

CPATA Regulatory and Strategic Framework 2026–2028

Purpose

To regulate patent agents and trademark agents in the public interest, in order to enhance the public's ability to secure the rights provided for under the Patent Act and the Trademarks Act (*CPATA Act*, s.6)

Vision

Public access to a globally respected body of patent agents and trademark agents who are highly skilled, ethical, and current in their knowledge

Regulatory Objectives

To advance its role as a risk-focused, modern public interest regulator, the College has adopted as its Regulatory Objectives that it will strive to:

1. protect and promote the public interest in patent and trademark services;
2. protect those who use patent and trademark services;
3. promote innovation in the delivery of patent and trademark services and the protection of intellectual property rights;
4. improve access to and promote competition in the provision of patent and trademark services;
5. promote the independence of the patent and trademark professions;
6. oversee the ethical and competent delivery of patent and trademark services by licensees; and
7. promote equity, diversity and inclusion in the patent and trademark professions and in the delivery of patent and trademark services.

Priority: Access to competent and ethical patent and trademark agents

Professional Development and Competency	Professional Regulation	Relationships and Communications	Governance	Organizational and regulatory infrastructure
<p>Enhancing pathways into the professions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop supervised practice resources Continue exploring potential new entryways into the professions Develop return to active practice requirements 	<p>Advancing patent agent and trademark agent privilege</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the continued evolution of patent agent and trademark agent privilege in a manner that protects clients in the public interest 	<p>Engaging with licensees and partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to engage with licensees, associations, IP partners and other regulators on areas of shared purpose 	<p>Continuing to address fiscal responsibility and sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right-size annual licensing fees, with consultation, to provide CPATA with the resources required to fulfil its mandate Implement By-law changes regarding fees 	<p>Continuing to develop infrastructure for CPATA to be a right-touch, best-in-class</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to balance people, processes and technologies to operate efficiently and in the public interest
<p>Strengthening licensee competencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a continuing professional development (CPD) policy Develop CPD, ethics education and practice management resources 	<p>Addressing complaints and discipline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to manage agent conduct inquiries, complaints, investigations and discipline in a proactive, principled and proportionate manner 	<p>Engaging with government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue working with the Government of Canada (GoC), particularly ISED and CIPO to fulfill our mandate 	<p>Regulating via effective Board and Committee governance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriately support Board and Committees Continue Board/Committee education and evaluation 	<p>Understanding licensee demographics and consumer needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze CPATA data and work with partners to understand trends, consumer needs and gaps
<p>Promoting pro bono</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a pro bono policy as contemplated by CPATA's By-laws as part of CPATA's commitment to facilitating access to services 	<p>Protecting against unauthorized practice (UAP) and fraud</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to educate, coordinate and proactively work to prevent UAP and fraud 	<p>Building CPATA's position in the IP ecosystem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to bring awareness to CPATA's role, public interest mandate and best-in-class approach 	<p>Maintaining Board and Committee composition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct Director elections (2027, 2028) Support GoC regarding Minister appointments Recruit for skills-based Committee appointees 	<p>Advancing EDI and Indigenous Reconciliation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop CPATA's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, and Indigenous Reconciliation Strategies