In developing the case-studies that form the core of this book, I am greatly indebted to several Research Assistants whose contributions were so substantial that they should be thought of as co-authors with me of several of the case-studies: Kanksha Mahadevia Ghimire with respect to the case-studies on alternative medicines and mental health care providers (the former originally published as a CD Howe Institute Commentary and subsequently revised and included with permission of the Institute), and Isaac Gazendam with respect to the case-study on immigration consultants. The case-study on the regulation of financial planners/advisors is co-authored with my colleague Anita Anand and Francesco Ducci, a recent doctoral graduate, and was published in the *Canadian Business Law Journal* and is reproduced here, with minor revisions, with kind permission of the publishers. The case-study on the regulation of legal services draws on several recent papers of mine, as acknowledged in the text.

While each of these areas of professional regulation warrant study in given jurisdictions in their own right, this book proceeds on the premise that much insight is to be gained by examining each of them in a comparative perspective in terms of alternative regulatory approaches across jurisdictions, and also by comparing regulatory approaches across professions. From both of these comparative perspectives disconcerting incongruences emerge, suggesting a lack of a settled analytical framework for evaluating alternative paradigms of professional regulation, rendering regulatory regimes that one observes often the product of special interest group politics rather than the application of any defensible set of regulatory principles. This has led to what I call in the title to this book paradoxes of professional regulation: over and under regulation of professional services. All five case-studies that form the core of this book illustrate these paradoxes in one form or another and illuminate the more general challenges of developing a coherent framework for professional regulation – challenges rendered more urgent with the increasing dominance of the service sector in most developed country economies.
and citizens’ pervasive involvement in service sectors as producers or consumers (or often both).

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