# **CSA NOTICE AND REQUEST FOR COMMENT**

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO FORM 58-101F1 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DISCLOSURE OF NATIONAL INSTRUMENT 58-101 DISCLOSURE OF CORPORATE **GOVERNANCE PRACTICES AND** 

PROPOSED CHANGES TO NATIONAL POLICY 58-201 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE **GUIDELINES** 

**April 13, 2023** 

#### Introduction

The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA or we) are publishing for a 90-day comment period:

- proposed amendments to Form 58-101F1 Corporate Governance Disclosure (Form 58-101F1) of National Instrument 58-101 Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices (NI 58-101) pertaining to board nominations, board renewal and diversity, as well as ancillary amendments to section 1.1 Definitions of NI 58-101 (the **Proposed Amendments**); and
- proposed changes to National Policy 58-201 Corporate Governance Guidelines (NP 58-201) pertaining to board nominations, board renewal and diversity (the **Proposed Changes**),

(collectively, the **Proposed Amendments and Changes**).

The CSA is seeking comment on two approaches to build upon the existing disclosure requirements in Form 58-101F1 regarding the representation of women on boards and in executive officer positions and board renewal adopted by most CSA jurisdictions in 2014<sup>1</sup> (the **2014 Requirements**). While each approach is premised on different concepts discussed further below, both approaches are intended to provide enhanced, decision-useful information to investors to assist with their investment and voting decisions.

We are issuing this notice to solicit your comments on the Proposed Amendments and Changes, and in particular to seek feedback on which approach best meets the needs of stakeholders. The public comment period will end on July 12, 2023.

Although British Columbia and Prince Edward Island have not adopted the 2014 Requirements, all jurisdictions are consulting on the Proposed Amendments and Changes with a view to adopting them.

The text of the Proposed Amendments and Changes is included in Annexes C through G of this notice and will also be available on the websites of the following CSA jurisdictions:

www.albertasecurities.com www.bcsc.bc.ca www.fcaa.gov.sk.ca www.fcnb.ca

www.lautorite.gc.ca www.mbsecurities.ca nssc.novascotia.ca www.osc.ca

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Not adopted in British Columbia and Prince Edward Island. Adopted in Alberta in 2016.

# **Substance and Purpose**

The Proposed Amendments and Changes set out amendments to the corporate governance disclosure requirements in Form 58-101F1 and changes to the corporate governance guidelines in NP 58-201 pertaining to board nominations, board renewal and diversity.

In particular, the Proposed Amendments would require disclosure on aspects of diversity beyond the representation of women, while retaining the current disclosure requirements with respect to women included in the 2014 Requirements. The CSA recognizes the importance of providing investors with transparency on issuers' practices with respect to board and executive-level diversity. The Proposed Amendments are intended to elicit meaningful disclosure about how non-venture issuers identify and evaluate new candidates for nomination to the board, how they address board renewal, and how diversity is incorporated into those considerations. This is intended to reflect that the board's consideration of diversity is an integral component of the board's nomination and renewal processes.

The Proposed Changes would provide enhanced guidelines related to board nominations and would introduce guidelines on board renewal and board diversity in NP 58-201. This ensures that the guidelines in NP 58-201 adequately complement the disclosure requirements in Form 58-101F1, as amended by the Proposed Amendments.

The Proposed Amendments and Changes reflect the CSA's commitment to ensuring investors have the information they need to make informed investment and voting decisions. The main objectives of these proposals are to:

- increase transparency about diversity, including diversity beyond women, on boards and in executive officer positions;
- provide investors with decision-useful information that enables them to better understand how diversity ties into an issuer's strategic decisions; and
- provide guidance to issuers on corporate governance practices related to board nominations, board renewal and diversity.

The CSA is committed to engaging with Indigenous Peoples and organizations. We will continue to broaden our engagement as we advance our understanding of how to best approach this work. Input collected through such engagement conducted by individual CSA members will be shared within the CSA so that all members can benefit from the views obtained.

#### **Background**

The 2014 Requirements require non-venture issuers to provide disclosure on an annual basis in the following areas:

- director term limits and other mechanisms of board renewal;
- policies regarding the representation of women on the board;
- consideration of the representation of women in the director identification and selection process;
- consideration given to the representation of women in executive officer appointments;
- issuer's targets regarding the representation of women on the board and in executive officer positions; and
- number of women on the board and in executive officer positions.

The objective of the 2014 Requirements was to increase transparency for investors regarding the representation of women on boards and in executive officer positions, and the approach that issuers take in respect of such representation, to inform investment and voting decisions.

In recent years there have been several developments that have heightened the importance of considering diversity on boards and in executive officer positions, beyond women, including:

- As of January 1, 2020, distributing corporations governed by the Canada Business Corporations
   Act (CBCA) are required to provide prescribed diversity disclosure with respect to women,
   Indigenous peoples (First Nation, Inuit and Métis), persons with disabilities and members of
   visible minorities in connection with their annual meeting of shareholders held on or after such
   date.
- In February 2020, the Ontario Government established the Capital Markets Modernization Taskforce to review and modernize the Ontario capital markets. The Taskforce published a final report in January 2021, which includes recommendations pertaining to corporate board diversity.
- On October 1, 2020, institutional investors managing more than \$2.3 trillion in assets signed the Canadian Investor Statement on Diversity & Inclusion, an initiative to combat systemic inequities and advancing diversity and inclusion efforts.

In light of this heightened focus, CSA Staff undertook the following consultations, research and reviews related to diversity:

• Consultations – In May 2021, we announced consultations with a variety of stakeholders to better understand their needs and perspectives with respect to diversity, including diversity beyond women. The consultations were held through a variety of forums, including consultation papers, roundtables, meetings and other communications with stakeholders.

A high-level overview of the feedback from these consultations is as follows:

- o Diversity is an important consideration in investment and voting decisions.
- There is strong investor support in expanding the existing disclosure regime to consider diversity beyond women, while maintaining specific disclosure requirements regarding women.
- Diversity on boards and in executive officer positions is a critical component of good corporate governance.
- o Many stakeholders support guidelines related to diversity that provide issuers with flexibility to adapt them to their circumstances.
- o Institutional investors and proxy advisory firms are developing diversity-related policies which have resulted in disparate diversity disclosure practices among issuers.
- Some stakeholders expressed support for a consistent, standardized framework for diversity disclosure.
- Other stakeholders stressed that a flexible approach would be better suited to Canada's diverse capital markets and expressed concern with the disclosure of personal characteristics.
- Research The CSA also revisited and updated research on the approach to diversity by certain securities regulators outside of Canada. Annex B provides a summary of these approaches, which highlight an increasing focus on diversity generally, including diversity beyond women. The CSA continues to follow domestic and international developments related to diversity.

• Annual Reviews – We have considered issuer disclosure practices and key trends arising from eight annual reviews of public disclosure regarding women on boards and in executive officer positions conducted by several CSA jurisdictions since the adoption of the 2014 Requirements. Most recently, CSA Multilateral Staff Notice 58-314 Review of Disclosure Regarding Women on Boards and in Executive Officer Positions reports that the proportion of board seats held by women has increased from 11% to 24% during the eight-year period since the 2014 Requirements came into effect.

The Proposed Amendments and Changes were informed by these consultations, research and reviews.

# **Summary of the Proposed Amendments and Changes**

# **Proposed Amendments**

Two versions of Form 58-101F1 are presented for comment (**Form A** and **Form B**). Form A and Form B are generally aligned with respect to disclosure requirements related to board nominations and board renewal but reflect different approaches respecting diversity-related disclosure issuers must provide.

In this consultation, we are seeking feedback on both proposals. While all participating jurisdictions are consulting on both Form A and Form B, certain jurisdictions have expressed their preference for one proposal over the other. Specifically, the British Columbia Securities Commission, the Alberta Securities Commission, the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan and the Office of the Superintendent of Securities Northwest Territories support Form A and the Ontario Securities Commission supports Form B. The Autorité des marchés financiers, the Financial and Consumer Services Commission of New Brunswick, the Manitoba Securities Commission, the Nova Scotia Securities Commission, the Office of the Superintendent of Securities Newfoundland and Labrador, the Office of the Superintendent of Securities Nunavut, the Office of the Yukon Superintendent of Securities and the Superintendent of Securities Department of Justice and Public Safety Prince Edward Island have not expressed a preference at this time.

Both Form A and Form B are designed to increase transparency about diversity, including diversity beyond women, on boards and in executive officer positions, and provide investors with decision-useful information that enables them to better understand how diversity is addressed by an issuer. At a high level, the key components of each approach, represented in the design of the applicable form, are described below.

Form A would require an issuer to disclose its approach to diversity in respect of the board and executive officers, but would not mandate disclosure in respect of any specific groups, other than women. An issuer would be required to describe its chosen diversity objectives and how it would measure progress, and explain what mechanisms it has determined are appropriate for the issuer to achieve its diversity objectives. If an issuer chooses to collect data with respect to specific groups it identifies as being relevant for the issuer's approach to diversity, this data must be disclosed in a manner determined by the issuer. We acknowledge there may be a desire, by some investors, for comparability of such disclosure. However, the approach taken in Form A is intended to provide each issuer with flexibility to design practices and policies respecting how it will address diversity in its specific circumstances, and not requiring it to report data on any specific group. This approach also removes securities regulators from defining to whom an issuer's approach to diversity must apply, other than women.

Similar to the approach adopted under the CBCA (although differing to some degree on the identified categories utilized), Form B contemplates mandatory reporting on the representation of five designated groups, being women, Indigenous peoples, racialized persons, persons with disabilities and LGBTQ2SI+

persons, on boards and in executive officer positions. An issuer may also choose to voluntarily provide disclosure in respect of other groups beyond the designated groups. All such data would be required to be reported in standardized tabular format to promote consistency and comparability of such disclosure. The information reported must be based on voluntary self-disclosure by directors and executive officers. In addition, Form B would require disclosure regarding any written strategy, written policies and measurable objectives relating to diversity on an issuer's board.

The key difference between Form A and Form B is that the latter mandates disclosure on historically underrepresented groups. In doing so, it conforms to the approach taken in the CBCA and is intended to provide statistical data that is comparable amongst issuers in connection with these groups. Form A's approach is based on a view that securities regulators should not select categories of diversity, other than women, preferring to leave that to the issuer's determination as to what aspects of diversity are most beneficial to that issuer in advancing its business and strategy. In other words, a less prescriptive approach. It may also avoid limitations on the completeness of disclosure arising from the use of information resulting from voluntary self-identification in relation to the specified categories, although this issue may also arise from these or other categories chosen for use by issuers under Form A.

A more detailed comparison between the two forms, and in relation to the current disclosure requirements, can be found in Annex A. The text of the Proposed Amendments can be found in Annex C and Annex D (with Annex E providing proposed amendments to section 1.1 Definitions of NI 58-101 that would apply to Form B only).

# Existing disclosure requirements with respect to women

Form A and Form B substantially maintain the existing disclosure requirements with respect to women on boards and in executive officer positions under the 2014 Requirements. Under both forms, the current "comply or explain" disclosure model would continue to apply with respect to policies for women on boards and targets for women on boards and in executive officer positions. Both Form A and Form B also contemplate maintaining existing disclosures of data for women on boards and in executive officer positions. We consider it important that new disclosure requirements pertaining to diversity do not affect the substance of the 2014 Requirements that have been in use for over nine years and have provided valuable information to stakeholders. Notwithstanding the proposed expansion of the concept of diversity, we have heard that information on the representation of women on boards and in executive officer position continues to be important for many stakeholders.

#### Non-venture issuers

Both Form A and Form B would be applicable only to non-venture issuers, as is currently the case with the 2014 Requirements. The CSA is not currently proposing amendments to Form 58-101F2 *Corporate Governance Disclosure (Venture Issuers)*. We are consulting as to whether we should consider adapting the Proposed Amendments for application to venture issuers in a second phase of this project.

# **Proposed Changes to NP 58-201**

The Proposed Changes would provide enhanced guidelines for all issuers related to board nominations and would introduce guidelines on board renewal and board diversity in NP 58-201 to complement the disclosure requirements contained in Form 58-101F1, as amended by the Proposed Amendments.

Although these guidelines are not intended to be prescriptive, we would encourage issuers to consider them in developing their own corporate governance practices and to apply and adapt these guidelines based on their individual circumstances as they evolve. These corporate governance guidelines have been

formulated to achieve a balance between providing protection to investors and fostering fair and efficient capital markets, while recognizing that corporate governance is evolving.

The proposed guidelines would address the following:

- the responsibilities of the nominating committee;
- the written policy respecting the director nomination process;
- the use of a composition matrix;
- effective succession planning and the mechanisms of board renewal, including term limits;
- the written diversity policy; and
- targets for achieving diversity on the board and in executive officer positions.

Two versions of NP 58-201 are presented for comment (**Policy A** and **Policy B**). The guidelines pertaining to board nominations and board renewal are harmonized in both Policy A and Policy B; however, the guidelines pertaining to board diversity are different as to be compatible with the disclosure requirements provided in Form A and Form B, respectively.

The text of these guidelines can be found in Annex F and Annex G.

#### **Impact on Investors**

The Proposed Amendments are expected to be beneficial to investors. The Proposed Amendments are expected to enhance the quality of the information disclosed. This is expected to result in disclosure that is more meaningful and which provides information investors need to make informed investment and voting decisions.

# **Anticipated Costs and Benefits of the Proposed Amendments**

We believe the Proposed Amendments will enhance the quality of the disclosure to be provided to investors, which would enable investors to make better informed investment and voting decisions. We expect the Proposed Amendments will make disclosure easier for non-venture issuers by clarifying and streamlining disclosure requirements pertaining to board nominations, board renewal and diversity. As a result, we expect that the Proposed Amendments will not significantly increase regulatory burden. Accordingly, the Proposed Amendments will not compromise investor protection or the efficiency of the capital markets.

#### **Local Matters**

Where applicable, additional information by local securities legislation is published as an appendix to this notice.

#### **Request for Comments**

In addition to your comments on all aspects of the Proposed Amendments and Changes, we are seeking specific feedback on the following questions:

#### **Board** nominations

1. The Proposed Amendments would require the disclosure of the skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes of candidates that are considered and evaluated. Does this requirement raise concerns for issuers regarding disclosure of confidential or competitively sensitive information?

Please explain. (Please refer to the table entitled "Board Nominations" in Annex A for a description of this proposed requirement)

#### Approach to diversity

- 2. We are consulting on two alternatives with respect to the requirement to provide disclosure on the approach to diversity (Form A and Form B). Which approach best meets the needs of investors for making investing and voting decisions? Which Form best meets the needs of issuers in describing their approach to diversity at the board and executive officer level? Do either of the approaches raise concerns for issuers? Are there certain requirements in either form that you find preferable to the equivalent requirement in the other form? Please explain.
- 3. Is information on the diversity approach and objectives of issuers with respect to executive officer positions useful for investors? Does this requirement raise concerns for issuers? Please explain. (Please refer to the table entitled "Approach to Diversity Executive Officer Positions" in Annex A for a description of this proposed requirement)
- 4. Should issuers be required to disclose data about specified designated groups, consistent with the approach in Form B? Or should issuers be required to disclose data about women only and the identified groups for which they collect data, consistent with the approach in Form A? Please explain. (Please refer to the table entitled "Concept of Diversity" in Annex A for a description of "designated groups" and "identified group")
- 5. Would it be beneficial to require reported data to be disclosed in a common tabular format? Does this requirement raise concerns for issuers? Please explain.
- 6. For CBCA-incorporated issuers, are there issues or challenges in providing both CBCA disclosures and the disclosure proposed under either Form A or Form B? Please explain.

#### Application to venture issuers

7. Should we consider developing similar disclosure requirements for venture issuers in a second phase of this project? If so, should any changes be made to the proposed disclosure requirements to reflect the different stages of development and circumstances of venture issuers? Please explain.

Please submit your comments in writing on or before **July 12, 2023**. If you are not sending your comments by email, please send us an electronic file containing the submissions (in Microsoft Word Format).

Address your submission to all of the CSA jurisdictions as follows:

Alberta Securities Commission
Autorité des marchés financiers
British Columbia Securities Commission
Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan
Financial and Consumer Services Commission, New Brunswick
Manitoba Securities Commission
Nova Scotia Securities Commission
Office of the Superintendent of Securities, Newfoundland and Labrador
Office of the Superintendent of Securities, Northwest Territories
Office of the Superintendent of Securities Nunavut

Office of the Yukon Superintendent of Securities

**Ontario Securities Commission** 

Superintendent of Securities, Department of Justice and Public Safety, Prince Edward Island Send your comments to the following addresses listed below. Your comments will be forwarded to the remaining jurisdictions.

The Secretary Me Philippe Lebel

Ontario Securities Commission Corporate Secretary and Executive Director, Legal Affairs

20 Queen Street WestAutorité des marchés financiers22nd Floor, Box 55Place de la Cité, tour CominarToronto, Ontario2640, boulevard Laurier, bureau 400

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Fax: 416-593-2318 Fax: 514-864-6381

Email: comment@osc.gov.on.ca Email: consultation-en-cours@lautorite.qc.ca

We cannot keep submissions confidential because securities legislation in certain provinces requires publication of the written comments received during the comment period. All comments received will be posted on the websites of each of the Autorité des marchés financiers at www.lautorite.qc.ca and the Ontario Securities Commission at www.osc.gov.on.ca. Therefore, you should not include personal information directly in comments to be published. It is important that you state on whose behalf you are making the submission.

# **Content of Annexes**

This notice contains the following annexes:

- Annex A: Detailed comparison of Form A and Form B with current disclosure requirements
- Annex B: Approach to diversity by certain securities regulators outside of Canada
- Annex C: Proposed amendments to NI 58-101 and Form 58-101F1 (Form A)
- Annex D: Proposed amendments to NI 58-101 and Form 58-101F1 (Form B)
- Annex E: Proposed amendments to section 1.1 Definitions of NI 58-101
- Annex F: Proposed changes to NP 58-201 (Compatible with Form A)
- Annex G: Proposed changes to NP 58-201 (Compatible with Form B)

#### **Questions**

Please refer your questions to any of the following:

**British Columbia Securities Commission** 

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**Ontario Securities Commission** 

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# ANNEX A

# DETAILED COMPARISON OF FORM A AND FORM B WITH CURRENT DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

The following tables provide a more detailed comparison of Form A and Form B with the current disclosure requirements.

# **Board Nominations**

Current disclosure requirements (Item 6 of Form 58-101F1)	Proposed Amendments in Form A and Form B (Item 6 of Form 58-101F1)
Describe the process by which the board identifies new candidates for board nomination.	The Proposed Amendments would expand on the current requirements by requiring disclosure on how the board identifies and evaluates new candidates for nomination to the board.
Disclose whether or not the board has a nomination committee composed entirely of independent directors. If the board does not have a nomination committee composed entirely of independent directors, describe what steps the board takes to encourage an objective nomination process.	Comparable requirements.
Describe the responsibilities, powers and operation of the nominating committee.	A description of the responsibilities, powers and operation of the nominating committee would no longer be required.
No requirement to disclose information about a written policy respecting the nomination process.	The Proposed Amendments would require disclosure about whether the board has a written policy respecting the nomination process. If the board does not have a written policy respecting the nomination process, the issuer would have to explain how the board carries out the nomination process.
	Form B asks whether the written policy respecting the nomination process addresses the nomination of persons from the designated groups (as defined). The concept of "designated group" is discussed below under "Approach to Diversity". In contrast, Form A does not refer to diversity when discussing the written policy but rather considers all diversity questions in the "Approach to Diversity" section, as described below.
Current requirements are silent on other aspects of the nomination process.	<ul> <li>The Proposed Amendments would require the following disclosure:</li> <li>How any conflicts of interest that arise or could arise during the nomination process are managed;</li> <li>Whether the board has a composition matrix setting out the mix of skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes that the board currently has or is looking to achieve in its</li> </ul>

Current disclosure requirements (Item 6 of	Proposed Amendments in Form A and Form B (Item 6 of Form 58-101F1)
Form 58-101F1)	30 1011 1)
	membership; and
	The skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes of
	candidates that are considered when evaluating a candidate.

# **Board Renewal**

Current disclosure requirements (Item 10 of	Proposed Amendments in Form A and Form B (Item 6.1 of Form 58-101F1)
Form 58-101F1)	36-101F1)
Disclose whether or not an issuer has adopted term limits or other mechanisms of board renewal and, if so, describe the term limits and other mechanisms.	The Proposed Amendments would require a broader description of <i>how</i> the board addresses renewal. In addition to the current requirements, they would require a description of how any such mechanisms, other than term limits, contribute to effective board renewal.
If an issuer has not adopted director term limits or other mechanisms of board renewal, it must explain why.	Comparable requirements.

# **Approach to Diversity**

<b>Current disclosure</b>	<b>Proposed Amendments in</b>	<b>Proposed Amendments in Form</b>		
requirements (Items 11 to 15	Form A (Items 6.2 and 6.3 of	B (Items 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 of		
of Form 58-101F1)	Form 58-101F1)	Form 58-101F1)		
Concept of diversity				
Current disclosure requirements focus solely on women.	Form A would introduce the concept of "identified group", meaning a group of individuals with a shared personal characteristic, whose representation on the issuer's board or in its executive officer positions has been identified by the issuer as being part of the issuer's strategy respecting diversity, but does not include women.	Form B would introduce the concept of "designated groups", meaning persons who self-identify as one or more of the following: Indigenous peoples, LGBTQ2SI+ persons, racialized persons, persons with disabilities or women. Each of these groups (except women) would also be defined.  Issuers would have to disclose		
	The instructions specify that for greater certainty, an "identified group" under Item 6.2 can include, without limitation, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, members of the LGBTQ2SI+	information with respect to these groups. These are the same designated groups under the CBCA with the addition of LGBTQ2SI+ persons.		

community and members of linguistic minorities.

The concept of "identified group" is broad and adaptable allowing issuers to include any group of individuals with a shared personal characteristic. Effectively, Form A would mandate disclosures with respect to women and any identified groups that have been identified by the issuer as being part of its strategy respecting diversity.

# Approach to diversity - Board

Disclose details of any written policy relating to the identification and nomination of women directors, and whether the level of representation of women is considered in the nomination process.

If an issuer does not have a policy or does not consider the level of representation of women, it must explain why.

(Items 11 and 12 of Form 58-101F1)

Form A would require the issuer to describe its approach to achieving or maintaining diversity on its board, including its objectives as they relate to women and to individuals from identified groups, mechanisms that the issuer has in place to achieve those objectives, how the issuer measures achievement, and the annual and cumulative achievement of the objectives.

Any written policy or process the board has adopted as it relates to women and to individuals from identified groups would also have to be disclosed. If the issuer has not adopted such a policy or process, it would have to explain why.

Form A refers to an issuer's "approach" and "objectives" with respect to board diversity, recognizing that not all issuers may have a formal strategy on diversity but may still consider diversity in their board nominations.

Form B would require the issuer to describe its written strategy regarding achieving or maintaining diversity on the board, including any written policy the board has adopted as it relates to the representation on the board by persons from the designated groups (as defined).

If an issuer has not adopted such a policy, it would have to explain why.

Form B refers to an issuer's "written strategy". The intention is to focus on a transparent articulation of the issuer's approach to diversity and the desired objectives that directors and other stakeholders can look to.

# **Approach to diversity – Executive officer positions**

Disclose whether the issuer considers the representation of women in executive officer

Form A would require the same information on the diversity approach and objectives with

Form B would not require disclosure on the consideration of diversity when making executive appointments. If an issuer does respect to executive officer officer appointments or an not consider the level of positions as would be required issuer's approach to talent representation of women in for the board. management for executive executive officer positions, it officers as such granular disclosure may increase must explain why. The narrative disclosure is intended to provide greater regulatory burden without context to the required corresponding benefit for (Item 13 of Form 58-101F1) disclosure on targets and data investors. with respect to executive officer positions (as described below). Targets and other measurable objectives Disclose whether the issuer Form A would require Form B would require disclosure about targets for has adopted targets for women substantially similar information on the board and in executive women as well as individuals as Form A with respect to targets, officer positions, and the target from identified groups on the except that the disclosure would and annual and cumulative board and in executive officer be with respect to designated progress in achieving those groups (as defined). Additionally, positions. For each target, the targets. If an issuer has not Form B would require much of actual target number or adopted such targets, it must percentage, or range of numbers this disclosure to be presented in a explain why. or percentages the issuer has set, standardized tabular format. the timeframe for achieving the (Item 14 of Form 58-101F1) target, and the annual and In addition, Form B would require cumulative achievement of the disclosure with respect to any measurable objectives of the target would have to be disclosed. issuer's written strategy, other than targets, that relate to the If an issuer has not set targets representation of the designated for women and for individuals groups (as defined). This from identified groups, it would requirement is similar to the one have to explain why. described in the Approach to diversity – Board for Form A. Data Disclose the number and Form A would extend the Form B would require disclosure to be presented in a standardized proportion of women on the current disclosure requirements board and in executive officer to also include disclosure of data tabular format about: positions. on the representation of individuals from identified the number of board members (Item 15 of Form 58-101F1) groups, but only if the issuer and executive officers who collects such data. This data identify as a member of a could continue to be provided in designated group (as defined), narrative form. as a member of other diverse groups identified by the board or as a member of more than one designated group (over a three year period); and the number of women, as well as individuals from

designated groups (as defined) that filled vacant board seats during the year.

#### ANNEX B

# APPROACH TO DIVERSITY BY CERTAIN SECURITIES REGULATORS OUTSIDE OF CANADA

The following is a summary of the approach to diversity by certain securities regulators outside of Canada.

- Financial Conduct Authority of the United Kingdom (FCA) On April 20, 2022, the FCA published Policy Statement PS22/3² in which it sets out its final policy decision for the proposals in CP 21/24 Diversity and inclusion on company boards and executive committees. The disclosures will require companies to disclose whether they have met certain diversity targets or explain why they have not. Companies will also be required to provide numerical reporting on the representation of gender and ethnicity on the board and at senior levels of executive management in a prescribed tabular format.
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) During the SEC's 2020 remarks to the Council of Institutional Investors, SEC Commissioner Allison Lee specially noted that the SEC needs to do more in terms of a specific mandate for diversity. The SEC's Spring 2022 regulatory agenda also indicates that the Division of Corporation Finance is considering recommending that the SEC propose rule amendments to enhance registrant disclosures about the diversity of board members and nominees.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Financial Conduct Authority (2022) *Diversity and Inclusion on Company Boards and Executive Management*. https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/policy/ps22-3.pdf

#### ANNEX C

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL INSTRUMENT 58-101 DISCLOSURE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

#### **AND**

#### FORM 58-101F1 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DISCLOSURE (FORM A)

- 1. National Instrument 58-101 Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices is amended by this Instrument.
- 2. In British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, section 1.1 is amended by adding the following definition<sup>1</sup>:

"major subsidiary" has the same meaning as in National Instrument 55-104 *Insider Reporting Requirements and Exemptions*.

3. Form 58-101F1 Corporate Governance Disclosure is amended by replacing Item 6 with the following:

#### 6. Board Nominations —

Describe how the board identifies and evaluates new candidates for nomination to the board, including, for greater certainty:

- (a) whether the board has a nominating committee, and if so, whether the nominating committee is composed entirely of independent directors;
- (b) if the board does not have a nominating committee, or if the nominating committee is not composed entirely of independent directors, what steps the board takes to encourage an objective nomination process;
- (c) any written policy respecting the nomination process;
- (d) if the board does not have a written policy respecting the nomination process, how the board carries out the nomination process;
- (e) how the board manages any conflicts of interest that arise or could arise during the nomination process;
- (f) whether the board has a composition matrix setting out the mix of skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes that the board currently has and is looking to obtain in its membership;
- (g) the skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes of candidates that are considered when evaluating a candidate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This definition is currently effective only in Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon.

#### 6.1 Board Renewal —

Describe how the board addresses board renewal, including, for greater certainty:

- (a) any term limits for directors that the board has adopted;
- (b) any mechanisms of board renewal, other than term limits for directors, adopted by the board and how the mechanisms contribute to board renewal;
- (c) if the board has not adopted term limits for directors or other mechanisms of board renewal, why it has not done so.

## 6.2 Approach to Diversity —

In this Form, "identified group" means a group of individuals with a shared personal characteristic, whose representation on the issuer's board or in its executive officer positions has been identified by the issuer as being part of the issuer's strategy respecting diversity, but does not include women.

Describe the issuer's approach to achieving or maintaining diversity on its board and its executive officer positions, including, for greater certainty:

- (a) the issuer's objectives as they relate to women and to individuals from identified groups on the board and in executive officer positions;
- (b) the mechanisms that the issuer has in place to achieve the objectives referred to in paragraph (a);
- (c) how the issuer measures achievement of the objectives referred to in paragraph (a);
- (d) the annual and cumulative achievement of the objectives referred to in paragraph (a);
- (e) any written policy or process that the board has adopted as it relates to women and to individuals from identified groups;
- (f) if the board has not adopted a policy or process referred to in paragraph (e), why it has not done so:
- (g) whether the issuer has set a target number or percentage, or a range of numbers or percentages, regarding the representation of the following groups by a specific date:
  - (i) women on the issuer's board;
  - (ii) individuals from identified groups on the issuer's board;
  - (iii) women in executive officer positions of the issuer; and
  - (iv) individuals from identified groups in executive officer positions of the issuer;

- (h) if the issuer has set one or more targets for women and for individuals from identified groups, referred to in paragraph (g):
  - (i) the target number or percentage, or range of numbers or percentages, the issuer has set;
  - (ii) the timeframe for achieving the targets; and
  - (iii) the annual and cumulative achievement of the targets;
- (i) if the issuer has not set targets for women and for individuals from identified groups, referred to in paragraph (g), why it has not done so.
- 6.3 Number of Women and Individuals from Identified Groups on the Issuer's Board and in Executive Officer Positions —
- (a) Disclose the number and proportion (in percentage terms) of directors on the issuer's board who are women.
- (b) Disclose the number and proportion (in percentage terms) of executive officers of the issuer, including all major subsidiaries of the issuer, who are women.
- (c) If the issuer collects data on the number and proportion of directors on the issuer's board who are from identified groups, disclose the number and proportion (in percentage terms).
- (d) If the issuer collects data on the number and proportion of executive officers of the issuer, including all major subsidiaries of the issuer, who are from identified groups, disclose the number and proportion (in percentage terms).
- 4. In Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon, Form 58-101F1 is amended by repealing Items 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.
- 5. In Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon, the Instructions of Form 58-101F1 are amended by repealing instructions 4 and 5.
- 6. In Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon, the Instructions of Form 58-101F1 are amended by adding the following instruction:
  - (6) For greater certainty an "identified group" under Item 6.2 can include, without limitation, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, members of the LGBTQ2SI+ community and members of linguistic minorities.
- 7. In British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, the Instructions of Form 58-101F1 are amended by adding the following instruction:

- (X) For greater certainty an "identified group" under Item 6.2 can include, without limitation, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, members of the LGBTQ2SI+ community and members of linguistic minorities.
- 8. (1) This Instrument comes into force on  $\bullet$ .
  - (2) In Saskatchewan, despite subsection (1), if these regulations are filed with the Registration of Regulations after [insert date], these regulations will come into force on the day on which they are filed with the Registrar of Regulations.

#### ANNEX D

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL INSTRUMENT 58-101 DISCLOSURE OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

#### **AND**

# FORM 58-101F1 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DISCLOSURE (FORM B)

- 1. National Instrument 58-101 Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices is amended by this Instrument.
- 2. Section 1.1 is amended by adding the following definitions:
  - "designated group" means any of the following: Indigenous peoples, LGBTQ2SI+ persons, racialized persons, persons with disabilities or women;
  - "Indigenous peoples" means persons who are First Nations, Inuit or Métis of Canada;
  - "LGBTQ2SI+ persons" includes persons who are any of the following: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, 2-spirit, intersex or queer;
  - "persons with disabilities" means persons who have a long-term or recurring physical, mental, sensory, psychiatric or learning impairment and who
    - (a) consider themselves to be disadvantaged in employment by reason of that impairment, or
  - (b) believe that an employer or potential employer is likely to consider them to be disadvantaged in employment by reason of that impairment and includes persons whose functional limitations owing to their impairment have been accommodated in their current job or workplace;
  - "racialized persons" means persons, other than Indigenous peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour:
- 3. In British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, section 1.1 is amended by adding the following definition<sup>1</sup>:
  - "major subsidiary" has the same meaning as in National Instrument 55-104 *Insider Reporting Requirements and Exemptions*.
- 4. Form 58-101F1 Corporate Governance Disclosure is amended by replacing Item 6 with the following:
  - 6. Board Nominations —

Describe how the board identifies and evaluates new candidates for nomination to the board, including, for greater certainty:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This definition is currently effective only in Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon.

- (a) whether the board has a nominating committee, and if so, whether the nominating committee is composed entirely of independent directors;
- (b) if the board does not have a nominating committee, or if the nominating committee is not composed entirely of independent directors, what steps the board takes to encourage an objective nomination process;
- (c) any written policy respecting the nomination process, including, for greater certainty, the nomination of persons from the designated groups;
- (d) if the board does not have a written policy respecting the nomination process, how the board carries out the nomination process;
- (e) how the board manages any conflicts of interest that arise or could arise during the nomination process;
- (f) whether the board has a composition matrix setting out the mix of skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes that the board currently has and is looking to obtain in its membership;
- (g) the skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes of candidates that are considered when evaluating a candidate.

#### 6.1 Board Renewal—

Describe how the board addresses board renewal, including, for greater certainty:

- (a) any term limits for directors that the board has adopted;
- (b) any mechanisms of board renewal, other than term limits for directors, adopted by the board and how the mechanisms contribute to board renewal;
- (c) if the board has not adopted term limits for directors or other mechanisms of board renewal, why it has not done so.

# 6.2 Approach to Diversity—

Describe the issuer's written strategy regarding achieving or maintaining diversity on the board, including:

- (a) any written policy that the board has adopted as it relates to the representation on the board by persons from the designated groups; and
- (b) if the board has not adopted a policy referred to in paragraph (a), why it has not done so.

#### 6.3 Targets and Other Measurable Objectives—

(a) Disclose whether the issuer has set a target number or percentage, or a range of numbers or percentages, regarding the representation of the following groups to be achieved by a specific date:

- (i) women on the issuer's board;
- (ii) persons from the designated groups other than women on the issuer's board;
- (iii) women in executive officer positions of the issuer; and
- (iv) persons from the designated groups other than women in executive officer positions of the issuer.
- (b) If the issuer has not set a target for each group referred to in paragraph (a), disclose why it has not done so.
- (c) If the issuer has set a target referred to in paragraph (a), complete the following table as at the issuer's most-recently completed fiscal year end.

	Target	Timeframe for	Annual and
		achieving the target	cumulative progress in achieving the target
Women on the issuer's board	[Insert number or percentage or a range of numbers or percentages of women on the board]	[Insert the date for achievement of target]	[Insert year in which the target was achieved or if it has not been achieved insert "not applicable".  If the target was previously achieved but the number or percentage of women on the board is below the target, provide this information.]  Discuss the issuer's progress in meeting and maintaining the target.
Persons from designated groups (other than women) on the issuer's board	[Insert number or percentage or a range of numbers or percentages of persons from designated groups (other than women) on the board]	[Insert the date for achievement of target]	[Insert year in which the target was achieved or if it has not been achieved insert "not applicable".  If the target was previously achieved but the number or percentage of persons from designated groups

			(other than women) on the board is below the target, provide this information.] Discuss the issuer's progress in meeting and maintaining the target.
Women in executive officer positions of the issuer	[Insert number or percentage or a range of numbers or percentages of women in executive officer positions of the issuer]	[Insert the date for achievement of target]	[Insert year in which the target was achieved or if it has not been achieved insert "not applicable".  If the target was previously achieved but the number or percentage of women in executive officer positions is below the target, provide this information.]  Discuss the issuer's progress in meeting and maintaining the target.
Persons from designated groups (other than women) in executive officer positions of the issuer	[Insert number or percentage or a range of numbers or percentages of persons from designated groups (other than women) in executive officer positions of the issuer]	[Insert the date for achievement of target]	[Insert year in which the target was achieved or if it has not been achieved insert "not applicable".  If the target was previously achieved but the number or percentage of persons from designated groups (other than women) in executive officer positions is currently below the target, provide this information.]  Discuss the issuer's progress in meeting and maintaining the target.

- (d) Describe any measurable objectives of the issuer's written strategy, other than targets, that relate to the representation of persons from the designated groups, including:
  - (i) the mechanisms that the issuer has implemented to achieve the objectives;
  - (ii) how the issuer measures progress in achieving the objectives; and
  - (iii) the annual and cumulative progress achieved in respect of the objectives.

# 6.4 Number of Persons from Designated Groups on the Issuer's Board and in Executive Officer Positions—

(a) Complete the following table as at the issuer's most-recent fiscal year end date and as at the fiscal year end for each of the two preceding years.

	[insert year]	[insert year]	[insert year]
Number of directors on the issuer's board who self-identify as:			
Women			
Indigenous peoples			
LGBTQ2SI+ persons			
Persons with disabilities			
Racialized persons			
Number of individuals that are members of more than one designated group			
Total number of the directors on the issuer's board			

(b) Complete the following table in respect of the issuer's most recent completed fiscal year.

	[insert
	year]
Number of board seats filled during the year by directors who self-identify as:	
Women	
Persons from designated groups, other than women	
Total number of board seats filled in the year	

(c) Complete this table as at the issuer's most recent fiscal year end date and as at the fiscal year end for each of the two preceding years.

	[insert	[insert	[insert
	year]	year]	year]
Number of the issuer's executive officers who self-identify as:			
Women			
Indigenous			
LGBTQ2SI+			
Persons with disabilities			
Racialized persons			
Number of individuals that are members of more than one designated			
group			
Total number of executive officers			

- 5. In Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon, Form 58-101F1 is amended by repealing Items 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.
- 6. In Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon, the Instructions of Form 58-101F1 are amended by repealing instructions 4 and 5.
- 7. In Alberta, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Northwest Territories, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Ontario, Québec, Saskatchewan and Yukon, the Instructions of Form 58-101F1 are amended by adding the following instruction:
  - (6) The information reported in item 6.4 must be based on voluntary disclosure (i.e. self-identification) by board members and executive officers. This information is reported in the aggregate and, as such, does not require disclosure about how any one individual self-identifies. Issuers are responsible for compliance with all applicable privacy laws.
- 8. In British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, the Instructions of Form 58-101F1 are amended by adding the following instruction:
  - (X) The information reported in item 6.4 must be based on voluntary disclosure (i.e. self-identification) by board members and executive officers. This information is reported in the aggregate and, as such, does not require disclosure about how any one individual self-identifies. Issuers are responsible for compliance with all applicable privacy laws.
- 9. (1) This Instrument comes into force on •.
  - (2) In Saskatchewan, despite subsection (1), if these regulations are filed with the Registration of Regulations after [insert date], these regulations will come into force on the day on which they are filed with the Registrar of Regulations.

#### ANNEX E

# PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SECTION 1.1 DEFINITIONS OF NATIONAL INSTRUMENT 58-101 (APPLICABLE TO FORM B)

# PART 1 – DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION

#### 1.1 Definitions – In this Instrument,

"designated group" means any of the following: Indigenous peoples, LGBTQ2SI+ persons, racialized persons, persons with disabilities or women;

"Indigenous peoples" means persons who are First Nations, Inuit or Métis of Canada;

"LGBTQ2SI+ persons" includes persons who are any of the following: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, 2-spirit, intersex or queer;

"persons with disabilities" means persons who have a long-term or recurring physical, mental, sensory, psychiatric or learning impairment and who

- (a) consider themselves to be disadvantaged in employment by reason of that impairment, or
- (b) believe that an employer or potential employer is likely to consider them to be disadvantaged in employment by reason of that impairment,

and includes persons whose functional limitations owing to their impairment have been accommodated in their current job or workplace;

"racialized persons" means persons, other than Indigenous peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour:

#### ANNEX F

# PROPOSED CHANGES TO NATIONAL POLICY 58-201 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES (COMPATIBLE WITH FORM B)

- 1. National Policy 58-201 Corporate Governance Guidelines is changed by this Document.
- 2. Section 1.1 is changed:
  - (a) by deleting "We do, however, understand that some parties have concerns about how this Policy and National Instrument 58-101 Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices affect controlled companies. Accordingly, we intend, over the next year, to carefully consider these concerns in the context of a study to examine the governance of controlled companies. We will consult market participants in conducting the study. After completing the study, we will consider whether to change how this Policy and National Instrument 58-101 treat controlled companies.", and
  - (b) by adding "and to apply and adapt these guidelines based on their individual circumstances as they evolve." immediately after "We encourage issuers to consider the guidelines in developing their own corporate governance practices".
- 3. Section 2.1 is changed by replacing "he or she" with "the director".
- 4. This Document is changed by adding the following sections:
  - 3.11.1 The nominating committee should be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the board in relation to:
    - (a) the appropriate size of the board, with a view to effective decision-making;
    - (b) board succession planning;
    - (c) orientation and continuing education for directors;
    - (d) the development and implementation of a process for assessing the effectiveness of the board, its committees and directors; and
    - (e) the process for director recruitment.
  - 3.11.2 A board should have a composition matrix setting out the mix of skills, knowledge, experience, competencies, attributes and independence that the board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership. In order for the board to effectively fulfill its mandate and address existing and emerging business and governance issues relevant to the issuer, the board should regularly review the composition matrix and use this review process to recruit new directors or provide continuing education opportunities to existing directors.
  - 3.11.3 The board should adopt a written policy respecting the director nomination process that sets out the process used in relation to director appointments and the board's approach to succession planning.
  - 3.11.4 Recommendations for appointments to the board should be based on objective criteria. In making its recommendations, the nominating committee should consider the skills,

knowledge, experience, competencies, attributes and level of independence that:

- (a) are necessary for the board, as a whole, to function effectively; and
- (b) are held by each existing director and each new nominee.

The nominating committee should also consider whether or not each new nominee can devote sufficient time and resources to their duties as a board member.

#### **Board Renewal**

- 3.11.5 The board should maintain an effective succession plan for directors, which:
  - (a) provides a transparent process and timeline for replacing board members so as to ensure that necessary skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes are maintained:
  - (b) maintains a mix of longer-serving directors with a deep understanding of the issuer and its business and newer directors with fresh ideas and perspective; and
  - (c) maintains the board's independence from management.
- 3.11.6 The board should adopt mechanisms of board renewal that are appropriate to its circumstances. These mechanisms may include:
  - (a) establishing director term limits;
  - (b) assessing the effectiveness of an individual director when proposing the director as a candidate for re-election to the board; and
  - (c) using a composition matrix to identify gaps in the board's collective skills, knowledge, experience, competencies, attributes and independence.
- 3.11.7 If an issuer establishes term limits, factors that may be considered include:
  - (a) the board's current size and composition and its composition matrix;
  - (b) the board's independence from management and the issuer's ownership structure;
  - (c) characteristics of the issuer, including its industry, size and stage of development;
  - (d) the existence of other mechanisms, such as regular assessments, to ensure the effectiveness of board members.

#### **Diversity and Targets**

- 3.11.8 A board should adopt a written diversity policy to promote a broad range of perspectives and experiences on the board. The policy should:
  - (a) reflect a commitment to ensuring that recruitment of directors is appropriately structured so that a diverse range of candidates are considered;
  - (b) include the following as considerations for the board when identifying new candidates:
    - qualifications, including skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes the board identifies as necessary for the board to effectively fulfill its mandate and address existing and emerging business and governance issues relevant to the issuer;

- (ii) characteristics that will foster a board culture that welcomes multiple perspectives and is free of conscious or unconscious bias and discrimination, and that contribute to board diversity;
- (iii) legal and regulatory requirements, such as those relating to residency and independence;
- (c) set out objectives regarding diversity on the board that are specific, measurable and time bound:
- (d) discuss the ability of the board or nominating committee to engage independent advisors to assist in identifying candidates and require advisors to present a diverse slate of candidates for consideration;
- (e) set out the responsibility of the board or nominating committee to consider any changes to the policy, the board composition and recruitment process that are necessary to achieve the objectives outlined in the policy; and
- (f) consider the board and nominating committee's effectiveness at implementing the policy during regular assessments.
- 3.11.9 For purposes of this Policy, a "target" has the same meaning as in Form 58-101F1 under National Instrument 58-101 *Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices*. A board should set measurable and time-bound objectives, such as targets, for achieving diversity in the composition of its board and executive officer positions. If a board sets targets for the representation of any of the groups referenced in Item 6.4 of Form 58-101F1, the board should review and assess the appropriateness of the targets on an annual basis. When considering an appropriate target, a board should consider various factors, including
  - (a) the board's current size and composition and its composition matrix;
  - (b) characteristics of the issuer, including its industry, size and stage of development, location of its operations and stakeholders;
  - (c) the issuer's investors and their expectations regarding diversity on the board and executive officers; and
  - (d) whether the issuer has a truth and reconciliation action plan regarding its relationship with Indigenous peoples or its business operations intersect with an Indigenous right, title, or jurisdiction.

Other mechanisms for achieving diversity in the composition of its board and executive officer positions may include establishing a diversity council, implementing training and leadership programs, and expanding strategic outreach directed at developing a diverse pipeline of candidates for director and executive officer positions.

# 5. Sections 3.12, 3.13 and 3.14 are deleted.

## 6. Section 3.18 is changed by

- (a) replacing "his, her" with "their",
- (b) in paragraph (a) adding "composition and how effectively directors work together to achieve the objectives of the issuer;" after "in the case of the board or a board committee, its mandate or charter,", and
- (c) in paragraph (b) replacing "competencies and skills" with "skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes".

7. These changes become effective on  $[\bullet]$ .

#### ANNEX G

# PROPOSED CHANGES TO NATIONAL POLICY 58-201 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE GUIDELINES (COMPATIBLE WITH FORM A)

- 1. National Policy 58-201 Corporate Governance Guidelines is changed by this Document.
- 2. Section 1.1 is changed by
  - (a) replacing "The guidelines in this Policy are not intended to be prescriptive. We encourage issuers to consider the guidelines in developing their own corporate governance practices" with the following
    - "The guidelines in this Policy are not intended to be prescriptive. We recognize that there is a wide range of issuers in the Canadian market that may be at different stages in their development generally. For example, many venture issuers may not have developed sophisticated corporate governance practices, while many smaller non-venture issuers may be in the earlier stages of developing corporate governance policies. Specifically, we acknowledge issuers may find it challenging to incorporate certain of the guidelines below that address diversity. We therefore encourage issuers to consider the guidelines in developing their own corporate governance practice and to apply these guidelines based on their individual circumstances as they evolve.", and
  - (b) deleting "We do, however, understand that some parties have concerns about how this Policy and National Instrument 58-101 Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices affect controlled companies. Accordingly, we intend, over the next year, to carefully consider these concerns in the context of a study to examine the governance of controlled companies. We will consult market participants in conducting the study. After completing the study, we will consider whether to change how this Policy and National Instrument 58-101 treat controlled companies.".
- 3. Section 2.1 is changed by replacing "he or she" with "the director'.
- 4. This Document is changed by adding the following sections:
  - 3.11.1 The nominating committee should be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the board in relation to:
    - (a) the appropriate size of the board, with a view to effective decision-making;
    - (b) board succession planning;
    - (c) orientation and continuing education for directors;
    - (d) the development and implementation of a process for assessing the effectiveness of the board, its committees and directors; and
    - (e) the process for director recruitment.

- 3.11.2 A board should have a composition matrix setting out the mix of skills, knowledge, experience, competencies, attributes and independence that the board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership. In order for the board to effectively fulfill its mandate and address existing and emerging business and governance issues relevant to the issuer, the board should regularly review the composition matrix and use this review process to recruit new directors or provide continuing education opportunities to existing directors.
- 3.11.3 The board should adopt a written policy respecting the director nomination process that sets out the process used in relation to director appointments and the board's approach to succession planning.
- 3.11.4 Recommendations for appointments to the board should be based on objective criteria. In making its recommendations, the nominating committee should consider the skills, knowledge, experience, competencies, attributes and level of independence that:
  - (a) are necessary for the board, as a whole, to function effectively; and
  - (b) are held by each existing director and each new nominee.

The nominating committee should also consider whether or not each new nominee can devote sufficient time and resources to their duties as a board member.

#### **Board Renewal**

- 3.11.5 The board should maintain an effective succession plan for directors, which:
  - (a) provides a transparent process and timeline for replacing board members so as to ensure that necessary skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes are maintained;
  - (b) maintains a mix of longer-serving directors with a deep understanding of the issuer and its business and newer directors with fresh ideas and perspectives; and
  - (c) maintains the board's independence from management.
- 3.11.6 The board should adopt mechanisms of board renewal that are appropriate to its circumstances. These mechanisms may include:
  - (a) establishing director term limits;
  - (b) assessing the effectiveness of an individual director when proposing the director as a candidate for re-election to the board; and
  - (c) using a composition matrix to identify gaps in the board's collective skills, knowledge, experience, competencies, attributes and independence.
- 3.11.7 If an issuer establishes term limits, factors that may be considered include:
  - (a) the board's current size and composition, and the board's composition matrix;

- (b) the board's independence from management and the issuer's ownership structure;
- (c) characteristics of the issuer, including its industry, size and stage of development; and
- (d) the existence of other mechanisms, such as regular assessments, to ensure the effectiveness of board members.

#### **Diversity and Targets**

- 3.11.8 A board should consider adopting a written diversity policy or process to ensure that recruitment of directors is appropriately structured to promote a broad range of perspectives and experiences on the board.
- 3.11.9 A board should set objectives for achieving diversity in the composition of its board and officer positions. Mechanisms to achieve these objectives may include setting targets, establishing a diversity council, implementing training and leadership programs, and expanding strategic outreach directed at developing a diverse pipeline of candidates for director and executive officer positions.
- 3.11.10 For purposes of this Policy, a "target" has the same meaning as in Form 58-101F1 under National Instrument 58-101 *Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices*. If a board sets targets for the representation of any of the groups referenced in paragraph 6.2 (g) of Form 58-101F1, the board should review and assess the appropriateness of the targets on an annual basis. When considering an appropriate target, a board should consider various factors, including:
  - (a) the board's current size and composition, and the board's composition matrix; and
  - (b) characteristics of the issuer, including its industry, size and stage of development, investors, stakeholders and location of its operations.
- 5. Sections 3.12, 3.13 and 3.14 are deleted.
- 6. Section 3.18 is changed by
  - (a) replacing "his, her" with "their",
  - (b) in paragraph (a) adding "composition and how effectively directors work together to achieve the objectives of the issuer;" after "in the case of the board or a board committee, its mandate or charter,", and
  - (c) in paragraph (b) by replacing "composition and skills" with "skills, knowledge, experience, competencies and attributes".
- 7. These changes become effective on  $[\bullet]$ .