



“We wrote the book.”

**Bob Barrigar’s book on Canadian patent law
is an authoritative guide.**

Newsletter: March 2008

Canadian Intellectual Property Office (“CIPO”) News

General:

The new Ontario “Family Day” provincial holiday, which falls on the third Monday of February, has been added to the list of Provincial and Territorial Holidays observed by CIPO.

Patents:

CIPO has cooperated with the USPTO to launch a one-year Canada-U.S. Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) joint pilot trial that is intended to fast-track patent application examination at CIPO. The objective is to enable applicants in both countries to obtain corresponding patents faster and more efficiently. The program also will permit each office to benefit from work previously done by the other office, in turn reducing examination workload and (one hopes) improving patent quality. For more information regarding the requirements and procedures to file a request to participate in CIPO's PPH, visit <http://www.cipo.ic.gc.ca/pph/> and/or contact p-ph@ic.gc.ca.

A word of caution when you instruct us to file patent applications on-line. The Patent Office is currently unable to process the requisite declaration of entitlement on-line. This is expected to be remedied, but in the meantime, applicants who file electronically are required to submit the declaration of entitlement, by telefax or post, to CIPO as a separate document in order to ensure that the application complies with Rule 94(2) of the *Patent Rules*. Normally we can attend to the matter without having your client sign and submit a document, if you provide us with the requisite entitlement information.

Industrial Designs:

CIPO has updated its filing and prosecution guidelines for industrial design applications. CIPO’s updated guidelines compilation *A Guide to Industrial Designs* can be viewed at http://strategis.gc.ca/sc_mrksv/cipo/id/id_gd_main-e.html and the updated *Industrial Design Office Practices* are at http://strategis.gc.ca/sc_mrksv/cipo/id/idop/idop_content-e.html.

Barrigar IP Law News

As of 1 March 2008, the managing partners of BIPL are Douglas B. Thompson and Michael D. Cooper. Firm founder Bob Barrigar will continue to be associated with the firm as of counsel.

Both Doug and Michael practised in Alberta before joining BIPL. Michael has been with BIPL for several years. Doug is a more recent arrival in British Columbia, and has combined his own established practice with BIPL's practice. To view the biographical sketches of Doug and Michael, please visit our website at www.barrigar.com/personnel4.html.

All BIPL addresses, including e-mail addresses, telephone and telefax numbers, etc. are unchanged.

Bob will continue to provide periodic updates of his leading text on Canadian patent law, published by Canada Law Book. For more information on his book, see the web page www.canadalawbook.ca/catalogue.cfm?DSP=Detail&ProductID=362. To view Bob's paper on obviousness, delivered to the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada, see www.barrigar.com/ipicrevised070922.pdf.



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The practice of Barrigar Intellectual Property Law includes the preparation and prosecution of patent, trademark, copyright and industrial design applications, and also includes litigation and counseling. Our experienced professionals work with clients in virtually every major area of technology, including electronics, computers, biotechnology, pharmacology, metallurgy, information technology, and specialized areas of physics and chemistry. Barrigar Intellectual Property Law's legal services are provided by Thompson Cooper LLP, having the same contact information. We can assist your clients to obtain strong and valid intellectual property protection in Canada, and can assist in the resolution of disputes in any area of intellectual property law.