

## **MEDIA RELEASE – UPDATE ON BEES LITIGATION**

### **Upcoming motion for authorization**

We understand that you have previously written about the impact of neonicotinoids on honey bees. As you might be aware, litigation has been commenced in Quebec and Ontario on behalf of beekeepers. We write to you to provide an update on the status of the Quebec action.

In the Quebec action, an application for authorization of the proposed class proceeding on behalf of Quebec beekeepers will be heard on November 13 and 14, 2017 at 9:00 at the Palais de justice de Montreal (Montreal Courthouse) located at 1, rue Notre-Dame Est, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 1B6.

The litigation relates to allegations that neonicotinoid insecticides designed, manufactured, marketed and sold by Bayer and Syngenta in Quebec had devastating impact on bees. It is alleged that the neonicotinoid insecticides caused, among other things, honey bee deaths, impaired reproduction, behavioural abnormalities, and reduced honey production. Quebec beekeepers have suffered significant financial losses as a result of the defendants' alleged faults. The plaintiff is seeking compensation for these losses on behalf of himself and other Quebec beekeepers. The plaintiff's allegations are supported by a large body of scientific evidence.

As part of the motion for authorization, the court will be asked to determine whether the claims of Quebec beekeepers can be pursued as a class action.

We would be happy to speak with you if you have any questions and would also be happy to make available an affected beekeeper for an interview. For more information please contact [paula.lombardi@siskinds.com](mailto:paula.lombardi@siskinds.com).