

MFDA INVESTOR PROTECTION CORPORATION

NOTICE OF APPROVAL

MFDA IPC Approval

On May 18, 2005, the Nova Scotia Securities Commission (Commission) approved the MFDA Investor Protection Corporation (MFDA IPC) as a compensation fund, pursuant to subsection 27(1) of the General Securities Rules, as amended, made under the *Securities Act* (Nova Scotia). The MFDA IPC will provide protection to eligible customers of MFDA members on a discretionary basis to prescribed limits if securities, cash and other property held by any such member are unavailable as a result of the member's insolvency. The MFDA IPC intends to commence coverage of customer accounts on July 1, 2005.

Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan have also approved the MFDA IPC as a compensation fund. A copy of Nova Scotia's approval order is published on the Commission's web.

The Commission published on its web site the MFDA IPC's revised application for approval as a compensation fund on February 28, 2005.

Nova Scotia Contingency Trust Fund

Registered mutual fund dealers in Nova Scotia are participants in a provincial contingency trust fund and will continue to participate until it is wound up in accordance with the terms of the Contingency Trust Fund Agreement to which they have subscribed. Mutual fund dealers that are registered in Nova Scotia for the first time on or after the date on which the MFDA IPC commences providing coverage to eligible customers of MFDA members will not be required to participate in the provincial contingency trust fund.

DATED at Halifax, Nova Scotia this 20th day of May, 2005.

"Nicholas A. Pittas"
Nicholas A. Pittas, Director