**John Lawford**

John Lawford is Executive Director and General Counsel of the Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC), a national non-profit organization that provides legal and research services on behalf of consumer interests, and, in particular, vulnerable consumer interests, concerning the provision of important public services. John has been with PIAC since July 2003 and was named Executive Director in September 2012. Prior to coming to PIAC, Mr. Lawford was a research counsel at a major national law firm specializing in medical-legal research. Mr. Lawford was also Research Director at a major Ottawa-based litigation firm. Mr. Lawford was Special Projects Director for QUICKLAW Inc., a legal database company and now part of LexisNexis Canada, from 1992 to 1999. He has an undergraduate degree in English and a Law degree from Queen's University.

Mr. Lawford manages PIAC's advocacy and research in the areas of telecommunications, broadcasting, competition, e-commerce, privacy and financial services law and policy from a consumer perspective.