

Ontario Securities Commission

Commission Des valeurs mobilières de l'Ontario

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# VIA SEDAR ONLY

August 29, 2002

Torys LLP Suite 3000 Maritime Life Tower Box 270, TD Centre Toronto, Ontario M5K 1N2

# Attention: Marlene J. Davidge

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

Re: CM Investment Management Inc., TAL Global Asset Management Inc.("TAL"), RBC Global Investment Management Inc., Scotia Cassels Investment Counsel Limited, Scotia Capital Inc., BMO Harris Investment Management Inc., BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., Guardian Group of Funds Ltd., Jones Heward Investment Counsel Inc., Natcan Investment Management Inc. ("Natcan"), and TD Asset Management Inc. (collectively, the "Applicants" or "Dealer Managers")

- MRRS Application under National Instrument 81-102, Mutual Funds ("NI 81-102")

- App. No. 755/02; Sedar Proj. Nos. 471675, 471711, 471715, 471723, 471736, 471739, 471742, 471808, 471812, 471815, 471820, 471825, 471832, 471834, 471835, 471836, 471837, 471840

By letter dated August 14, 2002, (the "Application"), you applied on behalf of the Applicants to the regulator or securities regulatory authority in each province and territory of Canada (collectively, the "Decision Makers") for discretionary relief from subsection 4.1(1) of NI 81-102. The Applicants have caused the Application to be made on behalf of the mutual funds named in Appendix A for which an Applicant acts as portfolio adviser, (the "Funds" or "Dealer Managed Funds").

Subsection 4.1(1) of NI 81-102 prohibits a dealer managed mutual fund from knowingly making an investment in a class of securities of an issuer, during the offering (the "Offering") or for 60 days after (the "60 Day Prohibition Period"), if the dealer manager or any of its associates or affiliates acts as underwriter of the Offering (the "Investment

Prohibition"). However, it does not apply if the dealer manager or any of its associates or affiliates only acts as a member of a selling group distributing five percent or less of the underwritten securities. You have requested discretionary relief from this provision to enable the Dealer Managed Funds of each Dealer Manager to invest in common shares of BCE Inc. during the 60 Day Prohibition Period, notwithstanding that the Dealer Manager or any of its associates or affiliates has acted as underwriter (collectively, the "Related Underwriters") of the Offering of common shares of BCE Inc. ("BCE Securities") pursuant to a prospectus and supplement dated August 1, 2002 and August 7, 2002 respectively (the "Relevant Offering").

From our review of the Application and other information communicated to staff, we understand the relevant facts and representations to be as follows:

- 1. Each Applicant is a "dealer manager" with respect to the Funds, and each Fund is a "dealer managed fund", as such terms are defined in section 1.1 of NI 81-102.
- 2. Except for Natcan and TAL, the head office of each Dealer Manager is in Toronto, Ontario. The head office of Natcan and TAL is in Montreal, Quebec.
- 3. The investment objective of each Dealer Managed Fund permits it to invest in equity securities.
- 4. The securities of all of the Dealer Managed Funds are qualified for distribution in one or more of the provinces and territories of Canada pursuant to simplified prospectuses and annual information forms that have been prepared and filed in accordance with their respective securities legislation.
- 5. Pursuant to a short form base shelf prospectus dated August 1, 2002, and a prospectus supplement dated August 7, 2002, (collectively, the "Prospectus") an offering in Canada and in the United States of BCE Securities has been made by BCE Inc. ("BCE" or the "Issuer"). The closing in respect of the distribution took place on Monday, August 12, 2002.
- 6. All of the Related Underwriters, together with a few other dealers, are parties to the underwriting agreement with the Issuer. RBC Dominion Securities Inc. is the lead underwriter.
- The offering of BCE Securities was for CDN \$1,809,300,000, with an overallotment option of an additional CDN \$268,950,000. RBC Dominion Securities Inc. has confirmed that the overallotment option was exercised in its entirety.

- 8. Common shares of the Issuer are listed on The Toronto Stock Exchange, the New York Stock Exchange and the Swiss Exchange. The Issuer is Canada's largest communication company. The Issuer's securities represents a significant component of the Canadian market and are therefore held by most managed portfolios. As of the close of business on August 12, 2002, BCE was the third largest security weighting in the S&P/TSX Composite Index and represented 4.05% thereof.
- 9. The Issuer is a "connected issuer", as defined in National Instrument 33-105 Underwriting Conflicts, of the Related Underwriters for the reasons set forth in the Prospectus. As disclosed in the Prospectus, the Related Underwriters are subsidiaries or affiliates of lenders (the "Lenders") that have made credit facilities (the "Credit Facilities") available to the Issuer. The total proceeds to be received by the by the Issuer from this Offering however will not be used to reduce indebtedness under the Credit Facilities . Furthermore, the decision to distribute common shares and the determination of the terms and conditions of this Offering were made through negotiations between the Issuer and the Related Underwriters without the involvement of the Lenders. The Related Underwriters derived no benefit from this Offering other than the remuneration described in the Prospectus payable by the Issuer. In addition, three of the directors of the Issuer are also directors of the bank which is the parent of RBC Dominion Securities Inc. One director of the Issuer is also the chairman of RBC Dominion Securities Inc.
- 10. The Dealer Managers have been informed by RBC Dominion Securities Inc. that, as is customary for such agreements, pursuant to the underwriting agreement with the Issuer, the underwriters were required to provide a certificate to the Issuer when the BCE Securities were out of distribution. RBC Dominion Securities Inc. has informed the Dealer Managers that such certificate was delivered to the Issuer on August 12, 2002. Issuers rely on such underwriters' certificates in not filing amendments to prospectuses if there are material adverse changes after the certificates are delivered. Accordingly, such certificates are given by underwriters only if they are satisfied that the distribution is complete .The Dealer Managers should therefore be permitted to rely on the representation from RBC Dominion Securities Inc. that such certificate was delivered to the Issuer Inc. and that the distribution is therefore complete.
- 11. As disclosed in the Prospectus, CDN \$900 million of the offering of the BCE Securities was bought by accounts managed by Capital Group International Inc. as well as mutual funds managed by Capital Research and Management Co., an affiliated US-based company. RBC Dominion Securities Inc. has advised that a majority of the total issue was purchased in the United States with the remainder purchased in Canada. The majority of the Canadian portion was purchased by

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institutional accounts, including mutual funds, with the remainder purchased by retail accounts. None of the Offering was purchased by the Related Underwriters for their own account.

- 12. Any purchase of common shares of the Issuer will be consistent with the investment objectives of the Dealer Managed Funds and in the best interests of the fund in the opinion of the relevant Dealer Manager.
- 13. To the extent that the same portfolio manager or team of portfolio managers of the Dealer Manager manages more than one Dealer Managed Fund, the common shares of the Issuer will be allocated fairly and in a manner consistent with the fiduciary duties of the portfolio manager or team of portfolio managers taking into account the amount of cash available to each fund for investment.

# Decision

This letter confirms that, based on the information provided in the Application, other communications to staff, and the facts and representations above, and for the purposes described in the Application, the Decision Makers hereby grant exemption from subsection 4.1(1) of NI 81-102, so that a Dealer Managed Fund of each Dealer Manager may make an investment in common shares of the Issuer during the 60 Day Prohibition Period, notwithstanding that a Related Underwriter has acted as underwriter in the Relevant Offering of such BCE Securities.

# **PROVIDED THAT**

- (1) at the time of each purchase (the "Purchase") of common shares of the Issuer by a Dealer Managed Fund pursuant to this Decision, the following conditions are satisfied:
  - a. the Purchase
    - i. represents the business judgment of the Dealer Manager uninfluenced by considerations other than the best interests of the Dealer Managed Fund, or
    - ii. is, in fact, in the best interests of the Dealer Managed Fund;
  - b. the Purchase is consistent with, or is necessary to meet, the investment objective of the Dealer Managed Fund as disclosed in its simplified prospectus;

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- c. the Dealer Managed Fund does not place the order to purchase, on a principal or agency basis, with a Related Underwriter;
- d. the Purchase will be made in the secondary market;
- (2) prior to effecting any Purchase pursuant to this Decision, the Dealer Managed Fund has in place written policies or procedures to ensure that,
  - a. there is compliance with the conditions of this Decision; and
  - b. in connection with any Purchase,
    - i. there are stated factors or criteria for allocating common shares of the Issuer purchased for two or more Dealer Managed Funds and other accounts managed by the Dealer Manager, and
    - ii. there is full documentation of the reasons for any allocation to a Dealer Managed Fund that departs from the stated allocation factors or criteria;
- (3) Related Underwriters of a Dealer Manager shall not solicit Purchases of common shares of the Issuer from the related Dealer Managed Funds;
- (4) each Purchase is made on The Toronto Stock Exchange or any other stock exchange on which the common shares of the Issuer are listed and traded;
- (5) the following particulars of each Purchase pursuant to this Decision are set out in a report\_certified by the Dealer Manager and filed on Sedar, in respect of each of the Dealer Managed Fund, no later than 30 days after the end of the 60 Day Prohibition Period:
  - a. i. the number of common shares of the Issuer purchased by the Dealer-Managed Fund,
    - ii. the price at which the purchase was made, and the date that the purchase was made,
    - iii. whether the lead underwriter or syndicate manager had indicated its intention (if any) to engage in market stabilization activities,
    - if the BCE Securities were purchased for two or more Dealer
      Managed Funds and other accounts managed by the Dealer
      Manager from the date of this Decision to the expiry of the 60 Day

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Prohibition Period, save and except for accounts that are managed by TD Asset Management Inc.'s Quantitative Capital Division, the aggregate amount so purchased and the percentage of such aggregate amount that was allocated to each Dealer Managed Fund, and

- v. the dealer from whom the Dealer Managed Fund purchased the BCE Securities and the fees or commissions, if any, paid by the Dealer Managed Fund in respect of such purchase;
- b. the Dealer Manager certifies that the Purchase
  - i. represented the business judgment of the Dealer Manager uninfluenced by considerations other than the best interest of the Dealer Managed Fund, or
  - ii. was, in fact, in the best interests of the Dealer Managed Fund; and
- (6) this Decision, as it relates to the jurisdiction of a Decision Maker, will terminate after the coming into force of any legislation or rule of that Decision Maker dealing with the matters regulated by section 4.1, of NI 81-102.

Yours truly

" Rander Pavalow@

Randee Pavalow Director Capital Markets Branch email: <u>rpavalov@osc.gov.on.ca</u>

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APPENDIX A TO EXEMPTION LETTER DATED August , 2002

#### **BMO HARRIS PRIVATE PORTFOLIOS**

BMO Harris Canadian Growth Equity Portfolio BMO Harris Canadian Conservative Equity Portfolio BMO Harris Canadian Income Equity Portfolio BMO Harris Canadian Dividend Income Portfolio BMO Harris Canadian Special Growth Portfolio

#### **BMO MUTUAL FUNDS (consolidated)**

BMO Monthly Income Fund BMO Asset Allocation Fund BMO RSP Global Balanced Fund BMO Dividend Fund BMO Equity Index Fund BMO Equity Fund BMO NAFTA Advantage Fund BMO RSP Global Opportunities Fund BMO Global Balanced Class BMO Global Opportunities Class

## **BMO NESBITT BURNS GROUP OF FUNDS**

BMO Nesbitt Burns Canadian Stock Selection Fund

## **CIBC MUTUAL FUNDS**

CIBC Monthly Income Fund CIBC Dividend Fund CIBC Balanced Fund CIBC Core Canadian Equity Fund Canadian Imperial Equity Fund CIBC Financial Companies Fund CIBC Global Equity Fund

## **CIBC PROTECTED FUNDS**

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5 Year Protected Balanced Index Fund

# **FRONTIERS® POOLS**

Frontiers Canadian Equity Pool

# **GUARDIAN GROUP OF FUNDS No. 3**

GGOF Guardian Dividend Growth Fund GGOF Guardian Monthly Dividend Fund Ltd. GGOF Guardian Monthly High Income Fund GGOF Centurian Canadian Balanced Fund GGOF Centurian Canadian Value Fund GGOF Centurian Global Value Fund GGOF Guardian Canadian Equity Fund GGOF Guardian Canadian Large Cap Fund GGOF Guardian Enterprise Fund GGOF Guardian Global Equity Fund GGOF Guardian International Equity Fund GGOF Alexandria Canadian Balanced Fund Jones Heward Fund Ltd. GGOF Alexandria Global Growth Fund GGOF Alexandria Global Technology Fund

## **IMPERIAL POOLS**

Imperial Canadian Equity Pool

## **MD FAMILY OF FUNDS**

MD Dividend Fund

## NATIONAL BANK MUTUAL FUNDS - 2002

National Bank Aggressive Diversified Fund National Bank Conservative Diversified Fund National Bank Intrepid Diversified Fund National Bank Moderate Diversified Fund National Bank Dividend Fund National Bank Retirement Balanced Fund National Bank Canadian Equity Fund Page -9-

National Bank Canadian Opportunities Fund

National Bank Canadian Index Plus Fund National Bank Protected Retirement Balanced Fund National Bank Protected Growth Balanced Fund National Bank Protected Canadian Equity Fund

# PINNACLE PROGRAM FUNDS

Pinnacle Strategic Balanced Fund Pinnacle Canadian Value Equity Fund Pinnacle Canadian Growth Equity Fund

# **RBC ADVISOR FUNDS**

RBC Advisor Blue Chip Canadian Equity Fund

# RENAISSANCE MUTUAL FUNDS

Renaissance Canadian Growth Fund Renaissance Canadian Balanced Fund Renaissance Canadian Balanced Value Fund Renaissance Canadian Core Value Fund Renaissance Tactical Allocation Fund

## **ROYAL MUTUAL FUNDS**

Royal Balanced Fund Royal Canadian Equity Fund Royal Monthly Income Fund Royal Dividend Fund Royal Tax Managed Return Fund Royal Canadian Value Fund Royal Balanced Growth Fund Royal Canadian Growth Fund

## SCOTIA MUTUAL FUNDS

Scotia Canadian Blue Chip Fund Scotia Canadian Balanced Fund Scotia Canadian Dividend Fund

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Scotia Canadian Growth Fund Scotia Young Investors Fund

# **TALVEST FUNDS No. 3**

Talvest Cdn. Equity Leaders Fund Talvest Dividend Fund Talvest Cdn. Asset Allocation Fund Talvest Global Asset Allocation RSP Fund Talvest Cdn. Equity Growth Fund

# **TD MUTUAL FUNDS**

TD Balanced Fund TD Canadian Equity Fund TD Canadian Stock Fund TD Canadian Value Fund TD Dividend Growth Fund TD Dividend Income Fund TD Monthly Income Fund TD North American Equity Fund

# **TD PRIVATE FUNDS**

TD Private Canadian Dividend Fund TD Private Canadian Equity Growth Fund TD Private North American Equity Growth Fund