

Annie Chawla

Alberta, Canada
www.linkedin.com/in/dr-annie-chawla

PROFILE

Internationally trained law graduate licensed in India, pursuing licensing in Alberta with 10+ years' experience in business and immigration matters. Skilled in legal research, drafting, and analysis, with client-focused approach to problem solving and effective communication. Experienced in managing complex files, supporting decision-making, and collaborating with teams to achieve objectives.

EDUCATION

Practice Readiness Education Program (PREP) , CPLED	Dec. 2025
NCA Certificate of Qualification (CQ) , Federation of Law Societies of Canada	May 2022
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) , Business & Employment Law, JJT University, India	2016
Master of Laws (LL.M.) , Business Law, SNDT University, Mumbai, India	2014
Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) , University of Mumbai, India	2012
Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) , Sociology, University of Mumbai, India	2009

EMPLOYMENT

York Angel Investors, Greater Toronto Area, Ontario, Canada May 2023 – Present
Large, non-profit Canadian angel investor group with 100+ accredited investor members providing early-stage funding, mentorship, and due diligence to startups, with a focus on 6 key industries.

Strategic Advisor to Board of Directors

Report to Board of Directors. Collaborate with volunteer board and lean management team. Accountable for governance, regulatory compliance, risk management, and strategic immigration advice to portfolio companies and founders.

- Conducted legal research and regulatory analysis relating to corporate governance, compliance, and startup investment structures.
- Reviewed and drafted bylaws, governance policies, committee records, and internal documentation to support board and management decision-making.
- Assisted startup founders with immigration-related matters, including intake discussions, eligibility assessment, and preparation of Startup Visa materials.
- Prepared agendas, minutes, and written summaries, and explained legal and regulatory issues clearly to non-lawyer stakeholders.

Immigrate.ai, Toronto, Ontario, Canada July 2022 – Aug. 2025
Licensed immigration consultancy firm with 30+ staff integrating AI-enabled tools with professional services, specializing in permanent residency, settlement, Startup Visa, and global mobility support.

Director, Legal Operations

Reported to leadership and oversaw Canadian operations, supervising client counselling, program development, and application processing consultants and staff. Managed services compliance, quality, and risk.

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- Conducted client intake interviews, gathered detailed information, and assessed eligibility, providing clear guidance on study permits, work permits, Express Entry, Provincial Nominee Programs, LMIA applications, and permanent residence pathways.
- Researched and analyzed Canadian immigration statutes, regulations, and program instructions to identify key issues, evaluate options, and support accurate advice and submissions.
- Drafted and reviewed applications, affidavits, submissions, and correspondence, ensuring clarity, completeness, and attention to procedural requirements.
- Collaborated with clients, educational institutions, immigration consultants, and partners to resolve complex permit and residency matters, achieving high applicant success rate.
- Assisted colleagues with file preparation and mentorship, while maintaining personal accountability for accuracy, organization, and effective client communication.

Thomson Reuters, Mumbai, India

Aug. 2015 – May 2017

Global legal technology and information provider of legal, tax, trade and risk support to law firms, corporations, and government entities.

Associate Attorney, Litigation Solutions

Reported to leads of Litigation Solutions group multidisciplinary project team supporting multinational clients. Contributed to litigation support, e-discovery management, and compliance initiatives across complex matters.

- Conducted detailed review and analysis of legal and regulatory documents to identify compliance, privilege, and risk issues.
- Prepared written summaries, reports, and documentation to support legal and compliance decision-making.
- Collaborated with multidisciplinary teams to meet deadlines and quality standards in regulated environments.

Integreon Managed Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, India

Nov. 2013 – Jul. 2015

Global alternative legal services provider with 3,000+ employees and centers in India, Philippines, UK, and USA, providing document review, contract management, e-discovery, compliance, and litigation support.

Attorney Associate, Legal Operations

Reported to project managers and senior associates as part of mid-sized project team supporting multinational client matters, performing document review, e-discovery, contract management, and process optimization.

- Conducted detailed review and analysis of legal documents, including contracts and discovery materials, to identify key issues, risks, and compliance requirements.
- Supported litigation and regulatory matters by managing e-discovery workflows and document production in accordance with client protocols and legal standards.
- Applied legal and procedural guidelines to large volumes of documentation, ensuring accuracy, consistency, and confidentiality.
- Prepared written summaries and issue flags for senior lawyers and project leads to support informed legal decision-making.
- Collaborated with cross-functional teams to meet deadlines, maintain quality standards, and improve document management processes.

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JP Morgan Chase, Mumbai, India

Jul. 2010 – Oct. 2013

Leading global financial services firm providing banking, asset management and financial services to individuals, corporations, governments and institutions, focused on compliance, risk management and ethics.

Compliance & Fraud Risk Analyst, Fraud Operations

Supported internal investigations and risk mitigation initiatives in a highly regulated financial environment.

- Assisted in internal investigations involving fraud, insider trading, anti-corruption, and employee misconduct within a highly regulated financial environment.
- Conducted factual analysis and review of financial records, transaction data, and internal reports to identify risk indicators and compliance concerns.
- Researched and applied internal policies and regulatory frameworks, including Sarbanes-Oxley requirements, to support investigative assessments.
- Prepared clear written summaries and reports to support escalation, remediation, and decision-making by legal and compliance stakeholders.
- Worked collaboratively with compliance, legal, and risk teams to support fraud prevention and regulatory adherence.
- Communicated findings clearly and professionally to internal stakeholders, supporting timely and defensible compliance outcomes.

VOLUNTEERING

Volunteer, SNDT Women's University School of Law Legal Aid Center, Mumbai

Aug. 2012 – Apr. 2016

Under supervision of licensed advocates and faculty, supported underprivileged women with legal advice, drafting assistance, and community outreach at a free empowerment and access to justice legal aid clinic.

- Provided pro bono legal information and client support in family law, domestic violence, property, and employment matters during supervised legal aid sessions.
- Conducted legal research and case analysis to support client consultations, ensuring advice was grounded in applicable statutes and case law.
- Drafted petitions, affidavits, legal notices, and supporting documentation under supervision for litigation and mediation matters.
- Collaborated with senior advocates, faculty supervisors, and fellow students to prepare client files and court-ready documentation.
- Assisted with legal awareness workshops and outreach initiatives, explaining legal rights and remedies to community members.

INTERESTS

Singing: Active member of a small community singing group, providing opportunities for creative expression, reflection, and building connections through music and group performances.

Swimming: Enjoy regular swimming for fitness and relaxation; it sharpens focus, builds discipline in routine, and offers a meditative escape from daily demands.

Cooking: Love exploring diverse cuisines and experimenting with new recipes; beyond enjoying flavorful meals, it hones skills in precision, time management, improvisation, and following detailed instructions.