

# IPIC Strategic Plan Update

A COVID-19 RESPONSE

- President Leclerc appeared before BC Legislative Assembly to Discuss Role of IP in Economic Recovery
- Released 8 webinars on COVID-19 related practice issues
- IPIC partnered with CIPO on COVID-19 FAQs, Website Resource Centre, and Webinar Series
- Soft launch of the new 'Own it.' campaign videos on World IP Day to preview fall release
- Advocacy efforts in early pandemic response led to CIPO Designating Dates for Extending Deadlines
- IPIC-McGill Summer IP Courses Pivoted to First Ever Virtual Delivery

### **ADVOCACY**

To ensure IPIC members interests were best served, IPIC's advocacy efforts in Q2 pivoted in response to the pandemic to one of more engagements with CIPO on the provisions for designating dates to extend all deadlines, gather information critical to IPIC members changing environment to remote working, and monitoring and reporting on international developments. IPIC President Alain Leclerc appeared before the BC Legislative Assembly's Finance Committee on Budget 2021. IPIC also developed a government submission template for use with the provincial and federal governments to explain the importance and role of IP policy incentives on economic recovery and stimulus during and following a recession.



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In response to the pandemic, IPIC presented 8 webinars on COVID-19 and IP practice. 4 mid to late career webinars and 1 early career webinar were also presented. The joint IPIC-CIPA seminar was turned into a webinar series with presenters from the UK and the EPO. The Conference Committee re-designed the CPD component of the annual conference for online delivery after cancellation of the event in BC. Whistler will now host the 2022 conference after successful contract renegotiation. The IPIC/McGill Summer Courses were changed to an online format. IPIC held its 2<sup>nd</sup> Trademark Administrator Certification Exam.



### OUTREACH & AWARENESS



A COVID-19 & IP presentation "Intellectual Property in the Time of COVID" was created for our stakeholders to share with their members. It has been offered to over 50 stakeholder organizations. As all in-person networking events have been cancelled, IPIC participated in over 15 webinars, online networking events and conferences allowing us to connect and increase IP awareness to new stakeholders. Our relationship with CIPO has strengthened; we will collaborate on two consultations in the next quarter. As part of World Intellectual Property Day, IPIC held a soft-launch of its Own it. campaign featuring two Canadian clean-tech companies.

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

Council held several meetings to discuss
COVID-19 contingency planning and updated the
2020-2021 budget to reflect our changing environment.
They participated in discussions with a facilitator in
preparation for its next Strategic Plan and finalized its
review of IPIC's governance structure. IPIC increased its
member communications and created dedicated COVID-19
webpages to keep the profession informed of CIPO and
international IP offices' announcements. The print version
of the CIPR's Volume 35 is in the preliminary stages of
publication and is expected to be sent to members in Q3
2020. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, IPIC was able to retain
90% of its membership coming just short of its set goal.