Life Sciences

Advances in life sciences create new and exciting business opportunities. The protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights is critical to making the most of those opportunities.

Bereskin & Parr’s Life Sciences practice group is comprised of professionals with diverse technical backgrounds and industry expertise, ensuring members stay at the forefront of trends in the ever-changing industry, and in the law that relates to it.

Our professionals hold graduate and doctoral degrees in immunology, organic and inorganic chemistry, biochemistry, molecular and human genetics and experimental medicine. This expert knowledge allows us to advise on and protect technology in all areas of life sciences including biotechnology, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, food science, materials, bioinformatics, plants genetics and plant breeders’ rights. Our group applies a team approach to assist clients efficiently and effectively, utilizing the depth of background and expertise we have in the life sciences field.

Strong scientific backgrounds, along with the active participation in life sciences organizations and committees, allows the group to maintain an open and active dialogue with members of the scientific community. As developing and maintaining these relationships are of great value to the firm, our clients within universities, hospitals, research institutes, and Canadian and multinational biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies continuously keep us well-informed of their evolving businesses and legal needs.

The ability to find cost-effective solutions to our client’s needs, and the desire to ensure their matters are successfully accomplished, make us one of the strongest life sciences IP practices in Canada.

Our Services

The following is a list of services that members of our Life Sciences practice group provide:

- Preparing and prosecuting patent applications worldwide
- Preparing and negotiating licensing agreements
- Conducting due diligence investigations
- Providing patentability, validity, and infringement opinions
- Providing strategic advice on intellectual property portfolios
- Conducting intellectual property audits
- Enforcing intellectual property rights

Our Life Sciences practice group has been recognized in several prominent national and international publications, including:

- Chambers Global
- Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada
- The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory

Recent Articles

Is this Drug Safe and Effective Enough? Canadian Regulators Wade into Alzheimer's Drug Controversy
August 26, 2022
New front-of-package nutrition symbol requirement for prepackaged foods
July 6, 2022

Form I: Crystal Form Patents in the Federal Court of Canada – A Review of Case Law on Claims Construction and Selection Patents
June 28, 2022

Competition Bureau and Health Canada to cooperate to facilitate competition
April 27, 2022

Proposed Canadian Drug Pricing Rules Delayed by Feds and Battered by Courts
February 28, 2022

Soundly Predicted, But Not Obvious: Validity of MS Drug Patent Upheld on Appeal
February 7, 2022
All Practice Group members

Martin Brandsma  
HBSc., MSc., J.D.  
Associate  
mbrandsma@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.1627  
Toronto

Chantalle Briggs  
Ph.D. (Anatomy, Neurobio & Neuroscience)  
B.Sc., (Biology)  
Associate  
cbriggs@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.6576  
Toronto

Herman Cheung  
B.Sc. (Immunology)(Hons.), Ph.D. (Biochem.), J.D.  
Associate  
hcheung@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.1173  
Toronto

Iris Cheung  
B.Sc.(Hons.), Ph.D., J.D.  
Associate  
icheung@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.6297  
Toronto

Noel Courage  
B.Sc. (Biochem.), LL.B.  
Partner  
ncourage@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.1655  
Toronto

Carmela De Luca  
B.Sc. (Hons. Biochem., Co-op), Ph.D. (Exp. Med.), J.D.  
Partner  
cdeluca@bereskinparr.com  
514.871.2929  
Montréal
David St-Martin  
B.Sc. (Chem.), M.Sc. (Org. Chem.)  
Partner  
dstmartin@bereskinparr.com  
514.871.2922  
Montréal

Melanie Szweras  
B.Sc., Ph.D. (Genetics), LL.B.  
Partner  
mszweras@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.1678  
Toronto

Andrea Uetrecht  
B.Sc. (Biochem.)(Hons.), M.Sc (MBB), Ph.D. (Cell & Dev. Bio.), J.D.  
Associate  
auetrecht@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.1187  
Toronto

Shuo Xing  
B.Sc. (Biochem.)(Hons.), Ph.D. candidate (Org. Chem.), J.D.  
Associate  
xing@bereskinparr.com  
416.957.1603  
Toronto