

# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

UNDERSTANDING PATENTS COURSE

**JULY 14-18, 2025**



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Intellectual Property Institute of Canada  
Institut de la propriété intellectuelle du Canada



**McGill**

School of  
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# IPIC-McGill Intellectual Property Understanding Patents Course 2025

## **Join Professionals from Across the Country to Learn from Leading Practitioners in the Field of IP**

Since 1994, the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada and McGill University have gathered some of the top practitioners in the field of intellectual property to conduct a series of intensive, practical summer courses in intellectual property. More than 2,500 professionals from the business, legal, and public sectors have gained valuable insight and hands-on experience by participating in our unique summer program. Our courses are also an excellent opportunity to network with individuals from diverse backgrounds who have an interest in Canadian intellectual property.

Each year, the program offers a comprehensive suite of pragmatic courses to help practitioners in the legal, business, and government sectors keep up to date on the latest in intellectual property. Taught by seasoned IP professionals, the program is made up of three specialized courses in the areas of patents, trademarks, and copyright. Participants can sign up for individual modules, full courses, or enrol in the entire program to gain knowledge of a specific aspect of IP, acquire the insights needed to protect a portfolio of intellectual property, or advance their careers in the area of IP law.

# Understanding Patents

An Introductory Course: Monday, July 14, 2025 to Friday, July 18, 2025

Module 1 (3 days) Obtaining and Enforcing a Patent – The Basics and Why They Matter to Your Business (July 15-17)

Module 2 (2 days) Exploiting IP Rights – Strategies re Patent Portfolio Management (July 17-18)



*By the end of the week, the challenge and excitement of establishing a patenting strategy became clear, and I recommending the course to others. Being relatively new to the world of patenting, I found the course tremendously informative and well organized. The format—morning seminars and afternoon small-group workshops—provided ample opportunities for learning, questioning, and reflecting. The speakers and program directors were congenial, knowledgeable, and open to feedback. From a technology commercialization perspective, various relevant concepts are addressed, from patent structure, claim drafting, and office actions, to license negotiation, international filing, and intellectual property enforcement. Thanks to all for a valuable experience!*

**Heather A. Phillips**

Technology Analyst  
Medical & Life Sciences  
(AHFMR ForeFront Intern)  
University Technologies International  
Calgary, Alberta

## GET INTO THE GAME – IMPROVE YOUR CAREER

A five-day intensive, practical course divided into two modules. The first module provides an overview of patents and related IP rights, as well as enforcing or attacking a patent. These fundamentals are then connected to the business of owning IP including strategizing an IP portfolio. The second module completes the week, building on the fundamentals and offers insights into managing a patent portfolio in conjunction with your business needs.

## KEY BENEFITS

Lectures and workshops deal with the protection of inventions and using the patent system, including the processes for obtaining and maintaining patents in Canada and abroad.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Understanding Patents is a must **for anyone involved in patents and patenting, patent agents in training, lawyers (in-house or external counsel), university technology transfer officers, licensing executives and contract managers** – anybody who encounters patents in their work and needs to have a better understanding of the nature and scope of the patent system, how patents are obtained, and how to manage a patent portfolio.

## THIS YEAR'S COURSE WILL COVER:

### MODULE 1:

- ▶ Patents as an intellectual property right
- ▶ The nature of the patent right

- ▶ The Canadian patent system, EU, China and US compared
- ▶ What can be patented (from life science to software and beyond)
- ▶ Understanding the patent document
- ▶ Drafting patent applications and claims
- ▶ Enforcing patents
- ▶ Trade secrets, designs, and Indigenous knowledge

**This year will once again include engaging Fireside Chats with people from industry to provide practical advice regarding how their business works in connection with patents.**

### MODULE 2:

- ▶ Managing an international patent portfolio
- ▶ Extracting value from patents in business
- ▶ Corporate IP management
- ▶ Patent valuation
- ▶ Patent licensing
- ▶ Tax considerations
- ▶ Competition and settlement considerations

## WORKSHOP LEADERS

- ▶ Patent Claim Drafting: **Emma Start** Taiga Motors Inc.
- ▶ Mock Settlement: **Torys LLP**
- ▶ Prior Art and Freedom to Operate Analysis: **Noel Courage** Bereskin & Parr LLP
- ▶ International Filing Program: **Ilya Kalnish** BCF, LLP
- ▶ Simulated AI/data License Negotiation: **Maya Medeiros** Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

## MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. EDT

### MODULE 1

#### OBTAINING AND ENFORCING A PATENT

##### Course Introduction and Student Introductions

8:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Directors:

**Tracey Stott** Irving Shipbuilding Inc.

**Chantal Saunders** Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

##### Patents: An Introduction 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

**Kevin Shipley** Marks & Clerk

- ▶ Commercial advantages of patenting
- ▶ What can be patented?
- ▶ Novelty, non-obviousness and subject-matter
- ▶ Inventors and owners

##### Structure of a Patent 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

**Justin Freedin** Robic LLP

- ▶ What is prior art?
- ▶ Need for clarity, enablement
- ▶ Patent claims

##### From Invention to Patent:

##### Preliminary Steps and Timeline

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Carole Diopé** Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

- ▶ Patentability searching
- ▶ Patenting timeline
- ▶ Negotiating with the Patent Office (official actions)
- ▶ Amending applications and patents
- ▶ Re-examination and reissue

##### Workshop – Patent Claims Drafting

1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**FIRESIDE CHAT 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.**

##### Capturing Innovation and Patent Drafting: Practical tools for identifying inventions and preparing applications

**Emma Start** Taiga Motors Inc

in conversation with **Erin Pisko** IAC

**Cocktail Reception 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

## TUESDAY, JULY 15, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. EDT

### MODULE 1 (CONT'D)

##### Trade Secrets: An overview 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

**Chantal Saunders** Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

- ▶ Identification and protection of trade secrets
- ▶ Enforcement

##### Designs: An Overview 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

**Christine Genge** Smart & Biggar LLP

**Jean Lee** Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

- ▶ Registrable design types
- ▶ Interface with patents and copyrights
- ▶ Originality
- ▶ Prosecution in Canada and internationally

##### Comparative Overview of US and EP Practice

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Tuba Yamac** BCF LLP

**Carmela DeLuca** Bereskin & Parr LLP



## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### Patents and AI

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Noel Courage Smart & Biggar LLP

Natalie Raffoul Brion Raffoul LLP

- ▶ What is patentable?
- ▶ Review of the legal landscape & recent court decisions
- ▶ Patent drafting strategies
- ▶ Strategic considerations

### Workshop - IP Strategy & Freedom to Operate: How to assess risk of infringing other patents

1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

FIRESIDE CHAT 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

### Patent Searching & Freedom to Operate:

#### Practical tips to navigate the patent landscape

Emma Start Taiga Motors

Daniel Smith Bombardier Recreational Products

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m. EDT

### MODULE 1 (CONT'D)

#### Cease and Desist Letters

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Andrew Moeser Lenczner Slaght LLP

- ▶ Infringing acts
- ▶ What to consider when drafting and sending these letters

#### Patent Enforcement 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Nicole Mantini Torsys LLP

- ▶ Provincial versus federal actions
- ▶ Exceptions to infringement
- ▶ Validity Defences
- ▶ Relief – damages and accounting injunctions

#### Settlement and Competition Act Considerations

10:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Joanne Chriqui Robic LLP

- ▶ Don't have speaker yet
- ▶ Description is the same as last year

LUNCH & LEARN 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

#### Workshop - Mock Settlement

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- ▶ Non-infringement
- ▶ Obviousness
- ▶ Lack of novelty
- ▶ Dispute resolution

FIRESIDE CHAT 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

#### Managing Settlement - Guidance on managing complex patent litigation

Nicole Mantini Torsys LLP

Andrew Moeser Lenczner Slaght LLP

Joanne Chriqui Robic LLP

## THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. EDT

### MODULE 2

#### Employment Contracts, Independent Contractors and NDAs 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Jean-Sébastien Brière KRB Lawyers

- ▶ Ensuring your company owns the IP it creates
- ▶ Confidentiality considerations

#### Indigenous Knowledge 9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Matthew Foss Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

#### Global Patent Management Panel 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Olivia Novac McGill University

Ilya Kalnish BCF, LLP

Jessica Sudbury Teva Canada

- ▶ Managing patents as a corporate asset
- ▶ Alignment of IP strategy with corporate and business strategy
- ▶ Managing an international patent portfolio

#### Workshop - International Patent Filing Program

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

#### Funding & Valuation Panel + Workshop

1:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Louis Carboneau Tangible IP

Martin Tremblay Smart & Biggar LLP

Max Yam BDC

- ▶ Patent valuation
- ▶ IP backed financing
- ▶ Extracting business value from IP assets

## FRIDAY, JULY 18, 2025

9:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. EDT

### MODULE 2 (CONT'D)

#### Anatomy of a License 9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Michael Crichton Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

- ▶ Overview of the anatomy of a typical license agreement
- ▶ Practical licensing considerations and challenges to license out patented technology to commercial entities
- ▶ Discussion of exemplary terms and conditions of a license agreement and negotiation items

#### AI/Data Licensing Best Practice 9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Harshita Bhatnagar Microsoft

- ▶ Key provisions
- ▶ Managing inventions and works
- ▶ Assignments and licensing
- ▶ Due diligence

#### Alternative Patent Leveraging Panel 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Misha Benjamin BCF LLP

Bhuvana Rai Mors & Tibute P.C.

Harshita Bhatnagar Microsoft

- ▶ Overview of monetization strategies
- ▶ Intellectual property and antitrust issues relating to standards and patent pools
- ▶ Other licensing trends

#### Tax considerations surrounding Patents 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Bhuvana Rai Mors & Tribute P.C.

- ▶ SREDS ▶ Patent Boxes

#### Workshop - AI/Data License Negotiation:

IP licensing strategies 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

#### Panel - Patent Licensing Realities 2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Maya Medeiros Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

Michael Crichton Gowling WLG (Canada) LLP

Tracey Stott Irving Shipbuilding Inc.

## FEES

### Understanding Patents An Introductory Course

#### July 14-18, 2025

IPIC member fee.....	\$2295
Regular fee.....	\$2495
Full-time student fee .....	\$1247.50

#### Module 1

#### July 14-16, 2025

IPIC member fee.....	\$1660
Regular fee.....	\$1760
Full-time student fee .....	\$880

#### Module 2

#### July 17-18, 2025

IPIC member fee.....	\$1240
Regular fee .....	\$1340
Full-time student fee .....	\$670

#### Lunch & Learn - Fireside Chat

Included with the purchase of the full course or Module 1.

#### Workshop Leaders:

Emma Start Taiga Motors

Erin Pisko IAC

Noel Courage Bereskin & Parr LLP

Christine Genge Smart & Biggar LLP

Jean Lee Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

Daniel Smith Bombardier Recreational Products

Nicole Mantini Torsys LLP

Andrew Moeser Lenczner Slaght LLP

Ilya Kalnish BCF LLP

Maya Medeiros Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

Misha Benjamin BCF LLP

Olivia Novac McGill University

Kevin Shipley Marks & Clerk

Carole Diop Norton Rose Fulbright  
Canada LLP

Joanne Chriqui Robic LLP

Jessica Sudbury Teva Canada



The program covered all the basics of the various intellectual property domains and the afternoon workshops enabled the attendees to select their topics of interest for which they could dwell deeper into the subject under the guidance of trained and experienced coaches. The course is well balanced to ensure that every student acquires the most knowledge and understanding of IP within a week. This course is a “must” to grasp the big picture of the IP world.

James M. Jessop, ing., M.Sc., CLP

Commercial Relations, Storage and  
Conversion of Energy, IREQ

# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INSTITUTE OF CANADA



IPIC is the only intellectual property association in Canada to which nearly all patent agents, trademark agents and lawyers specializing in intellectual property belong.

IPIC members receive a preferential rate on registration fees for the Summer Courses in Intellectual Property.

IPIC offers additional courses in patents, trademarks and copyright. Inquire at [education@ipic.ca](mailto:education@ipic.ca)

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## **Professional & Corporate Education (PCE)**

Please visit [www.mcgill.ca/intellectualproperty](http://www.mcgill.ca/intellectualproperty) for details on course accreditation by professional bodies and law societies.

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**MCGILL UNIVERSITY | T 514-398-5454 | F 514-398-5224 | [ip.conted@mcgill.ca](mailto:ip.conted@mcgill.ca)**

**[WWW.MCGILL.CA/INTELLECTUALPROPERTY](http://WWW.MCGILL.CA/INTELLECTUALPROPERTY)**

Program is subject to change.