

AIPPI Activity Report 2019/20

Q1

What is your AIPPI group's name?

AIPPI Canada.

Q2

Please list the contributors to this 2019 Group Activity Report. (Max 3).

Name of lead author: Bill Mayo

Name: Fraser Rowand

Name: Fred Barbieri

Q3

Please indicate your group's activities in 2019, and include more details at the end.

Annual general meeting,
Training/continuing education,
Social events for Group members,
Other activities not already listed.

More details on the activities indicated:

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on November 26, 2019, in Montreal at the offices of Robic LLP. The agenda included a summary report from Bill Mayo on behalf of the Executive and a presentation of the 2018 financial statement from our Treasurer, Curtis Behmann, as well as a review of the London Congress questions and resolutions, the study questions for Hangzhou.

We held a “Lunch ‘n Learn” continuing education session following our AGM, also at the offices of Robic LLP. The topic was “Obscene and Vulgar Trademarks: Recent Jurisprudence and Policy Considerations – US and CA Perspective” and we had three speakers, Marsha Cadogan and Barry Gamache from Canada and John Sommer from the United States.

As is our usual practice, the Canadian group hosted a reception for Canadian members attending the 2019 Congress in London. It was held at The Red Lion pub in London. In addition, representatives of the Canadian group met with representatives of the US and Mexican groups at the London Congress to discuss the possibility of holding a joint meeting in 2020. These discussions were positive and will hopefully continue once things get closer to normal with respect to the coronavirus pandemic.

Q4

What nomination activities for Standing and Statutory Committees happened in your NRG in 2019?

Each year, the Canadian Group reviews the composition of the Standing and Statutory Committees and if there are any openings for Canadian members, we take steps to fill them. In 2019, in addition to renewals of existing positions, we put forward the following new nominations:

- Marsha Cadogan – Geographical Indications
- Brian Gray – Copyright
- Santosh Chari – IP Office Practice & Procedures
- Kevin Shipley – Commercialization of IP or Digital Economy or PCT
- Anita Nador – Commercialization of IP or Pharma & Biotech
- Marcelo Sarkis – Designs
- Matthew Zischka – Standards and Patents
- Fred Barbieri – Digital Economy

Q5

What can you tell us about the Study Question preparation/submission process within your group? Please include details on the participation of members from different professional backgrounds and encouragement of young member participation.

The Canadian Group has a number of standing committees, including Patent, Trademark, Copyright and Design, and Litigation Committees. These committees are tasked with preparing the Canadian response to the study questions in their respective areas.

There were 5 to 10 people from these committees involved with the preparation of each of the Canadian responses made up primarily of practitioners in private practice. This included younger members of the profession. There are a small number of Canadian members who work in-house or in academia, but at least two people from these sectors were involved in the study questions.

Q6

How did the NRG and its members participate in international AIPPI Committees work in 2019?

As noted above, the Canadian Group is well represented in the various AIPPI committees. Canadian members participated to varying extents through attendance at committee meetings and assisting with committee work.

