








Intellectual property in Canada

	Patent	Trade secret	Industrial design	Trademark	Copyright
COVERAGE	New, useful and non-obvious invention	Invention, business information	Visual features of a product	Source of goods or services	Original literary, artistic, musical or dramatic work
SCOPE (EXAMPLES)	Product, process, machine, chemical composition, use	Business method, invention, recipe, manufacturing process	Shape, configuration, pattern, ornamentation	Words, sounds, designs, slogans	Software, sound recording, photograph, painting, web content, communication signals
RIGHTS	Exclude others from using, making or selling	No formal rights (contractual obligations)	Exclude others from making, using or selling	Prevent others from using your trademark	Prevent others from reproducing your original work
WHERE*					
DURATION	Up to 20 years from date of filing	As long as confidentiality is maintained	10 years (max)	15 years (renewable)	Life of creator + 50 years in general
DISCLOSURE GRACE PERIOD	12 months	No disclosure	12 months	Not applicable	Not applicable (automatic rights)

*For patents, trademarks and industrial designs, consider securing your rights in other countries and regions.