



We Have Ideas About Your Future

Student Brochure



Bereskin & Parr

bereskinparr.com
Experts in IP. Your partners in brilliance.

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Bereskin & Parr LLP is a leading Canadian intellectual property (IP) law firm with a global reputation as one of the largest, and most experienced, in patent and trademark law. The firm and our award-winning professionals are consistently ranked as the benchmark for IP law in Canada.

Our History

The firm was founded in 1965 and has grown to become one of the largest intellectual property (IP) firms in Canada, with offices located in major economic and technology centres. Bereskin & Parr has established a depth of legal talent to serve clients in every aspect of patent, trademark and copyright law and litigation.

About Us

Bereskin & Parr's professionals include more than 80 lawyers and patent and trademark agents, many of whom are globally recognized as industry leaders. The firm's main practice areas are patent prosecution, trademarks, litigation, copyright, and regulatory/privacy law, but we're always evolving to meet the needs of our clients. Our professionals work at the forefront of both law and technology across a wide range of areas involving both longstanding and emerging fields such as artificial intelligence, cannabis and fintech.

Our global reputation, together with a strong commitment to customer service, has allowed us to establish trusted relationships with clients of all sizes in various industries, both domestic and international. We have an exceptional team, with diverse cultural, educational and life backgrounds. The ability of our professionals to find cost-effective solutions to our clients' needs, and take a pragmatic approach to sensitive matters, makes us one of the strongest and most qualified IP firms in Canada.

Practice Groups



Patents



Industrial Designs



Trademarks



Litigation



IP Management & Strategic Counselling



Licensing & Transactions



Advertising, Marketing & Regulatory



Copyright & Digital Media





Our Culture

Bereskin & Parr's most cherished asset is our firm culture.

Our focus on these core values has contributed greatly to the firm's dynamic workforce and our leadership among Canada's top law firms. Consistently, these values allow us to attract highly qualified students with keen intellect and diverse backgrounds who can build on our past success and contribute to our exciting future.

At Bereskin & Parr, we do much more than just sit in our offices conducting legal research and responding to office actions. We actually like hanging out with each other! Each practice group regularly gets together for team building and social activities. We go axe throwing, to musicals, to sporting events, and much more. But don't worry – we know you have other friends and a life outside of work. We encourage our people to take time for their personal lives and interests to ensure a healthy work-life balance. The firm offers competitive benefits to assist with this goal, including subsidized health and fitness memberships, mental health and mindfulness resources and a comprehensive benefits plan. We believe that a well-balanced life is critical to developing a successful long-term career.

COVID-19 has changed many things about the way we work, but it hasn't dampened our spirits. Whether it is a virtual yoga class, trivia night or other remote social gathering, we continue to stay connected and the firm's culture is stronger than ever.

Collegiality and respect for others are foundational values at Bereskin & Parr. As part of the firm's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion, we empower our female partners and associates to succeed by fostering a supportive environment as well as encouraging advancement and leadership within the firm. Micheline Gravelle, Partner and head of the firm's Life Sciences practice group, served as the firm's Managing Partner from 2014-2020. In previous years, Cynthia Rowden, former head of the firm's Trademarks practice group, also held this title. They are just two examples of professionals in our firm who are outstanding leaders and mentors for women in the legal community.

The firm has been built on core values that include a commitment to:



the depth and technical knowledge of our professionals;



designing pragmatic legal solutions for each client to ensure we achieve consistent results;



proactive partnering with our clients and their team members;



timely, cost-effective and high quality work; and



respect for the personal lives and values of our employees.

Our key values are excellence, respect, fairness and teamwork.

Our Diversity

At Bereskin & Parr, we are proud of our diverse culture and support inclusion of everyone regardless of race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation and physical or mental health.

Our key values are excellence, respect, fairness and teamwork. Promoting and embracing a diverse and inclusive working environment is key to living our values.

The Law Firm Diversity and Inclusion Network (LFDIN) is a group of Canadian law firms who have agreed to work together to promote diversity and encourage a culture of inclusion in our firms and the broader legal profession. Diversity and inclusion are core values of LFDIN members. We believe that valuing and enhancing diversity and inclusion will help us attract and retain the best talent and better serve our clients' needs in an evolving global marketplace.

Our Community Involvement

Bereskin & Parr firmly believes in being an active participant in the communities in which we live and work, and our professionals dedicate their time and expertise every year to provide substantial support to various organizations across Canada. We sponsor many key industry initiatives, attend conferences and

events, and participate in community and charitable endeavours to do our part in giving back.

Co-sponsoring The Harold G. Fox Moot and the University of Toronto Faculty of Law Technology and Intellectual Property Conference are examples of student development events our firm supports. Our participation in these sponsorships is aimed to promote education in IP law and support the evolving needs of IP professionals.

By being involved in a variety of activities, students are exposed to the programs and initiatives within IP and further their understanding of the different practices available to them. This creates a foundation to assist students to succeed in their careers.



Recognized by Chambers as 2020 Outstanding Firm for Furthering Diversity & Inclusion (Canada)

Our Articling Students

2023



Our Programs



Professional Development & Educational Programs

We believe that professional training and continuing legal education are fundamental to a student's success, and are proud to have cultivated comprehensive in-house educational programs that cover a range of intellectual property law subjects and issues.

Internal programs designed specifically for our students include a series of luncheon seminars presented by various professionals in the firm, on subjects that relate to their area of expertise. Students are encouraged to attend regular practice group meetings, which are structured around topical issues specific to certain practice areas. Students may also attend monthly meetings, which include presentations and the review of intellectual property law developments from the preceding month.

At Bereskin & Parr we recognize that the law is constantly evolving and continuing legal education is necessary for even the most seasoned professionals. Accordingly, the firm conducts seminars on trademark law and patent law issues designed to provide professional training to the firm's partners, associates and students.

Summer Program

The summer program at Bereskin & Parr serves as an introduction to intellectual property law for students completing their first or second year of law school. Tasks are assigned to students on the basis of educational background, experience, and the special interests of each student. In addition, the firm has a series of training sessions designed specifically for our summer students.

Each student is assigned a mentor who provides him or her with guidance and information, and who works with other professionals in the firm to provide constructive feedback. During the course of the summer term the firm's Professionals Committee will also have discussions with each student regarding his or her progress.

Articling Program

The articling experience at Bereskin & Parr helps students develop practical professional skills in problem recognition, creative problem solving, communications and drafting. We assume that our students are fully capable of managing a significant degree of responsibility, and we ensure that our students have direct client contact from the outset.

Each student is assigned a principal, who ensures that the student is exposed to the required elements of the Law Society Approved Articling Plan, and also serves as a mentor to the student by providing ongoing guidance and feedback. During the course of the articling term the student will also have discussions with the firm's Professionals Committee regarding his or her progress.

How to Apply

Candidate Requirements

We look for 1L and 2L candidates who are well-rounded with good academic records, interesting extra-curricular activities, and diverse work experience. As we are committed to providing professional development training and continuing legal education, candidates that we select are team-oriented and interested in making a long-term commitment to our firm.

Application Package Requirements

We require a cover letter, resumé, photocopies of official transcripts from law school, undergraduate, and any other post-secondary education, and a list of upper year courses. Writing samples and reference letters are not required unless otherwise requested.

Your cover letter should be personalized to our firm, describe why you want to work at Bereskin & Parr, and not exceed one (1) page in length. Your resume should include your contact information, education, employment history, volunteer/extra-curricular activities and awards/scholarships, and not exceed two (2) pages in length.

Due Dates and Guidelines

Bereskin & Parr follows the dates and guidelines established by the Law Society of Ontario for the recruitment of students. Students interested in a summer or articling position with the firm should submit their applications via the viDesktop Portal.



General inquiries should be e-mailed to:

Ryan Baker
Director, Legal Talent

E-mail:
rbaker@bereskinparr.com

Scotia Plaza, 40 King St.
West, Toronto, Ontario,
M5H 3Y2.

All student recruitment is conducted in accordance with the Law Society of Ontario (LSO) guidelines or the Entente de recrutement, as applicable. For a copy of the guidelines please visit the LSO website at www.lso.ca.

We believe it is important to provide our students with the opportunity to develop their expertise and become recognized leaders in their field. Finding a firm that best fits your goals and needs is one of the most important decisions you will make, and we want to assist you as best we can to support your selection.

Our Industry Experience



Artificial Intelligence



Automotive



Cannabis



Electrical & Computer Technology



Financial Technology



Life Sciences



Nanotechnology



Oil & Gas



Plant Breeders' Rights



Chemical



Chemical AI



Cleantech



Privacy & Data Protection



Mechanical & Industrial Processes



Medical Devices



"The practice of intellectual property law is both demanding and rewarding. Although this is a specialized area of law, it is broad in scope and constantly changing, making it challenging throughout one's career."

Intellectual property law appeals to people who have superior academic ability and an interest in working with innovators and creators. After all, these are the people making a significant contribution to Canada's future prosperity."

Daniel R. Bereskin, Q.C.

Founding Partner, Bereskin & Parr LLP

