing seniors with access and knowledge regarding wills and estates
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 **Teaching Roles & Speaking Engagements** 

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**PRESENTER**

Seminar – Philanthropic Planning and Life Insurance Strategies

Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) Seminar

November 2025 (Calgary)

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**SPEAKER**

**Explaining Wills & Probate**

Hospice Calgary Dying to Know Education Series

April 2025 (Calgary)

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**SPEAKER**

**Where there's a "Will", there's a Way**

Unison (For generations 50+)

March 2025 (Calgary)

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**SPEAKER**

**Senior's Week Presentation Series**

All things Estate Planning. Unison Centre

June 2024 and June 2025 (Calgary)

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