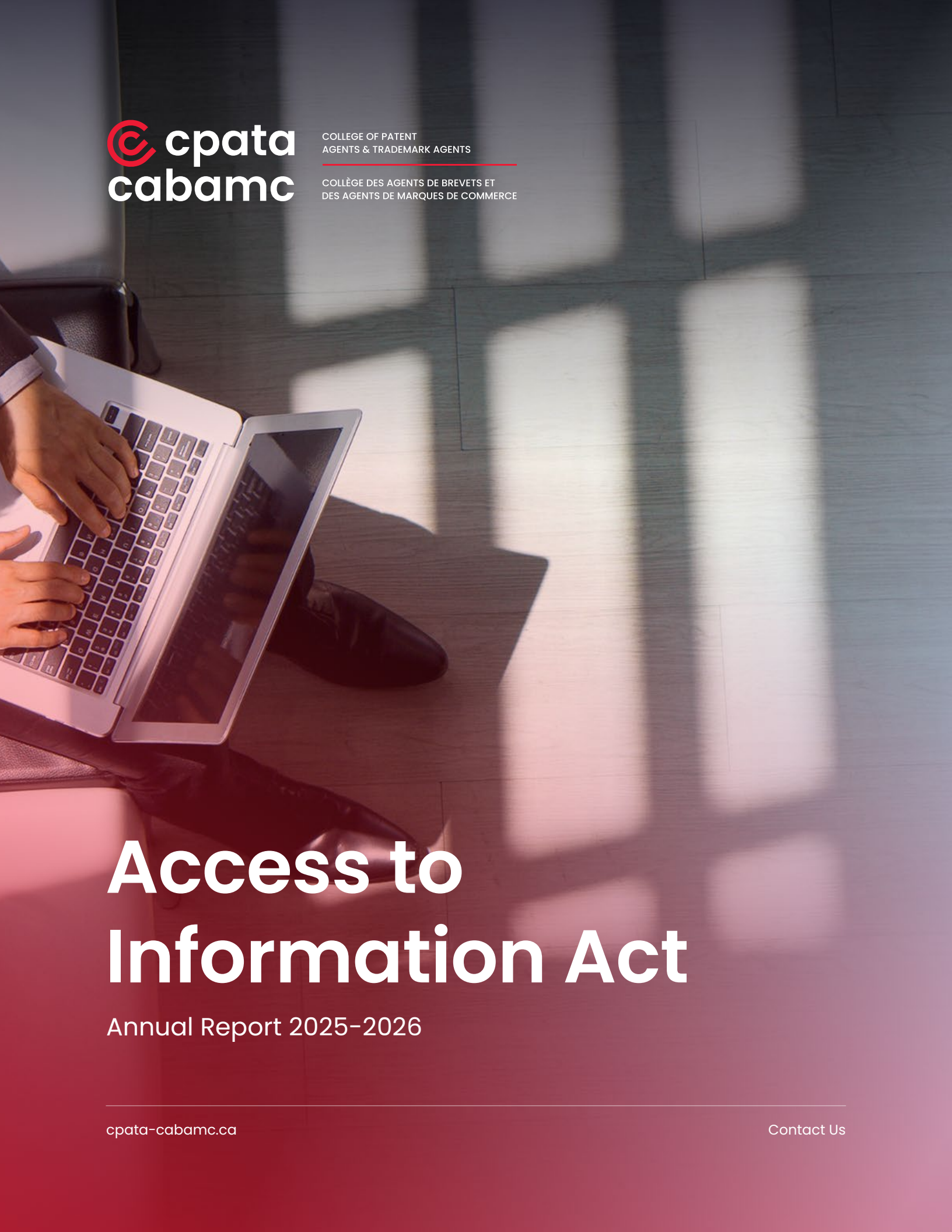


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COLLEGE OF PATENT
AGENTS & TRADEMARK AGENTS

COLLÈGE DES AGENTS DE BREVETS ET
DES AGENTS DE MARQUES DE COMMERCE

Access to Information Act

Annual Report 2025-2026

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Introduction

The College of Patent Agents and Trademark Agents (CPATA) is the independent public interest regulator of patent agents and trademark agents in Canada. Our mandate is to develop and support the competencies of these professionals while fostering trust in accessible, ethical, and high-quality intellectual property services across the country. Since coming into force in 2021, we have worked to fulfill this mandate and contribute to the strength of Canada's economy. Through this Annual Report on the *Access to Information Act,* CPATA presents to Parliament a summary of its activities in accordance with section 94 of the *Access to Information Act* (the ATIA). CPATA did not have any wholly owned subsidiaries at any time during the 2025-2026 reporting period.

CPATA is one of only a few independent regulatory bodies subject to federal legislation such as the *Access to Information Act.* As a modern, risk-based professional regulator, CPATA values institutional transparency and accountability as a key ingredient of its public interest mandate. This philosophy is aligned with the purpose of the *Access to Information Act,* which gives Canadian citizens and permanent residents a broad right of access to information contained in government records, subject to certain specific and limited exceptions.

This report describes the activities taken by CPATA to support compliance with the ATIA during the April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026 period.

Institutional Mandate

The Government of Canada enacted the *College of Patent and Trademark Agents (CPATA) Act* in 2018, as part of its National Innovation Strategy to position the country as a world leader in innovation.

CPATA is the independent public interest regulator of patent agents and trademark agents. CPATA protects the public interest by strengthening the competencies of patent agents and trademark agents, and building confidence in accessible, ethical and expert intellectual property services in Canada. Our commitment to supporting the rigour and sophistication of the professions plays an important part in driving innovation and stimulating Canada's economic growth.

The College is responsible for protecting the public interest by:

- Setting competence standards for the professions and administering entry requirements that address those standards;
- Implementing the Code of Professional Conduct established by the Minister of Industry;
- Administering a fair and open process to respond to concerns about the competence or conduct of agents;
- Establishing expectations for liability insurance, continuing professional development, and pro bono requirements; and,
- Promoting innovation in the delivery of patent and trademark services.

CPATA has adopted the following regulatory objectives:

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.

Organizational Structure

CPATA has a Board of Directors, five committees, and a small team led by a CEO/Registrar.

CPATA's Board of Directors consists of five appointed and four elected Directors. Appointed Directors are non-licensees who are appointed by the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Industry. Elected Directors are licensees who are elected from the professions to contribute IP subject-matter expertise to the public interest mandate of CPATA's Board of Directors.

Most of CPATA's daily operational work is done by the CEO/Registrar and seven staff, who handle interactions with licensees, trainees, and members of the public.

All the ATIA work, including Proactive Publication, is conducted by the Privacy and Access to Information Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, with some support from the rest of the CPATA staff.

For a breakdown of the group(s) and/or position(s) responsible for meeting each applicable proactive publication requirement under Part 2 of the Access to Information Act, see the section "Proactive Publication under Part 2 of the ATIA".

CPATA did not have any service agreements under section 96 of the Access to Information Act.

Delegation Order

The Delegation Order dated February 17th, 2023 (the "2023 Delegation Order") designates the Access to Information and Privacy Officer to exercise certain powers and perform certain duties and functions of the CEO under the Act and is attached hereto and forms part of this annual report (see Annex A).

Performance under Part 1 of the Access to Information Act, 2025–2026

CPATA received no requests during the fiscal year. No data on consultations was completed for other institutions.

Training and Awareness

Through its training activities, CPATA continues to work towards enhancing the institution-wide culture of respect for the ATIA.

CPATA's privacy and access awareness training for Board and Committee members includes an introduction to the ATIA, including the importance of strong information and records management practices to meet the organization's obligations under the ATIA.

Policies, Guidelines, Procedures, and Initiatives

As a professional regulator, CPATA operates in a culture of institutional transparency and accountability, all the while safeguarding the confidentiality and personal data of licensees and members of the public. The following initiatives are in place to proactively provide public access to information regarding the College's decisions and functioning:

- All of CPATA's policies are available for public consultation on the College's website
- Board meetings, minutes and materials are available for public consultation on CPATA's website (except for in camera Board matters)
- Registration and Discipline committee decisions are published on the College's website and in its monthly newsletter
- Discipline proceedings are livestreamed and are publicly available on YouTube
- The College publishes its Annual Report, Financial Statements and Operational Reports on its website
- CPATA engages with licensees and the professions regarding its major initiatives in accordance with its consultation framework
- CPATA explains the rationale behind policies and key decisions so that licensees and the public understand the reasoning behind them
- The College is committed to service standards that provide information to the public in a timely manner and key staff are reachable for questions

Procedures in place to meet proactive publication requirements

The Privacy and Access to Information Officer works in collaboration with the Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Executive Officer to fulfill the proactive publication legislative requirements found in the *Access to Information Act.* Sections 82 to 84

stipulate that government institutions, as defined in section 3 of the *Access to Information Act,* are required to publish proactively travel expenses, hospitality expenses and reports tabled in Parliament.

Proactive Publication under Part 2 of the ATIA

Table 1 – Proactive Publication Requirements Table

Legislative Requirement	ATIA Section	Publication Timeline	Compliance rate	Proactive Publication (web link)
Travel Expenses	82	Within 30 days after the end of the month of reimbursement	100%	Government Travel Expenses (canada.ca)
Hospitality Expenses	83	Within 30 days after the end of the month of reimbursement	100%	Search Government Hospitality Expenses | Open Government, Government of Canada
Reports tabled in Parliament	84	Within 30 days after tabling	100%	Reports Tabled in Parliament: CPATA-CABAMC (cpata-cabamc.ca)

Initiatives and Projects to Improve Access to Information

No new initiatives and projects were implemented during the last fiscal year.

Summary of Key Issues and Actions Taken on Complaints

No complaints were received or concluded during the reporting period.

Monitoring Compliance

No monitoring was conducted during the reporting period.

Conclusion

CPATA is aligned with the purposes of the *Access to Information Act.* It is committed to transparency, accountability, and the broad right of access to information with respect to its records, subject to limited statutory exceptions.

ANNEX A – Delegation Authority

Access to Information and Privacy Act Delegation Order

I, undersigned, CEO of CPATA, pursuant to section 73(1) of the *Privacy Act* and s.95(1) of the *Access to Information Act* and s.22 of the *College of Patent and Trademark Agents Act,* hereby designate the Access to Information and Privacy Officer, or person occupying that position on an acting basis, to exercise signing authorities or perform any of the CEO's powers, duties or functions as head of institution that are specified in the attached Schedule B. This designation replaces all previous delegation orders.

Original signed by



Juda Strawczynski

Chief Executive Officer of CPATA
Date: 2023-02-17

Schedule B – Sections of the *Privacy Act and the Access to Information Act and Regulations* to be delegated

Position	**Powers, Duties or Functions**
Access to Information and Privacy Officer	Full Authority