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Karen Hennessey is a partner in Gowlings' Ottawa office and leader of the firm's General Corporate Commercial practice group.

Karen's practice covers all aspects of corporate and commercial law including mergers and acquisitions, commercial leasing, franchising and drafting a range of general commercial agreements. She also has extensive experience and provides her expertise to clients with respect to structuring, organizing and reorganizing their business. She often acts as the client's "legal quarterback" by providing hands-on practical advice on an ongoing basis and coordinating the client's unique legal needs by bringing in Gowlings' professionals in speciality or niche practice areas as needed.

Her practice covers a wide range of industries and she works with companies of all sizes including start-ups, owner-operated and family-run businesses as well as large national and multi-national corporations.

In spring 2014, Karen was recognized by the Ottawa Business Journal and the Ottawa Chamber of Commerce as a Forty Under 40 award winner for her notable accomplishments as a leader in business and the community.