

Canadian Advocacy Newsletter November 2024

Subscribe

Chair Summary

Canadian Advocacy Council



Doug Sarro, CFA Chair Canadian Advocacy Council

Earlier this fall, the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) proposed an overhaul of the continuous disclosure regime for investment funds. The overhaul will mean lower regulatory burdens for fund managers, as less disclosure will also mean less time and money spent drafting disclosures. But the CSA has also structured this initiative in such a way that it promises to benefit investors as well.

The CSA hired a behavioural insights consultant to design and test prototype disclosures that investors can understand and act on. They also made the results of this testing public, allowing all stakeholders to evaluate how this evidence factored into the CSA's proposals. This commitment to transparency and evidence-based decision-making is something to be applauded.

There will be arguments that the CSA went too far in trying to simplify-that more context is needed for investors to have a full, accurate picture of how their investment funds are doing. In preparing our comment letter, the CAC may find instances where this kind of context is indeed necessary.

But in doing so, we should be aware of the potential cumulative effects of these efforts-refinements that make sense in isolation may, when taken together, end up serving only to overwhelm the reader. We'll need to be selective in deciding what kinds of refinements to push for.

Luckily, we have until the new year to provide our comments, which gives us all a chance to enjoy a restful holiday season. Happy Holidays!

Published Letters

Canadian Advocacy Council

		*+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++	
	ļΨ.		1, 101+*, 0°****0 ⁰¹ +***

OBSI - Approach to Loss Calculation - Illiquid Exempt Market Securities (2024)

Submitted November 21, 2024

OBSI is seeking input from stakeholders and the public in relation to their approach to calculating investor losses in cases involving unsuitable sales of illiquid exempt market securities. They are seeking input from stakeholders and other interested parties on the processes they currently use to help them determine whether there are better alternative approaches they should adopt in such cases.

The CAC generally agrees with OBSI's method of assigning a value of zero to such securities, requiring investors to return them to the firm. They emphasize the need for clarity on how OBSI determines the end value, as firms could unintentionally benefit from selling the securities later. They also stress that investors should not misuse OBSI's position as a safeguard against normal market losses.

Regarding the general approach of assigning a zero value, the CAC suggests that this is reasonable but calls for exceptions where necessary. They highlight the need for OBSI to consider cases involving captive dealers that have limited investment options and to clarify their methodology for evaluating alternative investments. This would help ensure fair outcomes for both consumers and firms involved in these transactions.

Response Drafting in Progress



CSA - Proposed amendments to mandatory central counterparty clearing of derivatives

Due December 19, 2024

The members of the Canadian Securities Administrators are publishing for comment proposed amendments to National Instrument 94-101 Mandatory Central Counterparty Clearing of Derivatives (National Instrument 94-101).

The proposed amendments to National Instrument 94-101 aim to update the list of mandatory clearable derivatives to reflect the transition to a new interest rate benchmarks regime based on overnight risk-free interest rate benchmarks. Specifically, the Proposed Amendments reflect the cessation of certain inter-bank offered rates (IBORs) and the Canadian dollar offered rate (CDOR) interest rate benchmarks.

The Proposed Amendments also contemplate adding credit default swaps (CDS) referencing certain indexes as mandatory clearable derivatives.

Canadian Advocacy Council



OSC - Statement of Priorities 2025-2026

Due December 20, 2024

The Ontario Securities Commission (OSC) is seeking feedback from stakeholders on its proposed Statement of Priorities for 2025-2026 (SoP), which includes initiatives we will undertake in support of the OSC's 2024-2030 Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan), published in May 2024.



CSA - Proposed Amendments to Modernize Continuous Disclosure Regime for Investment Funds

Due January 17, 2025

The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) have published for comment a series of proposed amendments aimed at modernizing the continuous disclosure regime for investment funds. These proposals are designed to provide investors with more focused and valuable disclosure while reducing the regulatory burden on investment fund managers.

The CSA proposes to replace the existing annual and interim Management Report of Fund Performance (MRFP) with a new annual and interim Fund Report.



CIRO - Rule Consolidation Project -(Phase 4 Proposed DC Rules)

Due February 4, 2025

CIRO is publishing for comment Phase 4 of its Rule Consolidation Project rule proposals. The Rule Consolidation Project will bring together the two member regulation rule sets currently applicable to investment dealers (IDPC Rules) and to mutual fund dealers (MFD Rules) into one set of member regulation rules applicable to both categories of CIRO Dealer Members.

The objective of Phase 4 of the Rule Consolidation Project (Phase 4 Proposed DC Rules) is to adopt requirements that are mostly unique to the IDPC and MFD Rules and have been assessed as having differences deemed to be significant with potential material impacts on stakeholders.



CSA - Proposed Access Model Changes for certain disclosure documents of non-investment fund reporting issuer

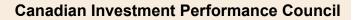
Due February 17, 2025

The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) is seeking feedback on proposed amendments and changes to implement an access model for certain disclosure documents of non-investment fund reporting issuers (the Proposed Access Model).

The Proposed Access Model aims to modernize the way documents are made available to investors by allowing issuers to provide investors with electronic access to certain continuous disclosure documents without impacting investors' ability to request, or provide standing instructions to receive, those documents in electronic or paper form. It will give issuers another alternative to send annual financial statements, interim financial reports and related management's discussion & analysis (MD&A) (collectively, CD documents) instead of following the current requirements found in securities legislation.

If you would like to participate or provide comments to ongoing initiatives, please contact cac@cfacanada.org

Volunteer Spotlight



Marc-André Hébert, CIPM



One of CIPC's newest members, Marc-André, has been on the Council since July 2024.

Marc-André is an Associate Director in the Middle Office team at iA Global Asset Management (iAGAM). His team is responsible for analyzing and reporting performance, including the production of performance attribution reports, the calculation of performancerelated statistical measures, and benchmark management. He has held positions of increasing responsibility since joining iAGAM in 2013. Marc-André holds a Master's Degree in Finance from Université Laval. He earned his FRM designation in 2014 and also obtained the Certificate in Investment Performance Measurement (CIPM) from CFA Institute in 2016.



CIRO - Distributing Funds Disgorged and Collected through CIRO **Disciplinary Proceedings to Harmed** Investors (Phase II)

Due January 20, 2025

CIRO has published for comment Phase II of its Proposed Process for Distributing Funds Disgorged and Collected through CIRO Disciplinary Proceedings to Harmed Investors

For this current Phase II, they have added to the original Proposal clarifications and further details in their responses to the comments, their impact assessment of the Proposal, and an updated list of consultation auestions.



OSC - 81-737 – Improve Retail Investor Access to Long-Term Assets through Investment Fund Product Structures

Due February 7, 2025

The Ontario Securities Commission (OSC) published a consultation paper aimed at improving retail investor access to illiquid investments through a framework proposal for a long-term asset investment fund product structure.

The consultation proposes the creation of a new investment fund category, the Ontario Long-Term Asset Fund (OLTF), which would allow Ontarians to invest in assets they may not traditionally have exposure to. These assets include venture capital, private debt and equity, and infrastructure and natural resource projects.

What would you tell other charterholders or investment professionals about the CIPC?

Being part of the CIPC means engaging with a group of dedicated professionals committed to the field of investment performance. It's an opportunity to share knowledge, shape best practices, and contribute to the advancement of industry standards. I encourage others to join and stay ahead of the industry's evolution alongside passionate experts.

Why are you passionate about the GIPS[®] standards?

I am not an expert in GIPS standards, but I recognize their importance in promoting transparency and consistency in performance measurement and reporting. Joining the CIPC gives me a valuable opportunity to deepen my understanding of these standards and their impact on the industry. It's rewarding to contribute to a framework that builds trust between investment professionals and their clients.

News



CFA Societies Canada News

'Battle of the Designations' **Inaugural Event at Queen's** University

CFA Societies Canada was invited to participate in the inaugural 'Battle of the Designations' awareness event, hosted by the Smith School of Business at Queen's University.

The session brought representatives from CFA Societies Canada, CBV Institute, and CPA Ontario together with students considering careers in investment management, consulting, investment banking, private equity, financial services, and accounting.

The event gave these students additional information and allowed them to compare the different designations to see which might be the best fit for their career aspirations.



CIPC News

CIPC hosts Forum on Al in Investment Performance

On October 24, the Canadian Investment Performance Council (CIPC) held their inaugural in-person forum in Toronto.

Our speakers engaged in a lively discussion about AI in Investment Performance, sharing their opinions on what they see for the future of AI in the investment management space, particularly for performance measurement.

They noted that prompt engineering will be an essential skill for practitioners now and into the future, and they noted that it will be important not only to feed AI solutions the correct answers but also to teach it to better identify the wrong ones. They also discussed their "wishlist" for where they would like to see AI solutions go next and noted they are excited for more efficiency, increasing scale, falling costs, and greater adoption.

Thank you to our speakers and sponsor FactSet for making the event possible!

Performance Topic: Private Equity Benchmarking Methodologies

BENCHMARK

CIPC Performance Topic

Performance Topic: Private Equity Benchmarking Methodologies

The Canadian Investment Performance Council frequently posts various performance topics and other items of interest to the performance measurement community on LinkedIn.

In their most <u>recent post</u>, they outline how the internal rate of return, IRR, has long been the preferred metric for measuring private equity performance, while the standard for measuring public market performance is the time-weighted return, TWR (or TWRR).

They ask the question of how to evaluate the performance of private equity funds against public market benchmarks to yield an apples-to-apples comparison.





Regulatory Organization

Industry News

CIRO Announces New Proficiency Model Partnership with Fitch Learning

CFA Societies Canada wishes to offer our congratulations to Fitch Learning, which was recently announced as the winner of CIRO's RFP to assist in their move towards an assessment-centric proficiency model for Approved Persons of investment dealers.



CAC News

CAC Mention in Investment **Executive** Article

The Canadian Advocacy Council of CFA Societies Canada was mentioned in a recent Investment Executive article, written by James Langton, concerning OSC and CIRO / OCRI's proposals to pay out disgorged money to harmed investors.

"Securities regulators are working to address long-standing criticism that they don't do enough to get money back for harmed investors. Both the industry and investor advocates are pushing regulators to do more, and they have responded by proposing a regime to put disgorged penalties money into the hands of victims of misconduct."



CAC News

CAC Mention in Investment **Executive** Article

The Canadian Advocacy Council of CFA Societies Canada was mentioned in a recent Investment Executive article, written by James Langton, concerning OSC and CIRO / OCRI's proposals to pay out disgorged money to harmed investors.

"Securities regulators are working to address

CFA Societies Canada plans to work with Fitch Learning and CIRO towards mutual goals of raising proficiency standards in the CIRO-member registrant community.

long-standing criticism that they don't do enough to get money back for harmed investors. Both the industry and investor advocates are pushing regulators to do more, and they have responded by proposing a regime to put disgorged penalties money into the hands of victims of misconduct."

Research, Advocacy, Standards and Professional Learning

CFA Institute Research & Policy Center



Research

Zero

Investment Innovations toward Achieving Net Zero: Voices of Influence

CFA Institute Research and Policy Center has convened net-zero thought leaders and investment luminaries to break down the big ideas around achieving net zero.

More than 50 authors from the United States, Europe, and Asia collaborated on 16 research projects to address this issue. The resulting "Net Zero in the Balance: A Guide to Transformative Industry Thinking" report compiles insights to help investors manage climate risks, align portfolios, and support decarbonization efforts.

CFA Institute will be publishing the papers that make up the full guide through January 2025. Look for author videos, practical takeaways, and more derivative content to be published with each report.



Podcast

Rich Nuzum, CFA: Lessons from Top-Ranked Political Systems

In this episode of the Enterprising Investor podcast, guest host Ryan Munson discusses the 2024 edition of the Mercer CFA Institute Global Pension Index with Mercer's Executive Director of Investments and Global Chief Investment Strategist, Rich Nuzum, CFA. Rich, who has extensive experience in providing investment advice and leading long-term savings reform projects, shares insights into the key features of robust pension systems and the challenges faced by underperforming ones.



Financial Analysts Journal

How Much Does ChatGPT Know about Finance?

Finance applications of large language models (LLMs) have implications for practitioners and researchers. Analysis shows that some models and methods are associated with higher levels of accuracy, making use of LLMs task-specific, not jobspecific.

This paper analyzes more than 10,000 large language model (LLM) responses to financerelated prompts and identifies tradeoffs that can guide both academics and practitioners in using these models for finance applications.



Podcast

Monika Freyman, CFA: Practical Advice on Investing for Net Zero

Host Deborah Kidd, CFA, talks with Monika Freyman, CFA, Vice President of Sustainable Investing at Addenda Capital, about the challenges asset owners and asset managers face when aiming to protect portfolios from the financial impacts of climate change. Monika shares practical advice on developing a comprehensive investment policy, measuring and managing the complexities of climate risk, and balancing climate goals with fiduciary duty. She emphasizes the importance of adhering to fiduciary duty fundamentals by ensuring that investment practices remain sound when integrating climate considerations.



The Canadian Advocacy Council, on behalf of CFA Societies Canada, advances investor protection, industry professionalism, market integrity and transparency to the benefit of society.



Follow us on LinkedIn!

FST

Next CAC Meeting Scheduled: Tuesday, December 10 at 4:15 pm

Contact us			Subscribe				
ADVOCACY	COLLABORATION	N COMMUNICATION		INNOVATION			
CFA Societies Canada							
120 Adelaide Street West, Suite 2205, Toronto, ON M5H 1T1							
	Т 416.3	366.36	658				
	www.cfa	<u>canad</u>	la.org				

If you no longer wish to receive future communications from CFA Societies Canada, please reply to info@cfacanada.org with the subject UNSUBSCRIBE.