

33-105 Underwriting Conflicts [MI Proposed - Lapsed]

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MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENT 33-105

UNDERWRITING CONFLICTS¹

1 This proposed Multilateral Instrument is expected to be adopted as a rule in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, as a Commission regulation in Saskatchewan and as a policy in all other jurisdictions represented by the Canadian Securities Administrators, other than Québec. In British Columbia, this proposed Multilateral Instrument will replace parts of section 75 of the *Securities Rules* and all of section 78 of the *Securities Rules*. The proposed Multilateral Instrument and Companion Policy are not being proposed for adoption at this time by the Commission des valeurs mobilières du Québec.

PART 1 DEFINITIONS, INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION²

2 A national definition instrument has been adopted as National Instrument 14-101 Definitions. It contains definitions of certain terms used in more than one national instrument and also applies to multilateral instruments. National Instrument 14-101 also provides that a term used in a national instrument and defined in the statute relating to securities of the applicable jurisdiction, the definition of which is not restricted to a specific portion of the statute, will have the meaning given to it in that statute, unless the context otherwise requires. National Instrument 14-101 also provides that a provision or a reference within a provision of a national instrument that specifically refers by name to a jurisdiction, other than the local jurisdiction, shall not have any

effect in the local jurisdiction, unless otherwise stated in the provision. National Instrument 14-101 includes both national instruments and multilateral instruments.

1.1 Definitions - In this Instrument

"associated party" means, if used to indicate a relationship with a person or company

(a) a trust or estate in which

(i) that person or company has a substantial beneficial interest, unless that trust or estate is managed under discretionary authority by a person or company that is not a member of any professional group of which the first mentioned person or company is a member, or

(ii) that person or company serves as trustee or in a similar capacity,

(b) an issuer in respect of which that person or company beneficially owns or controls, directly or indirectly, voting securities carrying more than 10 percent of the voting rights attached to all outstanding voting securities of the issuer, or

(c) a relative, including the spouse, of that person, or a relative of that person's spouse, if

(i) the relative has the same home as that person, and

(ii) the person has discretionary authority over the securities held by the relative;

"connected issuer" means, for a registrant,

(a) an issuer distributing securities, if the issuer or a related issuer of the issuer has a relationship with any of the following persons or companies that may lead a reasonable prospective purchaser of the securities to question if the registrant and the issuer are independent of each other for the distribution:

(i) the registrant,

(ii) a related issuer of the registrant,

(iii) a director, officer or partner of the registrant,

(iv) a director, officer or partner of a related issuer of the registrant, or

(b) a selling securityholder distributing securities, if the selling securityholder or a related issuer of the selling securityholder has a relationship with any of the following persons or companies that may lead a reasonable prospective purchaser of the securities to question if the registrant and the selling securityholder are independent of each other for the distribution:

(i) the registrant,

(ii) a related issuer of the registrant,

(iii) a director, officer or partner of the registrant,

(iv) a director, officer or partner of a related issuer of the registrant;³

³ This definition has been amended by the removal of the definition of "related issuer", which is now a separate definition. This keeps the use of the term "connected issuer" consistent with current usage.

"direct underwriter" means, for a distribution,

(a) an underwriter that is in a contractual relationship with the issuer or selling securityholder to distribute the securities that are being offered in the distribution, or

(b) a dealer manager, if the distribution is a rights offering;

"foreign issuer" has the meaning ascribed to that term in National Instrument 71-101 The Multijurisdictional Disclosure System;⁴

⁴ This definition is new, and is used in section 2.2 for the purpose of setting out the applicable rules for calculating the required involvement of an independent underwriter for distributions that are effected in more than one jurisdiction, or only partly in Canada.

"independent underwriter" means, for a distribution, a direct underwriter that is not the issuer or the selling securityholder in the distribution and in respect of which neither the issuer nor the selling securityholder is a connected issuer or a related issuer;

"influential securityholder" means, in relation to an issuer,

(a) a person or company or professional group

(i) that holds, has the power to direct the voting of, or has direct or indirect beneficial ownership of, voting securities entitling the person or company or professional group to cast more than 20 percent of the votes for the election or removal of directors of the issuer,

(ii) that holds, has the power to direct the voting of, or has direct or indirect beneficial ownership of, equity securities⁵

⁵ The term "equity security" is defined in National Instrument 14-101 as having the meaning ascribed to that term in securities legislation.

entitling the person or company or professional group to receive more than 20 percent of the dividends or distributions to the holders of the equity securities of the issuer, or more than 20 percent of the amount to be distributed to the holders of equity securities of the issuer on the liquidation or winding up of the issuer,

(iii) that controls or is a partner of the issuer if the issuer is a general partnership, or

(iv) that controls or is a general partner of the issuer if the issuer is a limited partnership,⁶

⁶ This definition has been amended by the addition of subparagraphs (a)(iii) and (a)(iv), which describe when a person or company or professional group will be an "influential securityholder" of an issuer that is a partnership.

(b) a person or company or professional group

(i) that holds, has the power to direct the voting of, or has direct or indirect beneficial ownership of,

(A) voting securities entitling the person or company or professional group to cast more than 10 percent of the votes for the election or removal of directors of the issuer, or

(B) equity securities entitling the person or company or professional group to receive more than 10 percent of the dividends or distributions to the holders of the equity securities of the issuer, or more than 10 percent of the amount to be distributed to the holders of equity securities of the issuer on the liquidation or winding up of the issuer, and

(ii) that either

(A) together with its related issuers

(I) is entitled to nominate at least 20 percent of the directors of the issuer or of a related issuer of the issuer, or

(II) has officers, directors or employees who are also directors of the issuer or a related issuer of the issuer, constituting at least 20 percent of the directors of the issuer or of the related issuer, or

(B) is a person or company of which the issuer, together with its related issuers,

(I) is entitled to nominate at least 20 percent of the directors of the person or company or at least 20 percent of the directors of a related issuer of the person or company, or

(II) has officers, directors or employees who are also directors of the person or company or a related issuer of the person or company, constituting at least 20 percent of the directors of the person or company or of the related issuer of the person or company, or

(c) a person or company

(i) of which the issuer holds, has the power to direct the voting of, or has direct or indirect beneficial ownership of,

(A) voting securities entitling the issuer to cast more than 10 percent of the votes for the election or removal of directors of the person or company, or

(B) equity securities entitling the issuer to receive more than 10 percent of the dividends or distributions to the holders of the equity securities of the person or company, or more than 10 percent of the amount to be distributed to the holders of equity securities of the person or company on the liquidation or winding up of the person or company, and

(ii) either

(A) that, together with its related issuers

(I) is entitled to nominate at least 20 percent of the directors of the issuer or of a related issuer of the issuer, or

(II) has officers, directors or employees who are also directors of the issuer or a related issuer of the issuer, constituting at least 20 percent of the directors of the issuer or of the related issuer, or

(B) of which the issuer, together with its related issuers

(I) is entitled to nominate at least 20 percent of the directors of the person or company or at least 20 percent of the directors of a related issuer of the person or company, or

(II) has officers, directors or employees who are also directors of the person or company or a related issuer of the person or company, constituting at least 20 percent of the directors of the person or company or of the related issuer of the person or company, or

(d) if a professional group is within paragraph (a) or (b), the registrant of the professional group;

"professional group" means a group comprised of a registrant and all of the following persons or companies:

(a) any employee of the registrant,

(b) any partner, officer or director of the registrant,

(c) any affiliate of the registrant,

(d) any associated party of any person or company described in paragraphs (a) through (c) or of the registrant;

"registrant" means a person or company registered or required to be registered under securities legislation, other than as a director, officer, partner or salesperson;

"related issuer" means a party described in subsection 1.2(2); and

"special warrant" means a security that, by its terms or the terms of an accompanying contractual obligation, entitles or requires the holder to acquire another security without payment of material additional consideration and obliges the issuer of the special warrant or the other security to undertake efforts to file a prospectus to qualify the distribution of the other security.⁷

⁷ This definition is new, and has been added in conjunction with the amendments to section 2.1 that provide that the independent underwriter requirement and certain disclosure requirements sometimes will be applicable when special warrants are distributed.

1.2 Interpretation

(1) For the purposes of calculating a percentage of securities that are owned, held or under the direction of a person or company in the definition of "influential securityholder"

(a) the determination shall be made

(i) first, by including in the calculation only voting securities or equity securities that are outstanding, and

(ii) second, if the person or company is not an influential securityholder by reason of a calculation under subparagraph (i), by including all voting securities or equity securities that would be outstanding if all outstanding securities that are convertible or exchangeable into voting securities or equity securities, and all outstanding rights to acquire securities that are convertible into, exchangeable for, or carry the right to acquire, voting securities or equity securities, are considered to have been converted, exchanged or exercised, as the case may be, and

(b) securities held by a registrant in its capacity as an underwriter in the course of a distribution are considered not to be securities that the registrant holds, has the power to direct the voting of, or has direct or indirect beneficial ownership of.

(2) A person or company is a "related issuer" of another person or company if

- (a) the person or company is an influential securityholder of the other person or company,
- (b) the other person or company is an influential securityholder of the person or company, or
- (c) each of them is a related issuer of the same third person or company.

(3) Calculations of time required to be made in this Instrument in relation to a "distribution" shall be made in relation to the date on which the underwriting or agency agreement for the distribution is signed.

1.3 Application of Instrument - This Instrument does not apply to a distribution of

- (a) securities described in the provisions of securities legislation listed in Appendix A; or
- (b) mutual fund securities.

PART 2 RESTRICTIONS ON UNDERWRITING

2.1 Restrictions on Underwriting

(1) No registrant shall act as an underwriter in a distribution of securities in which it is the issuer or selling securityholder, or as a direct underwriter in a distribution of securities of or by a connected issuer or a related issuer of the registrant, unless the distribution is made under a prospectus or another document that, in either case, contains the information specified in Appendix C.

(2) For a distribution of special warrants or a distribution made under a prospectus no registrant shall act

- (a) as an underwriter if the registrant is the issuer or selling securityholder in the distribution; or
- (b) as a direct underwriter if a related issuer of the registrant is the issuer or selling securityholder in the distribution.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply to a distribution

(a) in which

(i) at least one registrant acting as direct underwriter acts as principal, so long as an independent underwriter underwrites not less than the lesser of

(A) 20 percent of the dollar value of the distribution, and

(B) the largest portion of the distribution underwritten by a registrant that is not an independent underwriter, or

(ii) each registrant acting as direct underwriter acts as agent and is not obligated to act as principal, so long as an independent underwriter receives a portion of the total management fees equal to an amount not less than the lesser of

(A) 20 percent of the total management fees for the distribution, and

(B) the largest portion of the management fees paid or payable to a registrant that is not an independent underwriter; and

(b) the identity of the independent underwriter and disclosure of the role of the independent underwriter in the structuring and pricing of the distribution and in the due diligence activities performed by the underwriters for the distribution is contained in

(i) a document relating to the special warrants that is delivered to the purchaser of the special warrants before that purchaser enters into a binding agreement of purchase and sale for the special warrants, for a distribution of special warrants, or

(ii) the prospectus, for a distribution made under a prospectus.⁸

8 This section has been amended to eliminate the requirement for independent underwriter involvement in the case of connected issuer distributions. That requirement remains only for related issuer distributions. This section has also been amended to provide that the independent underwriter requirement and certain disclosure requirements will be applicable when special warrants are distributed on the same basis as for distributions made under a prospectus.

2.2 Calculation Rules - The following rules shall be followed in calculating the size of a distribution and the amount of independent underwriter involvement required for purposes of subsection 2.1(3):

(a) For a distribution that is made entirely in Canada, the calculation shall be based on the aggregate dollar value of securities distributed in Canada or the aggregate management fees relating to the distribution in Canada, and the aggregate dollar value of the distribution underwritten, or aggregate dollar value of management fees received, by the independent underwriter in Canada.

(b) For a distribution that is made partly in Canada of securities of an issuer that is not a foreign issuer, the calculation shall be based on the aggregate dollar value of securities distributed in Canada and outside of Canada or the aggregate management fees relating to the distribution in Canada and outside of Canada, and the aggregate dollar value of the distribution underwritten, or aggregate dollar value of management fees received, by the independent underwriter in Canada and outside of Canada.

(c) For a distribution that is made partly in Canada by a foreign issuer and that is not exempt from the requirements of subsection 2.1(2) by subsection 2.1(3) or by section 3.2, the calculation shall be based on the dollar value of securities distributed in Canada or the management fees relating to the distribution paid or payable in Canada, and the dollar value of the distribution underwritten, or aggregate dollar value of management fees received, by the independent underwriter in Canada.⁹

9 This section is new, and has been added to set out the applicable rules for calculating the required involvement of an independent underwriter for distributions that are effected in more than one jurisdiction, or only partly in Canada. The section should be read in conjunction with section 3.2, which provides an exemption from the independent underwriter requirement for distributions of securities of a foreign issuer, if more than 85 percent of the distribution is effected outside of Canada.

PART 3 NON-DISCRETIONARY EXEMPTIONS

3.1 Exemption from Disclosure Requirement - Subsection 2.1(1) does not apply to a distribution that

(a) is made under a document other than a prospectus if each of the purchasers of the securities

(i) is a related issuer of the registrant,

(ii) purchases as principal, and

(iii) does not purchase as underwriter; or

(b) is made under a provision of securities legislation listed in Appendix B.

3.2 Exemption from Independent Underwriter Requirement - Subsection 2.1(2) does not apply to a distribution of securities of a foreign issuer if more than 85 percent of the aggregate dollar value of the distribution is made outside of Canada or if more than 85 percent of the management fees relating to the distribution are paid or payable outside of Canada.¹⁰

10 This section is new and provides an exemption from the independent underwriter requirement for certain distributions of securities of a foreign issuer, if more than 85 percent of the distribution is effected outside of Canada.

PART 4 VALUATION REQUIREMENT

4.1 Valuation Requirement - A purchaser of securities offered in a distribution for which information is required to be given under subsection 2.1(3) shall be given a document that contains a summary of a valuation of the issuer by a chartered accountant or by a registered dealer of which the issuer is not a related issuer, and that specifies a reasonable time and place at which the valuation may be inspected during the distribution, if

(a) the issuer in the distribution

(i) is not a reporting issuer,

(ii) is a registered dealer, or an issuer all or substantially all of whose assets are securities of a registered dealer,

(iii) is issuing voting securities or equity securities, and

(iv) is effecting the distribution other than under a prospectus; and

(b) there is no independent underwriter that satisfies subsection 2.1(3).¹¹

11 This section has been moved from Appendix C, and is substantively unchanged.

PART 5 EXEMPTION

5.1 Exemption

(1) The regulator¹²

12 The term "regulator" is defined in National Instrument 14-101 Definitions as meaning, in a local jurisdiction, the person set out in an appendix to that instrument opposite the name of the local jurisdiction.

or securities regulatory authority¹³

13 The term "securities regulatory authority" is defined in National Instrument 14-101 Definitions as meaning, for a local jurisdiction, the securities commission or similar regulatory authority set out in an appendix to that instrument opposite the name of the local jurisdiction.

may grant an exemption from this Instrument, in whole or in part, subject to such conditions or restrictions as may be imposed in the exemption.

(2) Despite subsection (1), in Ontario only the regulator may grant such an exemption.

5.2 Evidence of Exemption - Without limiting the manner in which an exemption under section 5.1 may be evidenced, the issuance by the regulator of a receipt for a prospectus or an amendment to a prospectus is evidence of the granting of the exemption if

(a) the person or company that sought the exemption has delivered to the regulator, on or before the date that the preliminary prospectus or an amendment to the preliminary prospectus was filed, a letter or memorandum describing the matters relating to the exemption and indicating why consideration should be given to the granting of the exemption; and

(b) the regulator has not sent written notice to the contrary to the person or company that sought the exemption before, or concurrent with, the issuance of the receipt.

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APPENDIX A

EXEMPT SECURITIES

JURISDICTION	SECURITIES LEGISLATION REFERENCE
ALBERTA	Section 66 of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Alberta)
BRITISH COLUMBIA	Section 46 of the <i>Securities Act</i> (British Columbia)
MANITOBA	Subsection 19(2) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Manitoba)
NEWFOUNDLAND	Subsection 36(2) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Newfoundland)
NEW BRUNSWICK	Section 4 of the Exemption Regulation - <i>Security Frauds Prevention Act</i> (New Brunswick)
NOVA SCOTIA	Subsection 41(2) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Nova Scotia)
ONTARIO	Subsection 35(2) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Ontario)
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	Subsection 2(4) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Prince Edward Island)
SASKATCHEWAN	Subsection 39(2) of <i>The Securities Act, 1988</i> (Saskatchewan)

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APPENDIX B

PROVISIONS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH 3.1(b)

JURISDICTION	SECURITIES LEGISLATION REFERENCE
ALBERTA	Subsections 112(1) and 112(3) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Alberta)
BRITISH COLUMBIA	Section 128(d) of the <i>Securities Rules</i> (British Columbia)
NEWFOUNDLAND	Subsection 73(7)(b) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Newfoundland)
NOVA SCOTIA	Subsection 77(11)(b) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Nova Scotia)
ONTARIO	Clause 72(7)(b) of the <i>Securities Act</i> (Ontario)
SASKATCHEWAN	Clauses 81(10) and 81(11) of <i>The Securities Act, 1988</i> (Saskatchewan)

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APPENDIX C

REQUIRED INFORMATION

REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR THE FRONT PAGE OF THE PROSPECTUS OR OTHER DOCUMENT

1. A statement in bold type, naming the relevant registrant or registrants, that the issuer or the selling securityholder is a connected issuer or a related issuer of a registrant or registrants in connection with the distribution.
2. A summary, naming the relevant registrant or registrants, of the basis on which the issuer or selling securityholder is a connected issuer of the registrant or registrants.
3. A cross-reference to the applicable section in the body of the prospectus or other document where further information concerning the relationship between the issuer or selling securityholder and registrant or registrants is provided.

REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR THE BODY OF THE PROSPECTUS OR OTHER DOCUMENT

4. A statement, naming the relevant registrant or registrants, that the issuer or the selling securityholder is a connected issuer or a related issuer of a registrant or registrants for the distribution.
5. The basis on which the issuer or selling securityholder is a connected issuer or a related issuer for each registrant referred to in paragraph 4, including
 - (a) if the issuer or selling securityholder is a related issuer of the registrant, the details of the holding, power to direct voting, or direct or indirect beneficial ownership of, securities that cause the issuer or selling securityholder to be a related issuer;
 - (b) if the issuer or selling securityholder is a connected issuer of the registrant because of indebtedness, the disclosure required by paragraph 6 of this Appendix; and
 - (c) if the issuer or selling securityholder is a connected issuer of the registrant because of a relationship other than indebtedness, the details of that relationship.
6. If the issuer or selling securityholder is a connected issuer of the registrant because of indebtedness,
 - (a) the amount of the indebtedness;
 - (b) the extent to which the issuer or selling securityholder is in compliance with the terms of the agreement governing the indebtedness,
 - (c) the extent to which a related issuer has waived a breach of the agreement since its execution;
 - (d) the nature of any security for the indebtedness; and
 - (e) the extent to which the financial position of the issuer or selling securityholder or the value of the security has changed since the indebtedness was incurred.
7. The involvement of each registrant referred to in paragraph 4 and of each related issuer of the registrant in the decision to distribute the securities being offered and the determination of the terms

of the distribution, including disclosure concerning whether the issue was required, suggested or consented to by the registrant or a related issuer of the registrant and, if so, on what basis.

8. The effect of the issue on each registrant referred to in paragraph 4 and each related issuer of that registrant, including

(a) information about the extent to which the proceeds of the issue will be applied, directly or indirectly, for the benefit of the registrant or a related issuer of the registrant, or

(b) if the proceeds will not be applied for the benefit of the registrant or a connected issuer of the registrant, a statement to that effect.

9. If a portion of the proceeds of the distribution is to be directly or indirectly applied to or towards

(a) the payment of indebtedness or interest owed by the issuer, an associate or related issuer of the issuer, a person or company of which the issuer is an associate, the selling securityholder, an associate or related issuer of the selling securityholder, a person or company of which the selling securityholder is an associate, to the registrant or a related issuer of the registrant, or

(b) the redemption, purchase for cancellation or for treasury, or other retirement of shares other than equity securities of the issuer, an associate or related issuer of the issuer, a person or company of which the issuer is an associate, the selling securityholder, an associate or related issuer of the selling securityholder, or of a person or company of which the selling securityholder is an associate, held by the registrant or a related issuer of the registrant

particulars of the indebtedness or shares in respect of which the payment is to be made and of the payment proposed to be made.

10. Any other material facts with respect to the relationship or connection between each registrant referred to in paragraph 4, a related issuer of each registrant and the issuer that are not required to be described by the foregoing.

REGISTRANT AS ISSUER OR SELLING SECURITYHOLDER

11. If the registrant is the issuer or selling securityholder in the distribution, then the information required by this Appendix shall be provided to the extent applicable.