

Shayi Xu

Partner

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PRACTICE AREAS

Family Law

Child & Spousal Support

Cohabitation & Prenuptial Agreements

Division of Property

Mediation, Arbitration, Litigation

Parenting & Custody

I vigorously advocate for my clients' goals while using creative and common-sense solutions.

Shayi is head of the Family Law group and has been practicing family law exclusively since 2009 and is experienced with litigation and all types of dispute resolution methods.

Shayi is committed to resolving high-conflict and complex situations as effectively and efficiently as possible. Shayi also helps protect clients' interests through prenuptial, cohabitation, and post-nuptial agreements as hindsight is not a preventative remedy. Shayi is also a Mediator/Arbitrator, with the goal of helping families reach a timely, cost effective, and practical resolution.

Born in Shanghai and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland, Shayi lives with her husband and is a proud parent to three children (a daughter and two fur kids).

Shayi is recognized by **The Best Lawyers in Canada** for her work in Family Law.

Contact my assistant:

Primary Assistant: Jennifer Benstead
Email: **jbenstead@mcleod-law.com**
Phone: 403.254.3829

Secondary Assistant: Veronika Fedorova
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Phone: 403.873.3704

SHAYI XU 2027
RECOGNIZED BY
Best Lawyers

Education

2008 University of New Brunswick, LLB

2024 National Family Law Arbitration Course

Admission

2009 Alberta

2005 Memorial University of Newfoundland, BComm

Experience

- Successfully represented clients for seeking years of retroactive child support and spousal support payable.
- Successful in various high-conflict cost applications and arbitrations, including getting indemnity and/or double costs.
- Successfully uncovered undisclosed assets and client successfully received compensation and costs for same.
- Assisting clients with compelling disclosure on a contested basis.
- Represented various clients successfully applying for restraining orders and defending against restraining claims.
- Successfully represented clients for parenting and mobility applications.
- **Peterson v. Sluchenski, 2025 ABKB 316, 2025**
- **MacDonald v. Brodoff, 2020 ABCA 246, 2020**
- **ESB v. SDB, 2017 ABQB 522, 2017**

Other Languages

- Speaks conversational Mandarin Chinese

Recognition

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- Shayi is recognized by **The Best Lawyers in Canada** for her work in Family Law (2025-2027).

RECENT MEDIA COVERAGE

- **Alberta judge dismisses Calgary women's dog ownership appeal**

Memberships

- **Law Society of Alberta**
- **Canadian Bar Association**
- **Calgary Bar Association**
- **Calgary AFCC**

Community

- **The Advocate's Society, Family Law Group**
  - Member at Large 2023-2024
  - Vice chair for 2024-2025
  - Chair for 2025-2026
- **CSRP officer for the Court**

- 2024-present

Recent News, Events & Notable Work

SEPTEMBER 3, 2026 | NEWS

28 McLeod Law lawyers recognized in the 2027 Edition of The Best Lawyers™ in Canada and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch

SEPTEMBER 4, 2025 | NEWS

27 McLeod Law lawyers recognized in the 2026 Edition of The Best Lawyers™ in Canada and Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch

OCTOBER 30, 2024 | ARTICLE

I had no idea my ex was racking up debt. What happens now?

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