



**The Canadian Intellectual Property Council  
Conseil canadien de la propriété intellectuelle**

October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009

Hon. Peter Milliken M.P.  
Speaker of the House of Commons

Dear Mr. Milliken:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Canadian Intellectual Property Council (CIPC) and our member companies. An affiliate of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the CIPC's primary objective is to ensure that the Canadian government provides the necessary legislative framework and sufficient resources to protect intellectual property rights (IPR) within Canada. Our members represent a broad range of industries including pharmaceuticals, software, entertainment and consumer goods, all of which rely on IPR for their success.

In February 2009, the CIPC launched a report entitled: *A Time for Change, Toward a New Era for Intellectual Property Rights in Canada* which undertakes a critical examination of Canada's protection of IPR. The existence of a strong and competitive IPR system forms the cornerstone of knowledge-based economies and is vital for continued economic prosperity. Weak protection of IPR also undermines the safety of citizens who are increasingly at risk from the dangers of counterfeit goods. Unfortunately, the development of an effective IPR system in Canada continues to lag behind other developed nations.

The CIPC report expands on these ideas and a copy of the executive summary is attached for your review. We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the direction of Canada's intellectual property rights system and look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Sincerely,

Chris Gray  
Director, Canadian Intellectual Property Council  
Canadian Chamber of Commerce

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