



2024

NRG Activity Report

AIPPI is the world's leading international organisation
dedicated to the protection of intellectual property.

NRG Name

Canada

Contributors

Fraser Rowand

- 1 [NRG Leadership](#)
- 2 [NRG Member Activities](#)
- 3 [NRG Members Representation](#)
- 4 [Study Questions](#)
- 5 [NRG Representation](#)
- 6 [NRG Challenges](#)
- 7 [AIPPI Alternative Approaches](#)



You can click on the link (“Ctrl+left mouse click”) to jump directly to the corresponding topic



Team (2024)

President

Fraser Rowand

Vice-President

Isabelle Chabot

Secretary-Treasurer

Matthew Zischka

Group Reporter

Andy Chow

Council Member

Paula Clancy

Council Member

Santosh Chari

Leadership Meetings

Canadian council members meet monthly by video conference

Other Meetings

Those members in attendance at the Congress meet on an ad hoc basis throughout the Congress to address any issues developing as a result of the question work, and at a pre-scheduled breakfast meeting at least once per Congress.

Membership Developments (statistics)

In 2024 we had 81 Canadian members, an increase from 75 the previous year.

Proudly share events, pictures, promotions, social media posts, comments, so that others can learn; add numbers and participation figures to understand context

Our annual general meeting returned to an in-person format this year. The meeting was held in Toronto on November 21, 2024, and featured 16 members, 7 proxies, and 1 guest.

The Agenda included a report from council, the treasurer's report, a review of the 2024 resolutions, an introduction of the 2025 study questions, announcement of our essay contest winner, and an update from the AIPPI Bureau by Fred Barbieri.

General Assembly



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Rotation of leadership in your board

(when did happen last time)

At the AGM in November, Isabelle Chabot formally left council after many years of dedicated service. Paula Clancy has now assumed the Secretary-Treasurer roll for AIPPI Canada. Matt Zischka has become the Vice President.

Following our AGM, we held a CLE session on the topic of Quebec's Bill 96:

Quebec Bill 96, What intellectual property lawyers and agents need to know

Over the past three years, Québec has strengthened its language laws, and the final elements of this reform will come into force on June 1, 2025. [Christian Bolduc](#) and [Alexandre Fallon](#) will address the final iteration of the rules governing the use of trademarks containing terms that are not in French, most notably on products and product packaging and on storefront signage. [Paula Clancy](#) will moderate. They will also review new rules governing formation of contracts, to provide practical tips on how to determine when contracts must be translated and when it is acceptable to contract only in English with a counterparty in Quebec.

Educational activities





NRG Member Activities

Proudly share events, pictures, promotions, social media posts, comments, so that others can learn; add numbers and participation figures to understand context

Social Events

We held a Canadian reception for Canadian national group members and their guests during the Congress in Hangzhou prior to the Opening Ceremony. The event was held at a wine bar near the convention center and saw participation by almost all of the Canadian attendees at the Congress.

Fraser Rowand attended the Annual Meeting of the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada (IPIC) as President of AIPPI Canada and engaged in discussion with IPIC board members and staff regarding opportunities for collaboration.

Promotion of AIPPI

(e.g. meetings with governmental organisations, talking about AIPPI at Universities)

In 2024 we launched our inaugural essay contest aimed at law students and patent and trademark agent trainees. Participants were invited to submit an essay on a topic related to any of the four study questions being analyzed in 2024. All submissions received related to the issue of parody as a defense in copyright. A committee of interested members was convened to read and evaluate the submitted papers and a winning entry was selected. The winner received CAD \$2500 in prize money. All entrants were awarded complementary AIPPI membership for 2025.



NRG Members Representation

In which committees are your members
represented in **2024?**
(Standing, Statutory and Bureau Advisory Committees)

Number of person	Committee
2	ADR
2	Biotechnology
1	Client Attorney Privilege
1	Commercialization of IP
2	Copyright
2	Designs
1	Digital Economy
1	Enforcement
1	Geographical Indications



NRG Members Representation

In which committees are your members represented in **2024?**
(Standing, Statutory and Bureau Advisory Committees)

Number of person	Committee
2	Information Technology and Internet
1	IP and GRTK
2	IP and Sustainability
2	IP Office Practice and Procedure
1	PCT
1	Patents
3	Pharma
1	Standards and Patents
3	Trade Secrets



NRG Members Representation

In which committees are your members
represented in **2024?**
(Standing, Statutory and Bureau Advisory Committees)

Number of person	Committee
1	Bureau (Fred Barbieri)
1	Finance
1	Membership
1	Nominating

What can you tell us about the Study Question preparation, submission, and promotion within your group?

Date	Description
	<p>The Canadian national group regularly actively participates in the study question activity. At the national level, members that join or renew at the beginning of a year are invited to indicate their interest in participating in the study question work by joining one or more of our national committees: Patents, Trademarks, Copyright/Design, or Litigation. A chair for each committee is selected by council and is provided with the study question materials. The committees prepare the answers and submit them to council. Answers were submitted to all four questions in 2024.</p> <p>The committees, and particularly the chair of each committee, stay engaged in the question work as the summary reports and draft resolutions are circulated.</p> <p>At the Congress, Fraser Rowand served as secretary on the trademark question. The Canadian national group had delegates participating in the study group meeting and in the plenaries for each question.</p> <p>After the Congress, the adopted resolutions are presented to the membership at our AGM and are featured on our website. We also send copies of the resolutions to contacts within the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED), which includes the Canadian Intellectual Property Office, and to contacts at the Federal Court.</p>

What	Description
Congress contribution	<p>The Canadian national group actively participated in the working committees and in the plenary sessions for all four of the questions. Canadian members were also active as speakers and panelists at the Congress.</p>
Submitted / published position papers	<p>In May 2024, the Canadian government sought our input on draft regulations relating to patent term adjustment. On May 30, 2024, a group of Canadian members met with representatives of the government to discuss the draft regulations and hear their policy reasons behind the regulations. We developed written comments on the regulations that were formally submitted within the comment period that closed on July 2, 2024. Those submissions were then published along with the submissions of other contributors that commented on the draft regulations.</p>



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