



Aliya Ramji

Co-founder

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Law School

New York University
Queen's University

MT Divisions & Client Solutions

MT Ventures

Aliya helps startups seize opportunities, navigate challenges and grow into highly successful businesses

Aliya Ramji is a partner of McCarthy Tétrault and co-founder of MT>Ventures, a wholly-owned division of the firm. Based in Toronto, Aliya is focused exclusively on startups, scale-ups and other fast-growth businesses. In addition to delivering tailored legal advice and other strategic value to high-potential businesses in the startup or scale-up phase, Aliya regularly advises venture capital, angel and strategic investors, as well as parties looking to create strategic alliances or partnerships with founders or start-ups.

Prior to joining the Firm, Aliya was Senior Director, Legal and Corporate Affairs, at Figure1, a highly successful med-tech startup for health care professionals. Aliya delivered diverse legal and business advice, supporting Figure1 through global expansion to more than 100 countries, various strategic alliances, multiple rounds of venture capital financing, and a host of privacy, data governance and complex regulatory matters.

Aliya is immersed in Canada's vibrant startup sector, with particularly deep roots with founders, investors, incubators and academic programs in Toronto, Waterloo, Ottawa and Hamilton. Aliya brings a rare blend of technical legal expertise and business acumen, always underscored by a highly practical and results-oriented mindset. She "speaks the language" of startups and has a proven track-record of helping founders and investors seize opportunities, navigate challenges and grow successful businesses.

Aliya is a recognized leader in the startup space. In 2016, Aliya was named one of the "[Top 10 Thirty-Somethings](#)" by the Association of Corporate Counsel and the "[Young Alumni of Influence](#)" by the University of Toronto, University College. In 2022, MT>Ventures and Aliya were recognized by Precedent Magazine with an [Innovation Award](#) for their involvement in the DMZ's Startup Legal Support program. Most recently, Aliya was awarded DMZ's 2023 [Women of the Year](#), an award recognizing inspirational women who have made remarkable contributions to the tech ecosystem. This award was granted to 18 recipients of over 800 nominees.

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Aliya presents frequently on a broad range of issues facing founders and the start-up community, and authors a popular advice column, "Ask Aliya", for lawyers who are the first legal hire at their company. She also teaches Legal Aspects of International Business and Business Law at Toronto Metropolitan (formerly Ryerson) University, and is a committed mentor to several founders and young lawyers, particularly women in start-ups.

Aliya earned a J.D. from Queen's University and a Masters in Law from NYU School of Law. She is called to the bar in Ontario and New York.

Awards & Rankings

Chambers Canada

Leading Lawyer: Startups & Emerging Companies

DMZ - 2022

Women of the Year

Precedent Innovation Awards - 2022

For the DMZ Startup Legal Support Program

Association of Corporate Counsel - 2016

"Top 10 Thirty-Somethings"

University of Toronto, University College - 2016

"Young Alumni of Influence"

Recent Insights

- **Shake It Off: How to Deal with Founder Disputes**

December 5, 2024

- **Fearless: Hiring Your First Employees to Quickly Launch a Successful Product**

November 28, 2024

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- **Love Story: Advice for Securing Venture Capital Funding**

November 19, 2024

- **Blank Space: How to Craft the Ideal Founders' Agreement**

November 12, 2024

Events

- **DigitALL: Innovation & Technology for Gender Equality**

March 6, 2023

