



Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada
Association canadienne des courtiers de fonds mutuels
121 King Street W., Suite 1600, Toronto, ON, M5H 3T9
TEL: 416-361-6332 FAX: 416-943-1218
WEBSITE: www.mfda.ca

For Immediate Release

MFDA Files Revised Application for Recognition as a SRO

---December 20, 2000 (Toronto, Ontario) The Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada has filed its revised application of December 15, 2000 for recognition as a self-regulatory organization with the Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan Securities Commissions. The application contains an overview of the material comments together with the MFDA response, revised draft By-law No. 1 and revised draft Rules, Policies, Forms and Notices.

"We are pleased to have completed our filing within our planned timelines", said MFDA President and CEO Joe Oliver. "We look forward to working with the Securities Commissions to complete the recognition process early in the New Year, so that we can begin the important work of enhancing protection for mutual fund investors".

The MFDA filed its original application with the Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario Commissions in December 1999. The application for recognition as a self-regulatory organization, including the draft Rules and draft By-law, was published for public comment on June 16, 2000 for a 90-day comment period, which expired on September 14, 2000.

The MFDA conducted workshops to assist those affected by the draft rules to participate in the consultation process. The more than 2000 people attending the 17 workshops held in every province received detailed information about the process and draft rules and were able to raise issues of concern to them.

At the conclusion of the public comment period, the Recognizing Jurisdictions forwarded a total of 427 individual comment letters to the MFDA. Comments were received from mutual fund dealers, industry groups and associations, individual salespersons and other members of the public. During September and October 2000, MFDA staff read and summarized all

the comment letters in order to ensure that the concerns and opinions of all affected parties were fairly considered.

MFDA staff then worked with the MFDA Board Rules Committee to develop recommendations with respect to the comments received. The recommendations and responses to the comments adopted by MFDA staff and the Board Rules Committee were then presented to and approved by the full MFDA Board on December 8, 2000 and subsequently filed with the Commissions.

Incorporated in June 1998, the MFDA will be the self-regulatory organization for the distribution side of the mutual fund industry in Canada. The revised application is available on the MFDA web site at www.mfda.ca.

- 30 -

Contact

Joseph J. Oliver
MFDA CEO and President
(416) 865-3020

Larry Waite
MFDA Chief Operating Officer
(416) 943-5887