



Melanie Sharman Rowand

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

CONTACT

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Overview

Melanie is a scientist and senior associate who practices exclusively in the areas of intellectual property and food and drug regulatory law, with a special focus on the agricultural/agribusiness, pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors.

Melanie's experience includes drafting, filing and prosecuting patent applications, advising on transactions involving patents/patent applications, and advising on the acquisition, validity and infringement of intellectual property rights. Melanie also provides strategic advice on patent and regulatory law in the agricultural/agribusiness and pharmaceutical sectors, including novel food and novel feed approvals, as well as the interface between IP and regulatory issues (e.g., patent listing, data protection, PMPRB and supplementary protection certificate issues).

Melanie has an advanced degree in botany and is a registered patent agent in Canada and the United States.

Recognition and Awards

2024-2027 *Chambers Canada*—Associate to watch in intellectual property

2026 *Managing IP's IP Stars*—Rising Star

2025-2027 *Best Lawyers in Canada*—Leading lawyer in intellectual property law

Insights

[KTEP it moving: Canada fast-tracks patent examination for key technologies](#)

[Summer By Design 2026](#)

[Canada's amended Plant Breeders' Rights Regulations now in force](#)

Reaping your crop: damages for infringement under Canada's Plant Breeders' Rights Act granted for the first time

Have your say – Part 1: Canadian Patent Office seeking input on expedited examination

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News

83% of Torys' Canadian partners are recognized in *Chambers Canada* 2027

Congratulations to our ranked lawyers and practice groups on earning industry-leading recognition, including 19 Band 1 rankings.

[Best Lawyers recognizes 177 Torys lawyers in its 2027 guide](#)

[Chambers Canada ranks 81% of Torys' Canadian partners in its 2026 guide](#)

[81% of Torys' Canadian partners ranked by Chambers Canada](#)

[179 Torys lawyers recognized in the 2025 Best Lawyers guide](#)

[Torys named IP and Life Sciences Law Firm of the Year by Chambers Canada](#)

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Professional Involvement

Melanie is a member of the American Agricultural Law Association, Life Sciences Ontario, the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada (IPIC), the Toronto Intellectual Property Group and the Organizing Committee for the Women in IP Networking Group (IPIC).

Education and Bar Admissions

Education

LLB (Honours), 1997

University of Toronto, Faculty of Law

MSc (Botany), 1994

University of Toronto

BScH (Biology), 1992

Queen's University

Bar Admissions

Ontario, 1999