



### **Melanie Szweras**

B.Sc., Ph.D. (Genetics), LL.B.

Partner | Toronto  
416.957.1678  
mszweras@bereskinparr.com

### **Experience**

Melanie Szweras is a partner with Bereskin & Parr LLP. Melanie's practice focuses on biotechnology and pharmaceutical patents including drafting and prosecution of such applications; providing validity and freedom to operate opinions as well as patent litigation matters.

Melanie lectures on aspects of Biotechnology and The Application Process at the University of Toronto's Patent & Trade Secrets Law course and Osgoode Hall's LLM Patent Law course. Melanie is a past Chair of the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada's (IPIC) Biotechnology Patents Committee. Melanie is also Community Leader of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) Biotechnology Committee.

Melanie received numerous awards throughout her education including the Medical Research Council Studentship and a University of Toronto Open Scholarship. She was also the Bronze Medalist for her class of 2003 at Osgoode Hall Law School.

### **Recent Articles**

- The Canadian Patent Office Releases New Guidelines: The Diagnostics Industry Should Be Cautiously Optimistic
- Federal Court Rejects Patent Office's Approach to Claim Construction: Music to the Ears of Patentees in the Medical Diagnostic and Computer-Related Fields
- Repurposed Drugs in the Fight Against COVID-19
- The USPTO's Fast-Track Patent Program Spurs on COVID-19 Innovations
- Patents and Their Role in a COVID-19 Cure

### **Accolades**

- Who's Who Legal: Canada 2020 Highlights Twenty Bereskin & Parr Practitioners
- Six Bereskin & Parr Professionals Recognized in 2020 Expert Guide: Women in Business Law
- 21 Bereskin & Parr Professionals Listed in 2021 Best Lawyers

### **Practice Groups**

Cannabis  
COVID-19  
Licensing & Transactions  
Life Sciences  
Litigation  
Patents  
Plant Breeders' Rights

### **Education**

LL.B., Osgoode Hall Law School, 2003  
Ph.D. (Genetics), University of Toronto, 2000  
B.Sc. (Genetics), University of Toronto, 1994

### **Qualifications**

Registered Canadian Patent Agent, 2006  
Registered United States Patent Agent, 2006  
Admitted to the Ontario Bar, 2004

### **Professional Memberships**

American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)  
Intellectual Property Institute of Canada (IPIC), Fellow  
Law Society of Ontario (LSO)  
Toronto Intellectual Property Group (TIPG)



in Canada

- 23 Bereskin & Parr Professionals Listed in 2020 Best Lawyers in Canada
- Seven Bereskin & Parr Professionals Recognized in 2019 Expert Guide: Women in Business Law