# Canadian Securities Regulation

PIFTH EDITION

David Johnston Kathleen Rockwell Cristie Ford



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# CANADIAN SECURITIES REGULATION

FIFTH EDITION

DAVID JOHNSTON,
KATHLEEN DOYLE ROCKWELL
AND
CRISTIE FORD



### Canadian Securities Regulation, Fifth Edition

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# To Sharon, Michael and Alex (Sasha) and to

The Eleven Grandchildren; and Nolan, Quinn, Courtney, Moss and Nina Liv

In memory of Purdy Crawford, a great leader in this area of law and governance

# PREFACE TO THE FIFTH EDITION

The first edition of this book appeared in 1976, the second in 1998 when Kathleen joined as co-author, the third in 2003, the fourth in 2006 and this fifth in 2014. We warmly thank readers for your sustained interest for almost four decades.

The most important change in this edition is the addition of Cristie Ford, Associate Professor of Law at the University of British Columbia as a most welcome and strongly collaborative co-author. Cristie has brought a set of "new eyes" to make the book more readable and coherent. She has worked assiduously with Kathleen and me to maintain the balance between the student's and the practitioner's needs. We have tried to write a book which "tells the story" of the law of Securities Regulation so that students can see its general principles, its evolution and some of the more challenging problems. At the same time we have tried to go deeply enough (but not excessively) to provide guidance to practitioners on interpretive issues with leads for further research.

Pamela Helmes-Hayes has been the extraordinary coordinator of most of the revision, in my office, as she has for the previous two editions. Nicole Rousselle has continued this work, splendidly, for the past year.

I became Governor General of Canada in October 2010. This position has constitutional responsibilities, including promulgation of laws of the Canadian Parliament. Accordingly I have refrained from expressing opinions in this revision on matters which are currently under public policy discussion. Any views or recommendations on policy changes which are now in this fifth edition are those of Kathleen Rockwell and Cristie Ford and should not be attributed to me.

This edition would not have been completed without the research assistance provided by Trevor Bant, Jonathan Lam, Tim Pritchard, Kendra Shupe and Evan Straight, all in the JD program at the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law. We thank them for their service.

We salute the special expertise of Navdeep Gill, Manager, Registration at the Alberta Securities Commission (ASC), who wrote the first draft of Chapter 13 "Registration". Kelly Shuba, Senior Special Counsel to the Vice-Chairs, also at the ASC, provided valuable insights, consultation and analysis throughout the writing and revision process. The views expressed in this book cannot, however, be taken to represent the views of the ASC or anyone there other than Kathleen.

We also with to thank the staff at LexisNexis Canada for their support of this project, including their generous support for research assistance. Fran Cudlipp in particular was steadfast in her support. Jessica Foster and Dale Clarry admirably carried the project through to completion.

There are quite significant changes in this fifth edition. The entire edition has been updated to reflect current law and practice, as well as recent developments in areas such as the impact of the recent (and ongoing) global financial crisis, the continuing pursuit of a national or common securities regulator, increasing interprovincial harmonization through National Instruments and the like, and the continued impact of technology and financial innovation on securities regulation. A number of chapters are wholly new, including Chapter 13 "Registration", Chapter 18 "Corporate Governance" (also including a discussion of corporate social responsibility) and Chapter 21 "Outstanding Issues". All of the other chapters have been thoroughly revised and updated. Throughout the book, we note recent cases, articles and studies for further reference. Some of the more significant changes from the fourth edition to the fifth are:

- an even more pan-Canadian focus, with additional references throughout to cases and statutes from Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Québec;
- increased emphasis on the relationship between securities regulation and capital markets regulation more broadly, especially in Chapter 1, renamed "Context and Philosophy", Chapter 20 "International Issues" and Chapter 21 "Outstanding Issues";
- a new Chapter 6 "Materiality", to concentrate into one place the discussion of this fundamental concept;
- more integration of exchanges and self-regulatory organizations into the history of securities regulation (in a substantially expanded Chapter 2 "History"), and a decision to collapse the separate fourth edition chapters on the exchanges and self-regulation into a new, comprehensive Chapter 15 "Recognized Entities";
- more discussion of the continued development of securitization and derivatives (in Chapter 3 "Scope", and Chapter 21 "Outstanding Issues"), also including their role in "empty voting" and "hidden ownership" in the take-over bid context (in Chapter 11 "Take-over Bids");
- throughout the text, reference to insights gleaned from the recent financial crisis (referred to in the text as the global financial crisis, or GFC), including as it affects prospects for internationalization (Chapter 20 "International Issues") and the disclosure-based nature of securities regulation (Chapter 21 "Outstanding Issues");
- several reorganized chapters, including Chapter 9 "Distribution Exemptions" and Chapter 10 "Insider Trading" (with additional exploration of illegal insider trading, paralleling the Commissions' increased focus in this area);

- a revised "Enforcement" chapter, with a discussion of matters such as new administrative sanctions and the development of "reciprocal" orders;
- a discussion of the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in Reference re Securities Act, [2011] S.C.J. No. 66, 2011 SCC 66 (S.C.C.) in Chapter 17 "National and Coordinated Approaches to Securities Regulation", including an analysis of prospects for federal and provincial cooperation in the wake of that Reference, current to April 30, 2014;
- a discussion of the practical impact and theoretical challenges associated with information technology (in Chapter 19 "Information Technology") and innovations in the financial markets, including high frequency trading, dark pools, crowdfunding and increasing complexity (in Chapter 21 "Outstanding Issues"); and
- a new appendix, authored by Professor Emeritus John Chant, on the Asset-Backed Commercial Paper (ABCP) Crisis and its resolution.

The third edition added dedications to Kathleen's two sons and my first granddaughter. To that family of people who inspire us, we added in the fourth edition Kathleen's grown step-daughter Courtney, a strong source of support. In this edition we add 10 more grandchildren, simply grouped as "the grandchildren" who call me Grandpa Book from my habit of reading to them or sending them books. And, of course, we renew the dedication to my wife Sharon and Kathleen's husband Michael, for their infinite patience and encouragement. With Cristie's partnership we have added dedications to her family: to her husband Alex (Sasha) Burton, her son Moss and her daughter Nina Liv.

As this manuscript was being printed, Purdy Crawford, a lifelong mentor and cherished friend, died. Purdy launched me down the path of Securities Regulation when I carried his briefcase as a student at law, and he was the volunteer secretary to the Kimber Commission drafting Ontario's 1967 Securities Act. He wrote the foreword to the fourth edition and alas was not well enough to do the same for the fifth. This edition is a memorial to him.

This manuscript is current as of December 31, 2013 (although some crucial developments after that date are noted). While we have made every attempt to ensure accuracy, we encourage readers who rely on this book as a starting point or a resource to update the information in light of their particular circumstances.

David Johnston Rideau Hall Ottawa, Canada August 2014

# **ABOUT THE AUTHORS**

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston has a B.A. from Harvard, an LL.B. from Cambridge and an LL.B. from Queen's University here in Canada. He has been awarded honorary doctorates from over two dozen universities, and since 1997 has been a Companion of the Order of Canada. He became Dean of the University of Western Ontario Faculty of Law in 1974, Principal of McGill University in 1979, and President of the University of Waterloo in 1994. In 2010, he was installed as the 28th Governor General of Canada.

**Kathleen Doyle Rockwell** has a B.Comm. (Honours) and a JD from the University of British Columbia. After practising securities law with a major Canadian law firm, she obtained an LL.M. from McGill University. She then worked as Legal Counsel at the Court of Queen's Bench in Calgary for several years. She is now with the Alberta Securities Commission as Senior Special Counsel to the Vice-Chairs, where her work includes conducting research and providing advice on securities law, administrative law and procedural matters. She has also taught securities law at the University of Calgary.

Cristie Ford has a B.A. from the University of Alberta, a JD from the University of Victoria, and LL.M. and JSD degrees from Columbia Law School in New York. She practised securities and administrative law for several years in both Vancouver and New York, and taught in various capacities at Columbia Law School between 2000 and 2005. She joined the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law in 2005. She teaches and writes in the areas of securities and financial regulation, administrative law, and regulatory theory and governance.

# LIST OF LEGISLATIVE AND RELATED ABBREVIATIONS

| Abbreviation | Reference   |
|--------------|---|
| ABCA         | Alberta Business Corporations Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. B-9  |
| ABCP         | asset backed commercial paper   |
| AcSB         | Canadian Accounting Standards Board   |
| AGM          | annual general meeting  |
| AIF          | Annual Information Form   |
| AMF          | Autorité des marchés financiers, online: http://www.lautorite.qc.ca/en/index.html> (regulatory instruments, online: <a href="http://www.lautorite.qc.ca/en/regulation-vm-pro">http://www.lautorite.qc.ca/en/regulation-vm-pro</a> . html>)  |
| ASA          | Alberta Securities Act, R.S.A. 2000, c. S-4   |
| ASC          | Alberta Securities Commission, online: <a href="http://www.albertasecurities.com">http://www.albertasecurities.com</a> (regulatory instruments, online: <a href="http://www.albertasecurities.com/industry/securities-law-and-policy/Pages/regulatory-instruments.aspx">http://www.albertasecurities.com/industry/securities-law-and-policy/Pages/regulatory-instruments.aspx</a> ) |
| ASIC         | Australian Securities and Investments Commission  |
| ATS          | Alternative Trading System  |
| BAR          | Business Acquisition Report   |
| BCBCA        | British Columbia <i>Business Corporations Act</i> , S.B.C. 2002, c. 57  |
| BCSA         | British Columbia Securities Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 418  |
| BCSCn        | British Columbia Securities Commission, online: <a href="http://bcsc.bc.ca">http://bcsc.bc.ca</a> (regulatory instruments, online: <a href="https://bcsc.bc.ca/Securities_Law/Instruments_and_Policies/">https://bcsc.bc.ca/Securities_Law/Instruments_and_Policies/</a> )  |
| BIS          | Bank for International Settlements  |
| CA           | clearing agency   |
| CAP          | capital accumulation plan   |
| CBCA         | Canada Business Corporations Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-44  |
| CCC          | Criminal Code of Canada, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-46   |

CCAA Canada Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C.

1985, c. C-36

CCGG Canadian Coalition for Good Governance

CCMR Cooperative Capital Markets Regulator

CD continuous disclosure

CDCC Canadian Derivatives Clearing Corporation

CDNX Canadian Venture Exchange Inc. (now TSX Venture

Exchange or TSX-V)

CDO collateralized debt obligation

CDO<sup>2</sup> CDO squared

CDS credit default swap

CEO Chief Executive Officer

CESR Committee of European Securities Regulators

CFO Chief Financial Officer

CFTC Commodity Futures Trading Commission (U.S.)

CICA Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants

CIPF Canadian Investor Protection Fund

CNQ Canadian Trading and Quotations System (later CNSX;

now CSE)

CNSX Canadian National Stock Exchange (now CSE)

COSRA Council of Securities Regulators of the Americas

CP Companion Policy

CPA Chartered Professional Accountants

CPAB Canadian Public Accountability Board

CPC capital pool company

CRM client relationship model

CRM2 Client Relationship Model Phase 2

CRO Credit Rating Organization

CSA Canadian Securities Administrators

CSE Canadian Securities Exchange

CSR corporate social responsibility

CSTO Canadian Securities Transition Office

CTO Cease Trade Order

DBRS Dominion Bond Rating Service Limited

DC&P disclosure controls and procedures

DPO Direct Public Offering

EMD exempt market dealer

EMH efficient markets hypothesis

ESMA European Securities and Markets Authority

ETF Exchange-traded fund

EU European Union

FAIR Canada Canadian Foundation for Advancement of Investor Rights

FASB Financial Accounting Standards Board (U.S.)

FCAA Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority (Saskatchewan)

FCSC (Man) Financial and Consumer Services Commission (Manitoba)

FCSC (NB) Financial and Consumer Services Commission (New

Brunswick)

FCST (NB) Financial and Consumer Services Tribunal (New

Brunswick)

FD fair disclosure

FINRA Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (U.S.)

FMI financial market infrastructure

FOFI Future-Oriented Financial Information

FSA Financial Services Authority (U.K.)

FSB Financial Stability Board

G-20 Group of Twenty

GAAP Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

GAAS Generally Accepted Accounting Standards

GFC global financial crisis

HFT high frequency trading

IAS International Accounting Standard

IASB International Accounting Standards Board

IASC International Accounting Standards Committee

IB issuer bid

ICFR internal control over financial reporting

IDA Investment Dealers' Association of Canada

IER issuer event report

IF investment fund

IFIC Investment Funds Institute of Canada

IFRS International Financial Reporting Standards

IIROC Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada

IMET Integrated Market Enforcement Teams

IMF International Monetary Fund

IOSCO International Organization of Securities Commissions

IPO initial public offering

ISDA International Swaps and Derivatives Association

IT insider trading

ITR Insider Trading Reports

JOBS Act Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, Pub. L. No. 112-106,

H.R. 112-406 (U.S.)

Kansas Act An Act to provide for the regulation and supervision

of investment companies and providing penalties for the

violation thereof, c. 133, 1911 Kan. Sess. Laws 210

KYC know your client

KYP know your product

MCR Material Change Reports

MD&A Management's Discussion and Analysis

ME Montréal Exchange (now MX)

MER management expense ratio

MFDA Mutual Fund Dealers Association

MI Multilateral Instrument

MJDS Multi-Jurisdictional Disclosure System

MLAT Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty

MMMF Money Market Mutual Fund

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

MRA Mutual Recognition Agreement

MSA Manitoba Securities Act, C.C.S.M., c. S50

MSC Manitoba Securities Commission

MV multiple voting

MX Montréal Exchange

NASAA North American Securities Administrators Association

NASD National Association of Securities Dealers (U.S.)

NAV net asset value

NAVPS net asset value per security

NBSA New Brunswick Securities Act, S.N.B. 2004, c. S-5.5

NEO Named Executive Officers

Nfld SA Newfoundland & Labrador Securities Act, R.S.N.L. 1990,

c. S-13

NI National Instrument

NOBO non-objecting beneficial owner

NP National Policy

NRB net regulatory burden

NRD National Registration Database

NRIF non-redeemable investment fund

NRS National Registration System

NSA Nunavut Securities Act, R.S.N.W.T. 1988, c. S-5.5

NSSA Nova Scotia Securities Act, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 418

NYSE New York Stock Exchange

NSSC Nova Scotia Securities Commission

NWTSA Northwest Territories Securities Act, S.N.W.T. 2008,

c. 10

OBCA Ontario Business Corporations Act, R.S.O. 1990,

c. B.16

OBOs objecting beneficial owners

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and

Development

OM offering memorandum

OSA Ontario Securities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. S.5

OSC Ontario Securities Commission, online: <a href="http://www.">http://www.</a>

osc.gov.on.ca/en/home.htm> (regulatory instruments, online: <a href="http://www.osc.gov.on.ca/en/SecuritiesLaw\_">http://www.osc.gov.on.ca/en/SecuritiesLaw\_</a>

irps\_index.htm>)

OSC Pol. Ontario Securities Commission Policy Statements

OSFI Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions

OTC over-the-counter

PEISA Prince Edward Island Securities Act, R.S.P.E.I. 1988,

c. S-3

POS Obligations Point of Sale Obligations

PREP prospectus post-receipt pricing prospectus

PREP Information price or related information omitted from a PREP

prospectus

QCA Quebec Companies Act, CQLR, c. C-38

QIB Qualified Institutional Buyer

QSA Quebec Securities Act, CQLR c. V-1.1

OSC Quebec Securities Commission (now AMF)

QTRS Quotation and Trade Reporting System

RE recognized entity

REIT real estate investment trust

RS Market Regulation Services

SCC Supreme Court of Canada

SEC Securities and Exchange Commission (U.S.)

SCL statutory civil liability

SD selective disclosure

SEDAR System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval

SEDI System for Electronic Disclosure by Insiders

SOX Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, Pub. L. 107-204, 116

Stat. 745 (U.S.)

SPE special purpose entity

SRI socially responsible investment

SRO self-regulatory organization

SRP shareholder rights plan

SSA Saskatchewan *Securities Act*, 1988, S.S. 1988-89, c. S-42.2

STP straight-through processing

TOB take-over bid

TSE Toronto Stock Exchange (now TSX)

TSX Toronto Stock Exchange

TSX-V TSX Venture Exchange

UMIR Universal Market Integrity Rules

VSE Vancouver Stock Exchange (now merged into TSX

Venture Exchange or TSX-V)

WPC Wise Persons' Committee

XBRL eXtensible Business Reporting Language

YSA Yukon Securities Act, S.Y. 2007, c. 16

# TABLE OF CASES

| 1205676 Alberta Ltd. (Re)516, 517 1478860 Alberta Ltd. (Re)415 347883 Alberta Ltd. v. Producers Pipelines Inc415 601949 B.C. Ltd. (Re)515, 613, 620, 621, 626, 627, 630 | Alberta (Securities Commission) v. Brost |
|---|--|
|   | (Re)                                     |
| Abdula v. Canadian  | Al-Tar Energy Corp.<br>(Re)78, 517, 785  |
| Solar Inc447, 463 AbitibiBowater inc.   | Ames-Kaiser (Re)                         |
| (Produits forestiers  | Amswiss Scientific Inc.                  |
| Résolu) v. Fibrek inc18, 418  | (Re)104, 147                             |
| Adams v. Thrift453  | Anchor Machine & Manufacturing           |
| Afexa Life Sciences Inc. (Re)417  | Ltd. (Re)72                              |
| Agbi v. Geosimm Integrated  | Anderson v. British Columbia             |
| Technologies Corp276  | (Securities Commission)514, 549,         |
| AGF Funds Inc. (Re)629  | 551, 552, 553                            |
| Agraira v. Canada (Public   | Aquinox Pharmaceuticals                  |
| Safety and Emergency  | Inc. (Re)                                |
| Preparedness118   | Arazie v. Mullane217                     |
| Agrium Inc. v. Hamilton341  | Arbour Energy Inc. (Re) 108, 109,        |
| AIC Ltd. (Re)629  | 111, 112, 115,                           |
| AIC Ltd. v. Fischer442  | 198, 199, 202,                           |
| Ainsley Financial Corp. v.  | 211, 325, 513,<br>514, 515, 517,         |
| Ontario (Securities   | 526, 551                                 |
| Commission)   | Arc Equity Management                    |
| Air Products & Chemicals  | (Fund 4) Ltd. (Re)545                    |
| Inc. v. Airgas Inc414   | Arthur-Jones Inc. (Re) 390               |
| AiT Advanced Information  | Asbestos Corporation Ltd.                |
| Technologies  | (Re)513, 545                             |
| Corp. (Re)188, 192, 201   | Ashton Mining of Canada Inc.             |
| Alberta (Attorney General) v.   | v. Stornoway Diamond Corp 127            |
| Great Way Merchandising Ltd54   | ATB Financial v. Metcalfe                |
| Alberta (Information and Privacy  | & Mansfield Alternative                  |
| Commissioner) v. Alberta  | Investments II Corp 896                  |
| Teachers' Association128  | ATI Technologies Inc. (Re) 73            |
|   |  |

| Aurora (Re)75                    | Bennett (Re)24, 866              |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Authorité des marchés financiers | Bennett v. British Columbia      |
| c. O-de-Mer Propulsion57         | (Securities Commission) 78, 134, |
| Autorité des marchés financiers  | 141, 863                         |
| c. Groupe SNC-Lavalin inc140     | Bennett v. British Columbia      |
| Axcess Automation LLC (Re)108    | (Superintendent of               |
|                                  | Brokers)                         |
| В                                | 162, 864                         |
|                                  | Bestline Products of Canada      |
|                                  | Ltd. et al. v. British Columbia  |
| B. (A.) v. British Columbia      | (Securities Commission) (Re)54   |
| (Securities Commission)97        | BGC Acquisition Inc. and         |
| Baffinland Iron Mines            | Argentina Gold (Re)414           |
| Corp. (Re)417                    | Biller v. British Columbia       |
| Baillie v. Oriental Telephone    | (Securities Commission)516, 524  |
| & Electric Co276                 | BioCapital Biotechnology         |
| Bains (Re)116                    | (Re)85                           |
| Baker v. Canada (Minister of     | Biovail Corp. (Re)111, 198,      |
| Citizenship and                  | 200, 203,                        |
| Immigration)95, 102, 106,        | 360, 545                         |
| 116, 117                         | Blair v. Consolidated            |
| Banks (Re)106, 544               | Enfield Corp                     |
| Banks v. Ontario (Securities     | Blencoe v. British Columbia      |
| Commission)106                   | (Human Rights                    |
| Banks v. Ontario (Securities     | Commission) 95, 141, 142, 143    |
| Commission). See Re H            | BNY Capital Corp.                |
| & R Enterprises Inc.             | v. Katotakis 398                 |
| Barker (Re)525                   | Boardman v. Phipps 340           |
| Bartel (Re)311                   | Bonham (Re)627                   |
| Bilinski (Re)298                 | Boock (Re)                       |
| Basic Inc. v. Levinson356, 441   | Boulder Creek Development        |
| BCE Inc. v. 1976                 | Ltd. (Re)77                      |
| Debentureholders339, 387, 401,   | Boulieris v. Investment Dealers  |
| 402, 416, 420,                   | Association of Canada 122        |
| 429, 707, 708,                   | Bradstone Equity Partners        |
| 711, 737, 738,                   | Inc. (Re)122, 124                |
| 739, 746, 747                    | Brighten (Re) 162                |
| Beer v. Townsgate I Ltd58, 69    | British American Oil             |
| Bell Canada v. Canadian          | Co. (Re)                         |
| Telephone Employees              | British Columbia (Milk Board)    |
| Assn88, 151, 152,                | v. Grisnich (c.o.b.              |
| 153, 154, 155,                   | Mountainview Acres) 678, 686     |
|                                  | British Columbia (Securities     |
| 157, 161                         | Commission)                      |
| Bell v. Source Data              | v. Branch 100, 144, 145,         |
| Control Ltd                      | 146, 147, 151                    |
| Belteco Holdings Inc. (Re)515    | 140, 147, 131                    |