



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS  
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INDUSTRIELLE

FICPI Canada Newsletter  
October 2009

Dear FICPI Canada Members:

This will bring you up to date on recent FICPI Canada activities, and also let you know about some future events.

### **General Meeting**

As most of you know, FICPI Canada had a general meeting of its members during the World Congress in Washington. Copies of the minutes of the general meeting are posted on our website. During the general meeting, a new Council was elected which comprises me as President, Alain Leclerc as Vice President, John Knox as Treasurer, Coleen Morrison as Secretary, and Stephen Perry as a new Council member. Doug Deeth will remain on Council as past President.

### **CIPO related Activities**

Since the World Congress, the members of Council have been busier than ever with CIPO related matters. In late June, we met with Mary Carman and a team of senior CIPO officials. We had full and frank discussions on a number of issues of concern to the profession. Both Council and CIPO are committed to continuing these dialogues, which now include the directors of the Patent Appeal Board and the Opposition Board. We are expecting that the director of the Copyright and Designs Office will be included as well at future meetings. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any suggestions about issues to raise with CIPO.

CIPO is continuing to take initiatives with respect to rules changes, new practice notices, and revisions of examination manuals and similar guides. FICPI Canada has made submissions on your behalf in response to these initiatives. I wish to thank all those involved in preparing our submissions, particularly those who worked on the lengthy and detailed submissions we filed to address the proposed revisions of MOPOP Chapters 12 and 13. Copies of our most recent submissions to CIPO are posted on our website, and I would encourage you all to review these. In many cases, they include arguments and cited references that can be useful in day to day office action responses.

### **Drafting Clinics**

On the educational front, FICPI Canada will once again this autumn be conducting a two-day intensive claim drafting clinic. New for this year, we will

also be presenting a one-day opinion drafting clinic as part of a comprehensive 3-day patent training event. The claim drafting clinic will take place on November 14 and 15 with a technical program organized by Joan Van Zant. The opinion drafting clinic will take place on November 16 and have a technical program organized by Doug Deeth.

Neither of these programs is designed to be an introduction for novices. They are aimed at junior lawyers and patent agent trainees with at least one year of practical experience who are getting ready to write the qualifying exams, or who have already passed the exams.

The location of the clinics this year will be in Montreal, at the Maritime Plaza Hotel. An announcement and registration forms will be sent out shortly.

### **Salary Survey**

We are also about to conduct our annual associates salary survey. Please complete the survey promptly.

### **2010 ABC Meeting**

Finally, I am pleased to let you know that Council has selected Ottawa as the location for the next ABC meeting, which will take place June 16-20, 2010.

Many of our FICPI friends from the U.K. and the U.S. do not know Ottawa. We are confident that they will find our national capital area has much to offer in terms of historic sites and cultural institutions, as well as numerous nearby outdoor activities. Although most FICPI Canada members have been to Ottawa a number of times, and some even live there, we promise to have numerous new activities, in addition to an excellent technical program.

We have been able to negotiate very reasonable rates in the updated guest floors of the Château Laurier hotel. Please make a note of the date and location, and plan to join us in June.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the other members of Council. Remember that we depend on the members to get involved, and we are always looking for people to help on various projects.

Best wishes and Happy Thanksgiving,

Bob Storey

## **Council Contact Information**

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