

FEATURE POSTS



From Masks to COVID Apps: The Moral Duty not to Infect Others

September 16, 2020 by Dan Choi

As physical distancing and masks are becoming the new normal, Canada's [COVID Alert application](#) is an additional measure to try to limit the spread of COVID-19. While there is no legal duty to install the application, there might be a moral duty. A moral argument for physical distancing and wearing masks can be made based on the duty not to infect others, and this argument can be expanded to include installing COVID tracking applications.

Written by Dan Choi, a second year JD Candidate at Osgoode Hall Law School and an IPilogue Contributing Editor.

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LATEST POSTS

Continuing Conversations on Performance Rights: Political Campaign Music

September 14, 2020 by Meghan Carlin

On Tuesday, August 4th, 2020, [Neil Young filed a lawsuit against President Trump's campaign](#) for the unauthorized use of Young's songs "Rockin' in the Free World" and "Devil's Sidewalk" at rallies and other political events dating back to 2015, alleging copyright infringement based on the public performance of Young's copyrighted compositions. The filing comes days after [the Artists Rights Alliance published an open letter](#) signed by artists such as Sia, Regina Spektor, R.E.M., Blondie, Lorde, Elton John, and Elvis Costello, as well as The Rolling Stones' Mick Jagger and Keith Richards and Aerosmith's Steven Tyler and Joe Perry (among others), calling for clearer licensing guidelines that require political campaigns to seek the explicit permission of "featured recording artists, songwriters, and copyright owners" for the use of their music.

Written by Meghan Carlin. Meghan is in her second year of studies at Osgoode Hall Law School. In addition to her work with the IPilogue, Meghan is a Fellow with the Innovation Clinic and Co-President of the Osgoode Entertainment and Sports Law Association

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How the Canadian IP regime is evolving to fight COVID-19

September 17, 2020 by Joaquin Francis Arias and Sarah Silverwood

It is widely accepted that innovation and intellectual property rights buttress economic growth and vice-versa. In an economic downturn, for example, businesses usually experience falling revenues and diminished cash flows. A recession engenders companies to cut investment into research and development, resulting in fewer patents being filed. This is exactly what happened during the 2008 economic recession. At the height of this economic crisis, in 2009, applications filed through the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) dropped by 4.5%, the first drop since the inception of the PCT System. This great recession had a significantly stronger impact on the amount of patent applications in Canada, reducing filings by [approximately 20%](#).

Written by Sarah Silverwood & Joaquin Francis Arias. Sarah is a guest IPilogue Editor and recent graduate of the University of Toronto. Joaquin is a contributing IPilogue editor, President of Osgoode's Legal Entrepreneurs Organization and Osgoode's Innovation Clinic fellow.

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29 - 30 September 2020

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Emerging Trends in IP - What Does the Future Hold?

1 - 2 October 2020

For more information and to register, please [click here](#).

IP Picks of the Week

This week the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) announced a collaborative deferred-fee provisional patent application pilot program for inventions that combat COVID-19. For more information on the pilot program, please read the [full notice](#).



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