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4	ONTARIO SECURITIES COMMISSION
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8	OSC VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE:
9	RETHINKING DIVERSITY IN CAPITAL MARKETS
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18	HELD ON: Wednesday, October 13, 2021
19	HELD: Via Videoconference
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22	MODERATOR:
23	Wendy Berman, Vice-Chair, Ontario Securities Commission
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25	OPENING REMARKS:
26	Wendy Berman, OSC
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1 PANELISTS:
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3	Rahul Bhardwaj	ICD.D, President and CEO, Institute of
4		Corporate Directors
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6	Wes Hall	ICD.D, Executive Chairman and Founder
7		at Kingsdale Advisors, The BlackNorth
8		Initiative, Dragon on CBC's Dragons'
9		Den
10		
11	Geordie Hungerford	CEO, First Nations Financial Management
12		Board
13		
14	Sarah Kaplan	Distinguished Professor and Director,
15		Institute for Gender and the Economy,
16		U of T's Rotman School of Management
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18	Catherine McCall	ICD.D, Executive Director, Canadian
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21	Rima Ramchandani	Partner and Co-Head of Capital Markets
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23		
24	Paul Schneider	ICD.D, Head of Corporate Governance,
25		Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan
26		
27	Grant Vingoe	Chair and CEO, Ontario Securities
28		Commission

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--- Upon commencing at 10:00 a.m.

2 OSC VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE:

3 RETHINKING DIVERSITY IN CAPITAL MARKETS:

MS. ROBINSON: Hello, everyone, and welcome to the OSC
Virtual Roundtable: Rethinking Diversity in Capital Markets.

6 Before we get started, I would like to go over a few 7 items, so you know how to participate in today's event.

8 You have joined the presentation listening using your 9 computer speaker system. If you have any issues with your 10 audio, I do recommend moving to an Ethernet connection, and 11 also, closing all other applications on your device will also 12 open up more bandwidth.

13

All attendees are in listen-only mode.

You will have the opportunity to submit text questions to today's panelists by typing your questions into the questions pane of the control panel. You may send in your questions at any time during the roundtable, and we will collect these and address as many as possible during the Q and A session at the end of today's discussion.

Today's virtual roundtable is being recorded and all registered participants will be e-mailed a link to the recording within a few days.

I would now like to introduce Wendy Berman, Vice-Chair of the Ontario Securities Commission, who will be the moderator for today's roundtable discussion.

Over to you, Wendy. Oh, sorry. Unmute, Wendy.
OPENING REMARKS:
MS. BERMAN: Gosh. Thank you. Now I'll start that

1 again.

2 So welcome, everyone, to the OSC's Virtual Roundtable 3 on Rethinking Diversity in Capital Markets. Today's event is 4 part of an important and ongoing conversation on diversity 5 issues and we look forward to the discussion and to continuing 6 the conversation.

7 I would like to begin with a land acknowledgement.
8 This land acknowledgement has been developed by OSC staff in
9 close consultation with local Indigenous groups. It's also
10 fitting for today's conversation which is centered on the
11 importance of inclusion and diversity.

12 Indigenous Peoples of Canada have been stewards of 13 this land. It is important to understand the longstanding 14 history of the lands and waters many of us now call home. Much 15 like the Indigenous wampum belts where particular bead patterns 16 symbolize alliances, kinships and land arrangements between 17 different peoples, we, too, respectfully recognize the 18 traditional territory of Indigenous peoples.

We acknowledge the Two Row Wampum Belt and we recognize that the beaded pattern signifies that neither group will force its traditions or customs on each other, but will co-exist peacefully as each group follows its own path.

23 With that, I want to acknowledge that Toronto and the 24 Ontario Securities Commission are in the Dish With One Spoon 25 Territory, a treaty between several nations, including the 26 Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabe, the Chippewa, the 27 Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples.

28

The dish represents the land that is to be shared

peacefully and the spoon represents the individuals living on and using the resources of the land in a spirit of mutual co-operation and in a manner that does not harm the land.

I also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty
13, signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and by the
Williams Treaty, signed with multiple Mississauga and Chippewa
bands.

8 Today, as we join each other on this land, we continue 9 to seek meaningful ways to protect the earth and future 10 benefactors for the peace, reconciliation, and healthy 11 environments being heralded by this land acknowledgement.

12

13

So I want to welcome all of the participants and

Thank you.

14 especially our panelists who I will introduce shortly.

15 It has been seven years since we adopted disclosure 16 requirements for TSX-listed companies to report on the 17 representation of women on boards and in executive roles. Since 18 then, the proportion of women has doubled from 11 percent to 22 19 percent, and while this is very encouraging, we recognize that 20 much more needs to be done.

21 Recent events globally related to equity have 22 heightened the focus on the issue of broader diversity in our 23 capital markets. Many voices have been forcefully advocating 24 for change in the boardroom. We are seeing institutional 25 shareholders use their power to elect directors to effect change 26 on broader diversity, both through board engagement and through 27 their voting policies on diversity.

28

Today's discussion is important and timely, given the

momentum for change experienced both domestically and globally
 on enhancing diversity and addressing systemic racism.

In Canada at the federal level, the government has recently introduced new disclosure requirements under the Canada Business Corporations Act that broaden the range of corporations required to provide disclosure regarding women in leadership and add new requirements for disclosure regarding visible minorities, Indigenous persons, and persons with disabilities.

9 The Federal Government also recently launched The 50 -10 30 Challenge to advance corporate diversity by asking 11 organizations to pledge to have gender parity on their boards 12 and senior management, and 30 percent representation of persons, 13 sorry, 30 percent of persons from underrepresented groups.

Internationally, we're also seeing new and similar initiatives being taken. This summer, the U.K. Financial Conduct Authority launched a consultation on proposed rules to enhance diversity disclosure and require listed companies to disclose on a comply or explain basis their performance against specified board diversity targets and data on the gender and ethnic makeup of their boards and senior management.

In the U.S., NASDAQ introduced new board diversity rules that require most listed companies to disclose board level diversity statistics and have at least two diverse directors or explain why they don't.

Here at home, the Canadian Securities Administrators recently announced further research and consultations for its consideration of broader diversity and any needed changes to our current regime. To us, this is a governance issue. Diversity

1 at the board and management levels brings a variety of opinion 2 which promotes meaningful discussions, better corporate 3 decision-making, and contributes to effective board oversight, 4 all of which enhances the quality of the capital markets. 5 Today, we have an important opportunity to explore the 6 benefits and challenges related to broader corporate diversity, 7 as well as the evolving corporate governance practices of companies and the disclosure needs of Canadian investors, and we 8 9 do this with an incredible expert panel of leaders. INTRODUCTION OF PANELISTS: 10 MS. BERMAN: And with that, I am pleased to introduce 11 our panel who represent public companies, investors, and 12 13 advocacy groups as well as governance experts. 14 I'll start with Rahul Bhardwaj, who is the president of the Institute of Corporate Directors. Thank you. 15 16 MR. BHARDWAJ: Good morning. 17 MS. BERMAN: And next, Wes Hall, who is the executive 18 chairman and founder of Kingsdale Advisors, The BlackNorth 19 Initiative, and a Dragon on CBC's Dragons' Den, which is 20 unfortunate because I wanted the title of "Dragon" in this 21 panel. 22 MR. HALL: Good morning. Thank you. 23 MS. BERMAN: Good morning. Next, we have Geordie Hungerford, who is the chief executive officer of the First 24 25 Nations Financial Management Board. Welcome, Geordie. 26 MR. HUNGERFORD: Good morning. 27 MS. BERMAN: And next, Sarah Kaplan, who is a distinguished professor and director at the Institute for Gender 28

1 and the Economy at U of T's Rotman School of Management. 2 Welcome, Sarah. 3 MS. KAPLAN: Morning. 4 MS. BERMAN: And following that, Catherine McCall, who is the executive director of the Canadian Coalition for Good 5 6 Governance. 7 MS. MCCALL: Good morning. MS. BERMAN: Good morning. And next, we have Rima 8 9 Ramchandani, who is a partner and co-head of the Capital Markets 10 Group at Torys LLP. Nice to see you, Rima. 11 MS. RAMCHANDANI: Good morning, Wendy. 12 MS. BERMAN: And next we have Paul Schneider, who is 13 the head of corporate governance at the Ontario Teachers' 14 Pension Plan. Welcome, Paul. 15 MR. SCHNEIDER: Good morning. Thank you. MS. BERMAN: And finally, we have our very own Grant 16 17 Vingoe, Chair and CEO at the OSC. 18 MR. VINGOE: Good morning, everyone. 19 MS. BERMAN: Thank you all very much for being here. 20 Your insights and lived experiences will be valuable in helping 21 us build on the work done today by Canadian securities regulators and determine our next steps. So we've got a lot to 22 23 cover and so let's get started. DIVERSITY - GENDER VS. BROADER DIVERSITY: 24 25 MS. BERMAN: The first topic, the biggest topic, I 26 want to kick off a discussion on the topic of broader diversity 27 and give each of you an opportunity to provide your views on whether our current regime should be broadened to include other 28

1 aspects of diversity, and if so, your thoughts on how that 2 diversity should be defined and how we balance the risks of 3 being too prescriptive, for example, perhaps using specific 4 demographics to define diversity, or too vague, leaving it up to 5 public companies themselves to define diversity, and if we 6 broaden diversity, what diversity information should be reported 7 and how, and what are the challenges in gathering the data and 8 providing that diversity disclosure more broadly, particularly 9 given privacy laws.

10 So these are no small questions, and then the final 11 thought you can add to is, are there any aspects, other aspects 12 of diversity disclosure that should be refined to ensure that 13 our investing public has consistent, comparable, and 14 decision-useful information.

15 So with those very big questions, I pass the baton to 16 you, Rahul, to start us off, and then we'll go to Wes, and then 17 to Geordie.

18 MR. BHARDWAJ: Thanks very much, Wendy, and thank you 19 to the OSC for bringing us all together for this very important 20 conversation.

Those are a lot of questions, but I know we've been invited to give a quick overview on the landscape as we see it here, and I guess what I would start off by saying, this is a conversation I've been a part of for the last 25 years, so this is not a new conversation, but, boy, it's overdue and I'm glad we're having it now.

I recall when the conversation around diversityinitially started, it was about why. Why have diversity on

boards of senior management, but now we're into the space where we're actually talking about the how, and that's an extremely important transition to acknowledge.

I'd say at the beginning, we were trying to make the business case or I'd say that was what everybody was rushing to do, decrease risk, mitigate against unconscious bias, and it took a lot of time for that to really get its grounding, and now we've seen circumstances have really evolved: Equity, fairness, access to opportunity. All of these have really made the case for much broader diversity.

11 So if the question is, should we have more broader 12 diversity, I'd say that horse has already left the barn and for 13 very good reason. We're seeing it in our own legislation in the 14 CBCA, we're seeing it in the NASDAQ, and so there's a huge 15 momentum towards doing that.

16 And I'm looking forward to getting to a more detailed 17 conversation with the group, but maybe the last point I'll leave 18 on this is, for those that are entering the conversation around 19 diversity on board, you're halfway there because now the 20 conversation has really advanced into inclusion, and I know 21 that's not the topic for today, but if you think that just going 22 through diversity is going to get you to where things are moving 23 to, it's probably too early. You're behind the ball on that one. It's really moved to inclusion. 24

25 So if you're a part of today's conversation, 26 hopefully, you'll get some good, solid counsel on how to move 27 ahead on diversity, so you can enter that conversation around 28 inclusion. So I'll pause there, Wendy. I look forward to hearing
 from the others.

MS. BERMAN: Thank you. Now, Wes, if you could add.
MR. HALL: Yeah, this is fantastic, Rahul. You set
the stage really well.

6 So, first of all, I want to thank Commissioner Vingoe. 7 Grant has been a huge supporter of the work I'm doing with The 8 BlackNorth Initiative from the get-go, so I want to thank you 9 for your allyship.

10 Well, I'm going to start with just my little 11 experience. You know, two years ago, I was driving my car to 12 work. It's a fancy car, I won't say the name, and I was dressed 13 like this, and a gentleman stopped me. I was in traffic, just 14 outside my building, in the Exchange Tower, and he stopped me 15 and he handed me his business card and he said, "I'm a criminal 16 lawyer. Give me a call if you're looking for a lawyer."

Pulled up at the Four Seasons in the same car, and I got out of my car and a gentleman walked up to me and gave me \$20 to valet his car for him.

People come to my house and the first question they ask is, "Are you the security guard or the maintenance person?" Just a few months ago, I was coming from a trip and I'm in the priority line, and the lady checking the tickets immediately, without looking at my boarding pass, says, "You're in the wrong line. You need to be in the economy line."

Now, those sound like really funny jokes, right, funny experiences, but think about you being on the receiving end, and then think about you having to deal with this for the rest of your life. Every single scenario that you walk into, you have to deal with that behaviour, and the only reason why you're dealing with that is because of representation or lack thereof.

See, if I don't have the nice jobs on Bay Street, I
can't drive that fancy car. If I don't have that great job, I
can't stay at the Four Seasons. If I don't have that fancy job,
I can't live in Rosedale, and if I don't have that fancy job, I
can't fly business class.

9 So we're going to talk a little bit about the 10 representation, the numbers, and why it's important, and at the 11 end of the day, you're going to make your own mind up as to 12 whether or not we have a case or not.

13

28

I turn it back to you, Wendy.

14MS. BERMAN: Thank you very much, Wes. And I want to15turn it over to you, Geordie, to provide your thoughts.

MR. HUNGERFORD: Vanh gwiinzii shilak kat. Good morning, friends. Geordie Hungerford, bilji [ph]. I'm of the Gwich'in First Nation of the Northwest Territories and Yukon, and I thank you for that territorial acknowledgement earlier.

20 At the last Tragically Hip concert in Kingston, 21 frontman Gord Downie described Indigenous peoples as the people 22 that we, or Ontarians, are trained their entire lives to ignore. 23 Accordingly, in Toronto, the center of Corporate Canada, in my previous 11 years as a regulator for one of the other major 24 25 Canadian securities regulators, I don't see Indigenous 26 representation in capital markets and I think this needs to 27 change. I'll give you three reasons why:

First, ethically, Indigenous peoples are likely the

1 most underrepresented group in Canada for the purposes of 2 equity, diversity and inclusion. Our people are coming out of 3 seven generations of trauma initiated under the Indian Act to, 4 essentially, get rid of us as a people through assimilation, neglect and the winding up of our nations. It was called the 5 6 final solution to the Indian problem and part of this final 7 solution was also to prevent Indians from having all but a 8 rudimentary education, preventing us from going to university 9 and, through the action of Indian agents, limiting Indigenous 10 trade and commerce.

We, therefore, have a seven-generation gap in Indigenous business leadership, and it's no wonder then under the CBCA data that there's an underrepresentation by a factor of about 20 to 25 times of Indigenous people in public company leadership.

16 The Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to 17 Action include calling Corporate Canada to embrace Indigenous 18 economic reconciliation, and Indigenous inclusion reporting must 19 be part of this solution.

20 Secondly, Indigenous people have legal and 21 constitutional expectations of inclusion. Our Canadian 22 Constitution recognizes Indigenous peoples like francophones as 23 having special legal and constitutional rights, and as boards in 24 Canada slowly embraced representation of Canada's francophones 25 in the 20th Century, so should boards also have Indigenous 26 representation in the 21st.

27 At 5 percent of the population of Canada, at 1.8 28 million people, or more than the population of each province

except for the Big Four, and with a population projected to possibly reach over 3 million in 20 years and owning lands collectively about the size of the province of Manitoba, Indigenous peoples have an expectation to take our place in Confederation and in business.

6 We're tracked separately under the CBCA diversity 7 reporting data because we're a distinct rights-holding group, and so securities reporting should likewise track us separately 8 9 as well, and with the passing of federal and B.C. legislation 10 implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, or UNDRIP, those jurisdictions, Canada and B.C., are now 11 required to ensure that their laws are compliant with UNDRIP. 12 13 This means that for matters that impact Indigenous peoples, 14 those governments are required to consult and co-operate with 15 This includes the BCSC and any federal securities us. jurisdiction, and I suggest includes a securities requirement 16 17 for Indigenous reporting in B.C. and in Canada.

18 And then thirdly and finally, investors need to know 19 whether issuers have the capacity to manage Indigenous issues. 20 How many pipelines, rail rights of ways, dams, logging, oil, gas and mining developments have been slowed down or halted because 21 22 of management and board mishandling or misunderstanding of 23 Indigenous rights? What are the risks of the direct protest actions like blockades, and also the indirect protest actions, 24 25 including organized boycotts of banking, insurance, and value 26 chain suppliers to businesses?

27 But it's also the opportunities that are out there as 28 well. It's not all doom and gloom. Projects can get done. Issuers with good Indigenous relations who understand the need to work together in partnership with First Nations are getting projects done, and so investors need to know whether issuers understand Indigenous risks and opportunities or not, and Indigenous senior management and board member reporting is an important measure of corporate capacity and commitment. Thanks.

MS. BERMAN: Thank you very much, Geordie. And now8 I'll turn it over to Sarah.

9 MS. KAPLAN: Well, thank you so much, and such a 10 powerful set of opening remarks already. Since I'm an academic 11 researcher, I'm going to echo a little bit of what the research 12 says about these topics.

13 So first, we should definitely expand our definition 14 of diversity beyond gender, first, as you pointed out, Wendy, 15 because we're now behind a lot of other jurisdictions that are already moving in this direction, and we should also have 16 17 specific definitions of what that diversity is and not just say 18 broader forms of diversity. This issue was raised already in 19 2015 in a similar roundtable to this by Professor Erin 20 Deer [ph], and that was put aside several years ago, but I think 21 we really need to take that recommendation up now.

Research also shows that if you don't specify the dimensions of diversity, most companies will actually not talk about race, ethnicity, gender or anything else, but defer to broader kinds of concepts of diversity, like diversity of thought, which, of course, doesn't get you anywhere in terms of the representation that Geordie, Wes and Rahul were already talking about. So yes, we should definitely broaden the 1 definition.

2 The second thing is, we know from research that most 3 diversity initiatives basically benefit white women, and the 4 impact of the current regulations are no different, and I want to just add to that that I worry that there's a tendency to talk 5 6 about women or race, [inaudible], diversity or Indigenous people 7 or people with disabilities, but we have to recognize that these are intersecting sets. It's not going to be a win if we get a 8 9 whole bunch of ethnically, racially diverse or Indigenous men 10 into boards and there's no women in those categories as well. So we need to think more intersectionally. 11

And the third thing that I will say from research that I'm actually doing myself is that none of this will matter if it's implemented within the context of the current regulation, which I think is flawed in ways that don't allow it to have the impact that it should have.

You know, in five years, as Wendy mentioned, we've gone from 11 to 22 percent, but in the U.S., where they did not have any comply or explain until recently, they're at 30 percent and, of course, in countries that have quotas, they're at 40 percent. So I don't think we have a win yet. I think we're actually going slower and, therefore, I don't think that the regulation has really helped.

24 We're doing a study right now that's actually looking 25 very closely at those explanations and I think it highlights a 26 couple of flaws, one of which I'll highlight now, which is that 27 the comply or explain is just companies are just required to put 28 it somewhere in their information circular. Often, those are a hundred pages long. There's no way to actually get that information, make it transparent. The whole goal of comply or explain was to name and shame. We [inaudible] current implementation.

5 So if we're going to move in this direction, which I 6 hope we will, we also have to change so that it's a Web form 7 where everyone puts in consistent information, it's searchable 8 on Internet, and it creates the true transparency because right 9 now, we do not have the needed transparency. The U.K., with 10 their pay transparency law, does have it searchable by anyone on 11 the Internet and we need something similar.

I'll finally say that another flaw in the regulation is that the setting of targets was optional. I know we're going to get to that later, so I'll save my comment [inaudible].
Plenty more to [inaudible] search, but I'll stop here.

MS. BERMAN: Thank you so much, Sarah. And now I'll just turn over to Catherine, and following Catherine, Rima, for both of your thoughts.

MS. MCCALL: Thank you, Wendy. I must say those were fantastic comments and I agree with so much or all of what everybody's been saying, so I'm going to focus more on the concept of diversity itself and the question and the problem with how we can get from what we think are important characteristics to actually doing something about it.

And I would start by saying that, yes, it's incredibly important that the OSC broaden its concept of diversity beyond gender, and from the perspective of institutional shareholders, long-term value creation is going to depend on systematic social problems, inequalities being addressed. So, obviously, the problem is, how do we get there?

3 So the folk -- when people, as Sarah mentioned, when 4 people talk about diversity, they typically do mean diversity of 5 thought, and they're trying to get at concepts such as avoidance 6 of group-think and fostering innovation, a greater understanding 7 of different stakeholders' perspectives and a willingness to 8 express and hear dissent, and there are many other aspects to 9 this definition of diversity than demographic characteristics, 10 and they don't always capture what we mean by diversity of thought, but demographic characteristics can serve, and they are 11 12 the best proxy we have, they can serve as a proxy and the best 13 proxy we have for capturing diversity of thought, and there is 14 also, as has been mentioned, just the notion of fundamental 15 justice and equality that we have to address.

I think in this context it's important, as Rahul mentioned earlier, that there be a board culture that welcomes diversity, but that is also comfortable with the importance of inclusion in addition to diversity because I think without understanding that fundamental commitment to equality and including all peoples, then you're not going to be able to get to diverse form.

I also wanted to point out just briefly that diversity is a contextual concept. It depends on place, region, time, community, other factors like including the nature of the business, and we need diversity in corporate that is pertinent to, in addition to fundamental justice, but that is pertinent to business operations and strategic plans.

1 So, for example, I'd say Indigenous representation is 2 very relevant in Canada and important to most Canadian 3 corporations, not so much perhaps in European countries or 4 European companies. It's also an evolving concept as we can see 5 from the expanded focus on the importance of LGBTQ+ rights in 6 recent years.

So it's extremely important that the CBCA has started the conversation to broaden categories of diversity that we're paying attention to beyond gender, and the OSC should follow suit, but I think it's perhaps best to leave the definition of diversity open-ended and not exhaustive, and leave it to companies to define and describe what matters to them, obviously recognizing fundamental categories of justice.

And companies should report on their own nuanced categories of diversity and explain why they are relevant using the categories in CBCA and human rights, supported by the human rights legislation as the fundamental categories in which to start, and I think this is going to, if we let companies do this or encourage them, it will start to evolve into what true diversity really does mean.

21 MS. BERMAN: Thank you. Thank you, Catherine. Turn 22 it to you, Rima, and then after Rima, we'll hear from Paul and 23 then Grant.

MS. RAMCHANDANI: Thanks, Wendy. Good morning,
everybody. Great to be here with you today.

Great remarks. I mean, I think I will echo. I agree with everything I've heard today. I think from my perspective, I'm the securities lawyer. I advise market participants, so

1 issuers, underwriters, investors, so I think hearkening back to 2 the comments Rahul made, I think about the how is really what 3 we're talking about, and so I tend to look at this through the 4 lens of, you know, disclosure, right?

So what are investors telling us that they need to 5 6 know in order to make informed decisions in their investment 7 decisions, and I think increasingly, as you said at the outset, it's quite clear that investors, particularly institutional 8 9 investors in Canada, the U.S. and around the globe, are saying 10 that diversity matters, and in particular, demographic data that goes beyond just the representation of women on boards and 11 management teams is important information. 12

13 So I think to answer your first question, the current 14 regime ought to be expanded to address the information that 15 investors are saying is important to them.

I think there is also, picking up on Sarah's comments, clearly value in creating greater transparency and uniformity in the reporting, so leaving aside the contents of what that looks like, I think having, you know, information in a tabular form with enumerated headings and clear definition I think makes good sense.

The final point I'll make is, you know, the rule -and I share some of the frustration that people have in terms of the pace of progress feeling slower than people would like, but our rules are pretty narrow in scope right now, right? Like, not only are they narrow in that they only focus on women, but they also focus on a very small group of individuals, directors and executive officers, the most senior level of the management team, and so I'm not entirely surprised that we haven't seen a lot of change over the period of time we're talking about, right. We wouldn't expect significant turnover at the senior management team in an issuer over that period of time.

5 I think in order to get a true snapshot of diversity 6 at any organization, and also look at, you know, sort of 7 improvements in diversity over time, you really have to see 8 information one, two, three levels down, right, over a longer 9 period of time, and right now, we're not getting that data.

10 So I think -- I say that because I think people should 11 put the data into context and I think if we saw a broader data 12 set, you know, it may show a different trend line over a longer 13 term.

14

MS. BERMAN: Thank you, Rima. Paul.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Thank you, Wendy, and thank you for the invitation today. Sort of a disadvantage to going last is everyone's already said a lot of what you want to say, but, you know, great comments thus far.

19 So, you know, I think I'll kind of focus on -- Rima's 20 mentioned the investors, so how we're looking at it and, you 21 know, I think it gets down to in order for us to assess, we have 22 to have the information. So it's about disclosure, and really, 23 the definition, how we are looking at diversity is we are looking at it through that diversity, equity and inclusion lens. 24 25 So it covers a whole range of different attributes: Gender, 26 race, sexual orientation, abilities, so on and so forth.

27 So it is a very -- it's a broad definition, much 28 broader than what the CBCA has, and we are -- Teachers are going

through our own DEI journey right now, and I think that's been very helpful for us to understand, you know, from a, you know, investor's point of view the challenges that can be presented through, you know, collecting the information, respecting privacy. There's a lot of issues around that as well.

6 But I think, you know, you can only progress through 7 disclosure because people have to be able to know where you are, 8 and what -- disclosure, and what are your goals? Like, we 9 really push companies or boards, you know, "Tell us, tell us, 10 you know, your diversity makeup, but also, what are your plans? What's your policy? What do you want to do? Like, what's your 11 sort of North Star for this?" So get them thinking about it and 12 13 having those discussions.

You know, the thing about diversity that's probably very challenging is it's going to require self-disclosure, and I think that's going to be the driver behind it, so people have to get comfortable self-disclosing. You know, don't ask me to look at a picture or read someone's name and assess their, you know, assess their diversity, because that's not the right way to do it, so you need that self-disclosure.

21 You have to kind of, you know -- we're working through 22 that at our place. I know in the U.S., they have EEO-1 23 disclosures that companies must fill and file with the Department of Labor, I believe it is, and that's really a high 24 25 level makeup by -- I think what Rima was saying, it's by 26 different levels within the company, diversity across a number 27 of different spectrums, so possibly that's something. Every company has to file it. What we're asking companies to do in 28

the U.S. is to publish that information because it's already collected, it's at a high level, it's not attributable to any individual, so that's a possible way going forward with disclosure.

5 I'll just close on a bit of what I guess for me a 6 disturbing thing that I read when the NASDAQ came out with their 7 diversity rule, the two. There was a group in the U.S., and I 8 believe it's called the Alliance for Fair Board Recruitment, 9 that is taking the NASDAQ to court, claiming that it is, you 10 know, unconstitutional, or whatever the right word is, for 11 NASDAQ to have this requirement.

12 Now, I know this is a U.S. group, but, you know, I 13 think -- you know, and I went to their website and they don't 14 list any members. Membership is private. It's probably, you 15 know, a bunch of older individuals who are afraid of losing their director jobs, you know, if I can be fairly blunt on that, 16 17 but I think why I say this is there will be, I think, headwinds. 18 I think there could be some pushback, even though, you know, all 19 nine of us are sitting here agreeing and we think, you know, it 20 makes perfect sense, I think there's going to be groups, people 21 who think that, you know, we're trying to push an agenda that 22 is, you know, it's not good for business, but you know, we all 23 believe it's good for business, but I just want to raise that issue that we should, you know, also be figuring out how to deal 24 25 with those people who will push against us.

MS. BERMAN: That's a really important ending point because important change doesn't come without a lot of scars and traumas along the way.

So now I'll turn it to Grant who, hopefully, has
 something unique to say after all of the other eight people
 spoke. No pressure, Grant.

4 MR. VINGOE: Well, I do think that we have -- we share 5 a common -- you know, many elements of a common view towards 6 broader diversity that were reflected in the opening remarks, 7 and I agree with Paul about possible headwinds. You know, 8 they're not that vocal at the moment, but there are those who 9 question whether -- and they often do it under the quise of 10 whether this is an appropriate subject for securities regulation, for securities regulators, you know, since our 11 regime has been perceived to be based on the disclosure of 12 13 material information and there's -- they will, you know, assert 14 that it may not be adequately proven how material the 15 information is.

16 And I object to that point of view. I think the 17 correlation to corporate performance, you know, is a good 18 foundation for the involvement of securities regulators in this 19 area, but Paul also talked about the NASDAQ rule and the 20 objectors in the United States. It wasn't only, you know, that 21 one group that's initiated litigation. It was also a party line 22 vote at the SEC that was actually -- the NASDAQ rule was only 23 approved by a majority constituting representatives of one party and the chair, and those who objected, objected on the grounds 24 25 of, you know, questioning the rigour of the analysis of 26 corporate performance being demonstrated through diversity, and 27 also, you know, questioning the adequacy of the, you know, the foundation that the information is, indeed, important to 28

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investors, claiming that it wasn't statistically rigorous.

So it's going to be really important for us, you know, to actually be able to respond to those resistant voices by having a rigorous analysis. It's incredibly important that, you know, our institutional investors are being vocal and recording how they use the information and how important it is to their investor process, so that similar objections can't be made in Canada.

9 And it really is hard to, you know, with corporate 10 performance to, you know, isolate diversity as a factor with everything else, you know, that's involved with corporate 11 performance and measuring it, but we all know from, you know, 12 13 like, at the stages of our careers that we're at, we've been in 14 more diverse and less diverse environments and we know that the 15 conversations that involve more diverse participants are richer and that there are new insights gained and the conversations are 16 superior, but we'll have to, you know, to again be able to deal 17 18 with those voices that are urging caution or the status quo or 19 that this isn't the subject for securities regulation. We need 20 to be as rigorous as possible and enhance our knowledge in that 21 area.

I think we should also bear in mind that securities regulation is one of the kind of institutions of power and authority in Canada and that that has to be taken into account, that our role, we can't be aloof from it because we're part of an institutional setting that has limited access to capital in some cases or, you know, hasn't emphasized the investor needs of diverse communities to an adequate degree. It's something that

we're redressing, but, you know, we have to not think of ourselves as aloof from it, but a core of the issue, of the issues.

And in terms of the actual definitions, the CBCA has been criticized in part because, you know, it's really difficult to create a definition and a list. You know, they omitted LGBTQ2+ and now they're -- and they drew their definitions from the Employment Equity Act and there's a task force that's looking at appropriate definitions.

10 I do think there needs to be a national consensus and like one set of definitions to have the benefit of securities 11 regulation, which is consistency, so I'm hoping the federal task 12 13 force on the Employment Equity Act will, you know, be able to 14 attain a consensus today in Canada so we won't lose momentum and 15 that we can use those definitions, and they have to be definitions that people are comfortable self-identifying to, and 16 17 we have to increase that comfort level.

And finally, this whole area won't work if Corporate Canada treats it as a check-the-box phenomenon, and there is that tendency, you know, with some securities law requirements, so it's a cultural shift that can be augmented by disclosure and by securities regulatory endorsement, but it requires maintaining the societal momentum in favour of broader diversity that we're seeing in Canada today. I'll Conclude with that.

25 MS. BERMAN: We are off to a really great start with 26 tons of views and content, so thank you.

27 TARGETS FOR BOARDS AND EXECUTIVES:28 MS. BERMAN: So now we'll just go from one

1 controversial topic to the next, and when we think about moving 2 the needle on diversity, many voices advocate for targets and 3 others, you know, advocate against targets, so we hear the 4 voices on both sides.

So in terms of the views of this panel, I'd like to 5 6 know your views on targets and whether or not they are effective 7 mechanisms for achieving broader diversity in corporations, and 8 is this a role that Canadian securities regulators should, an 9 area we should step into to require public companies to set 10 targets and report their progress against such targets, and if so, what do those targets look like? Are they prescriptive? Do 11 we make rules? Do we provide quidance and allow companies to 12 13 set their own targets, recognizing the context, as Catherine 14 mentioned, and if we set quidance, what do you think it should 15 look like?

16 So we have only 10 minutes to go through all of that, 17 but I'd throw it out to Sarah to start off, and then if Wes, 18 Geordie and Rahul could give their views, that would be great.

MS. KAPLAN: Yes. Well, thank you. So the answer is yes, there should be targets. As I mentioned, one of the flaws in the current regulation is that targets are optional, and so we see that only 26 percent of companies have actually even chosen to have targets and, you know, what gets measured gets done and so I think every company should set a target.

I also believe that we may want to consider, you know, the federal challenge, The 50 - 30 Challenge as a guideline that every company -- we're not going to tell companies what to do. I agree with Catherine that there are some contextual issues, 1

but that every company should set and measure targets.

I mean, I've read all of these disclosures and a lot of companies say things like, "We have an aspirational target to have one woman in our board." I read that year after year after year. So I figure "aspirational target" means not actually a target. So I think that is very important.

7 And the only other thing I want to say about that is 8 that the excuses that, or the explanations that companies give for not wanting to set targets right now is one around 9 10 meritocracy. They say that they simply can't find the quality people, and I will tell you that the academic research tells you 11 12 that that argument is a reinforcing of the status quo, and that 13 every place where you do set targets and quotas, you actually 14 increase quality, not decrease it and the reason you do is 15 because all these people who had historically been overlooked, who are actually very high quality, get considered. 16

I think the top economics paper that talks about this, the title of the paper says it all, which is "Gender Quotas and the Crisis of the Mediocre Man", and basically, what's happening is, when you set quotas and targets, you actually increase your quality because some people who historically had advantages who weren't maybe as qualified are now not getting considered.

23 So this excuse about meritocracy and all of that is 24 something that's getting in the way of us being able to use 25 targets effectively. Thank you.

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MS. BERMAN: Wes.

27 MR. HALL: So I think a lot of companies confuse the 28 words "targets" and "quotas", and let's say you use quotas. Quotas is going to be, "I need 10 black men." You get 10 black men. Doesn't really care about, you know, how smart they are. A target says that our objective is to get 10 black men, but we need to make sure that it accomplishes our objective of getting to certain places. We're used to doing that as a street. We report targets, we meet objectives, we don't meet them, we report back to the street our progress.

8 But let me talk a little bit about -- MarketIntelWorks 9 did some work, a lot of work with the 30% Club and they're going 10 to be doing some work with The BlackNorth Initiative, and their report as at June 30th, the 30% Club said, "We want to see 30 11 percent of women in C-suites and our boards by 2020," and it was 12 13 formed six years ago. They've achieved that objective this 14 year, okay, the reason being was because a target was set, it 15 was measured and it was managed, and everybody were on board and made it happen. 16

Now, when we talk about racial diversity, let's look at the numbers, for example. In 2020, we had 19 black board members. 2021, we had a massive improvement. It went to 19 [sic], and that's out of 533 positions in total, which is a 3.6 percent increase in that number.

The BlackNorth Initiative, as you're aware, committed that -- have companies committed that they would have 3.5 percent of their boards and C-suite represented by black folks. Now, at that rate of change, 3.6 percent increase per year, it's going to take us 33 years to accomplish that objective, but the Initiative said that it should be accomplished by 2025.

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So if it's not measured, how is it going to be

1 managed? And that's really what we need to think about, is that 2 we cannot manage what we do not measure, and that's why the 3 target is there, so that it doesn't take us 33 years to 4 accomplish something that we say we're going to do in five 5 years, right? And so that's what we should think about.

Now, if we -- I focus a little bit on the TSX. So if we look at TSX, for example, and the numbers and at the boards, there's 6,034 companies on the TSX. Black board positions on that is 42 of those 6,034, and that was 2020, and in 2019 --2021, that number went up to 70. Executive positions, 6,066 companies, 73 black members.

And if we go to the Composite, for example, and we look at all the boards on the TSX Composite Index, 2,241 companies, 29 board members that are black. C-suites, 2,655 positions, 33 are black, and then as we stay in the Index, for example, zero chairs are black, zero CEOs are black, and only two CFOs are black.

Again, if we don't have those jobs, can't drive a Ferrari, can't stay at the Four Seasons, can't live in Rosedale, and you don't fly business class, and as a result of that, the stereotype continues.

So the reason why we need to think about these numbers is because of the fact that these are publicly-listed companies that are going through money from people like me, and pension funds like Paul is managing, that have money from people like me, right, and so we need to make sure that our policies are inclusive because we know, regardless of what people may say about the stats, inclusive companies are better businesses and 1 they make money. Why do we consistently leave money on the 2 table and we think nothing about it?

As CEOs and managers, we have to make sure that every single dollar we can get to create value for our investors, we go and get it, but in this particular case, we're not doing it. So it's either (a) we don't get the problem, or (b) we don't care about the problem, but in either case, it's a problem.

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MS. BERMAN: Thanks, Wes. So Geordie and then Rahul.

9 MR. HUNGERFORD: Wow, Wes, that was amazing. Totally 10 agree with everything you just said. I mean, I think there 11 should be reporting issuer targets of at least one Indigenous 12 person on every reporting issuer board in Canada, and more so 13 really a goal of mandatory representation on every TSX issuer.

These big board firms, as prominent corporate citizens, you know, with investment from all across Canada, should be taking Indigenous reconciliation seriously and show the leadership. I mean, most of these firms have grown wealthy off the bounty of this country of Canada, founded on Indigenous land and Indigenous peoples would expect Indigenous board representation as a show of respect and reconciliation.

Regarding executives, I think there should also be 21 22 similar targets. CBCA data, which has finally given us some 23 good evidence on Indigenous inclusion or lack thereof, showed there were zero, none, Indigenous TSX.V executives, so I guess 24 25 it can't get any worse. Given these issuers are often involved 26 in resource exploration and extraction, which often has an 27 Indigenous rights angle, there's a lot of Indigenous-related risk that needs better reporting, including Indigenous executive 28

1 inclusion.

And further to a point that was made earlier, I think reconciliation metrics should be including Indigenous representation throughout the organization, from the top to the bottom. In fact, I think there needs to be a CSA project looking more carefully on the concept of Indigenous reconciliation generally.

8 I also agree that, you know, what gets measured gets 9 rewarded. Without tools to measure Indigenous reconciliation, 10 very little will happen and that's why we need those targets. 11 Thank you.

12 MS. BERMAN: Thank you very much, Geordie. Rahul. 13 MR. BHARDWAJ: Thanks very much. Super. Super great 14 comments, and I want to amplify, I don't want to go over what 15 I've heard, but I want to start with what gets measured gets 16 done. Geordie amended that a touch and I'm going to amend it 17 slightly further: What gets measured gets gamed, and we've got 18 to be careful about that part, and if it continues to get gamed, 19 that's going to just breed more cynicism at a time we're trying 20 to build trust. So the notion of, you know, comply or explain, 21 targets, wherever that's going to go, requires clarity and it requires commitment and it certainly requires a shift of 22 23 culture.

I want to share a quick story with you about a webinar we did at the Institute of Corporate Directors about five years ago that involved the discussion around diversity, but we invited a woman named Turid Saove from Norway, a lovely lady, a good friend, who had done remarkable work on advancing gender

diversity on boards in Norway, and, of course, she advanced it by really pushing quotas, and that's ultimately where they ended up going.

4 So the point with the conversation we were having in 5 the Canadian context was, well, where do we think about targets, 6 hard targets, quotas, and we polled the audience that day twice. 7 The first time we polled them, we said, "How many of you, Canadian audience, think that we should have quotas for gender 8 9 diversity on boards in Canada?" Well, not surprisingly, it was 10 about 75/25 against it. No surprise there. That's the Canadian way. We like to go comply or explain. We like voluntary 11 targets, and they all make a lot of sense in a lot of contexts. 12

Then we had the conversation with Turid and we re-polled them, and said, "Based on this conversation and the journey that the European markets had gone through on this, let's re-poll you." That 75/25 against quotas turned into 60/40 in favour of quotas. There was such a level of frustration on the lack of progress that's made with these voluntary targets, it's very hard to reconcile.

20 So I think we're in a, you know, we're in a really 21 important flexion point in Canada to really determine how 22 serious are we about making progress. We've been very patient 23 for a long time.

Obviously, companies are having challenges meeting these, and if we continue to be laggards on this, we are going to breed cynicism and, ultimately, we're really going to lose the trust and confidence of the multi-stakeholder environment we're in. So it's an inflection point.

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## TERM LIMITS FOR DIRECTORS:

MS. BERMAN: Thank you, all. It sets the stage next quite well for our third topic which deals with, you know, the notion of creating the opportunity and recognizing the pipeline that exists, as Wes and others have pointed out. So we'd love to hear the panelists' perspective on director term limits, so creating an environment in which you can have that type of board renewal and opportunity for diverse candidates.

9 So the questions to this, I mean, we've already 10 touched on some of the jurisdictions that deal with that, so the question for some of the panel members are: Do you think that 11 12 directors' term limits are an effective mechanism for achieving 13 board renewal, and are there opportunities for diversity of the 14 board and management? Are there other more appropriate ways to 15 achieve that sort of healthy level of board renewal? And then if, if you're in favour of creating some form of term limit, if 16 17 you think that's the most effective mechanism, should public 18 companies be allowed to set their own term limits given the 19 context of their own businesses? Should securities regulators 20 set term limits? Is that an area that we should get into? 21 Should we provide guidance on what we think is appropriate from a governance perspective and what would that guidance look like? 22

23 So I'll start off with Catherine, and then, Rima, if 24 you could add your comments, and then turning it to Paul and 25 finally Grant.

26 MS. MCCALL: Okay. I think that term limits can be 27 effective in terms of furthering board refreshment, just for the 28 simple reason that you make room on the board, but we've seen in practice and through the OSC's own research that it doesn't -it's not effective in terms of enhancing diversity. The vacancies are just not being filled by diverse candidates.

I would like to suggest that a very traditional mechanism is probably better suited to increasing diversity and that is very solid, robust board succession planning processes, where you have a skills matrix that includes the importance of new blood, fresh perspectives, as well as institutional knowledge and is very -- emphasizes the importance of diversity to that company, to those boards.

So that if that's part of the essential makeup of what 11 you're looking for, and as a good succession plan is going to 12 13 put, try and put those into effect, I think that that in itself 14 would move diversity because you would have put the importance 15 of diversity right into your skills matrix and into what you think should happen and where the board should go, and that 16 17 should reflect not just the board's current state, position and 18 operations, but where the strategy, where they want to end up 19 and what do they need to get that strategy.

20 So I would say that, arguably, strong succession 21 planning is the best defence or mechanism for boards to increase 22 diversity, but that, I don't think that that's happening. I 23 think we can see that it's not being utilized the way it should be and experience has shown that it's really difficult to remove 24 25 directors. I mean, human nature and psychological propensity to 26 not want to offend or to avoid conflict means that it's not 27 going to happen organically. So I think for practical reasons, it's arguable that there should be a formal mechanism for board 28

renewal, even though I think succession planning is the best
 way.

3 So I think that, historically, we thought a board 4 evaluation, this is CCGG, has thought that a board evaluation 5 process is the best because you can -- evaluation process where 6 the results are actually followed, so that you can remove poorly 7 performing directors, but theoretically, we now realize that that's not sound because, in theory, you could have directors 8 that are on for 20 years that are all highly performing, which 9 10 wouldn't happen if you were looking at a succession planning that included diversity. 11

12 So I think that you need to have some kind of 13 mechanism that's there, but that is not too prescriptive, and I 14 don't think there's a perfect solution because the common, the 15 most common term limits are those that talk about age and that talk about length of tenure for either an individual director or 16 17 on average for the board as a whole, and I think that they have 18 problems. Like, one is ageist. One is too inflexible. One is 19 frequently -- they can be frequently ignored by the board 20 through exercise of discretion.

I think there's another alternative that might present 21 22 a solution, and that is something that you see in the U.S. and 23 the U.K., where there is an independence standard that is stipulated. So that in the U.K., for example, there's a 24 25 rebuttable presumption that directors are not independent after 26 nine years and the board must explain if their director is on 27 longer than that, the longer tenure, why they should still be 28 considered independent.

1 So this has implications for board composition and 2 turnover that would be important for diversity, and under this 3 alternative, I think it makes sense for regulators to provide 4 guidance about what length of period is independent, to be 5 considered or not, no longer independent, so 10 years or 6 whatever.

MS. BERMAN: Thank you. Sorry to cut you off. I'm just going to -- those are some really important points and very helpful, but in order to get time, I'm just going to --

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MS. MCCALL: Thank you.

MS. BERMAN: -- pass it on, on to Rima, and to see if you have anything you'd like to add on to those thoughts.

13 MS. RAMCHANDANI: Sure. Thanks, Wendy. I mean, I 14 agree with what Catherine said. I'm not persuaded that term 15 limits are, you know, or the absence of term limits are a 16 meaningful hurdle when we're talking about increasing diversity, 17 and I think the OSC data over the last five years shows that, as 18 Catherine said, right? I think only around 30 percent. It's 19 been sort of hovering around 30 percent, since you've been 20 reporting, the vacancies are held by women. So that tells me that it's not, it's not that we need to create more seats to 21 22 fill. I think there is [inaudible] and there's still not even 23 parity in terms of the seats.

So I'm not convinced that, yes, term limits is -- the link between term limits and diversity is clear-cut. You know, I think it's a totally credible conversation, and ask to have from a corporate governance perspective is, is the adoption of some sort of term limit appropriate to ensure board renewal and refreshment and that you have the right skill set around the
 table.

I mean, I think almost every board has a skills matrix. Almost every board reproduces it. I think people do this. I think the -- you know, if there's a criticism or a failing, it's in the robustness of that process, and so I think that is probably the best way to tackle ensuring that you have the appropriate members around the table.

9 I think there's lots of good reasons not to adopt 10 fixed term limits. I think you don't want to have directors for 11 life, but I think lots of directors, long-serving directors have 12 institutional knowledge that's valuable to the company, not 13 easily replaced.

14 I think shareholders elect the directors every year, 15 and they have an opportunity to decide whether people are performing or not performing. I appreciate that that vote is 16 17 not always exercised in a meaningful way after some sort of 18 crisis, but I think there are already mechanisms in the 19 corporate law to address it, so I'm not, you know, I'm not a big 20 proponent of term limits, and I don't see them as being a 21 meaningful driver on the diversity conversation.

MS. BERMAN: Thank you. I don't know, Paul, if you have anything different to add from the institutional investor perspective.

25 MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, I think I tend to agree with 26 Rima and Catherine in that, you know, term limits alone are not 27 the driver for diversity. It's the effectiveness of the 28 recruitment function that drives it. I mean, term limits are --

you know, they can create that opening, but what does the board -- what does the search committee do with that opening is probably the important part there.

4 And, you know, we've, for a number of years now, we 5 look at sort of the total makeup of the board. We have a -- if 6 average tenure is more than 10 years, we get a little bit of a 7 concern, plus we even get more concerned if there's been no new 8 directors in the last three years. So that's really -- you 9 know, we're trying to think, okay, is this an entrenched board 10 and that's the last thing we want to see, is that entrenchment. So we kind of use that quide as our sort of flags to highlight 11 potential issues with term limits. 12

But I think, you know, and I don't want to sound overly, like, with rose-coloured glasses on, but it is, it is so much dependent on that, that, you know, renewal is so much dependent upon a strong chair who can properly and effectively execute the assessment, you know, the assessment process. You really need that and you need to have some tough conversations.

Each one of us, well, you know, I'll speak for myself, but I have to go through a performance approval, appraisal every year, right? If my performance isn't good, then, you know, we have a different conversation.

23 So I think we've always felt that, you know, a 24 directorship is a really important job. It's a hard job, it's a 25 tough job, but I think with -- comes that, you also have to 26 perform, and I think there's also going to be a bit of a 27 cultural thing here where, you know, if people come on the board 28 knowing they have, you know, "I have five to seven years or 10

years and then I'm going to move on to something else," I think
 that's also part of it.

And I think, finally, to Rima's point, as shareholders, we have to start to hold boards to account when we see these diversity or these tenure issues or something like that. I've seen crazy stuff, not necessarily in Canada, but 40-year board tenure and then that's like, well, you know, that's a lot of institutional knowledge, but is that the right institutional knowledge you need to have on the board.

10 So I will stop at that because I know we're getting 11 stretched for time, so...

MS. BERMAN: Thank you, Paul. So now, Grant, I don't know if you have something -- well, I know you have something to add in terms of thoughts on term limits and other mechanisms.

15 MR. VINGOE: Yeah. I have a slightly different view that, you know, the discussion about term limits have been 16 17 talking about, like, generally and most, many recommendations, 18 it's been a 12-year tenure with some exceptional instances of 15 19 years, and I actually -- I think that, you know, those are not 20 very, you know, stringent requirements, but they send a societal 21 signal, you know, about turnover and the need for turnover, and 22 if it's augmented by the cultural shift I talked about and the 23 targets on a comply or explain basis, I think it takes on the concept of indispensability. 24

You know, people are -- individual board directors would rarely be indispensable after a dozen years and with appropriate succession planning and, you know, transfer of information and the right culture of renewal, I think it's an

1 important societal message.

It does tread more directly into corporate law requirements, you know, and that could be an issue for securities regulators, but it does -- I think, ultimately, it's one of those tools that together with targets and an enlarged definition of diversity could ultimately be useful and take on the idea of indispensability.

I also think there is almost inevitably management 8 9 capture of any director who's served for 15 years, you know, and 10 the idea that they could be independent. You know, it probably exists in practice, but I'd be very skeptical and think that the 11 approach, which does fall within, more naturally, within the 12 13 realm of securities regulation, to say there has to be, you 14 know, a limit on someone being treated as independent when 15 they've benefited from the management control of the proxy machinery for 15 years and been re-elected. We really have to 16 17 question, you know, whether someone can truly be independent at 18 that point.

So I'm more favourable than the other speakers about term limits.

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FINAL REMARKS:

MS. BERMAN: Well, thank you, all. I think we're just going to move to one last sort of rapid round because we've got questions coming in fairly fast and furious from the audience, which is wonderful to see.

26 So just ask you to spend a minute, if you could share 27 with us your sort of one final thought for enhancing diversity 28 through a securities regulatory regime. So specific to our 1 sandbox and our authority, just share your one last thought, and 2 maybe what I'll do is I'll start off with Paul and then go to 3 Rima, and then go to Catherine, and then I'll pass it on from 4 there.

5 MR. SCHNEIDER: Thanks, Wendy. I guess -- so one 6 thought with a minute, okay. You know, I think, you know, if I 7 could pick one thing, it would be disclosure because disclosure really drives change, if people have to, you know, disclose what 8 9 they're doing about diversity, you know, the targets they have 10 and how they're progressing against those targets. So I think that probably would be the best thing, a good mechanism to drive 11 12 change, if I had to pick one thing.

MS. BERMAN: Thank you. Very good. Under a minute.Rima.

15 MS. RAMCHANDANI: I'm going to pick more than one thing, but I'll still stay under a minute. So facilitating 16 17 transparency of data for disclosure, as Paul said. I think 18 engaging, from a securities regulatory perspective, engaging 19 proactively with investors on what matters to them, again 20 driving the disclosure, and then educating, educating market participants on this topic and what's happening around the 21 22 globe.

23 Canada is not alone. Our market is not an isolated 24 market. We have to be cognizant of what's happening in the 25 U.S., the most dominant market. It influences everything we do, 26 and so I think it's important that we understand what's 27 happening in the world and that we not be left behind. 28 MS. BERMAN: Spoken like a true lawyer: Three things

1 in one minute. So now to you, Catherine.

2 MS. MCCALL: I have to agree that I think disclosure 3 is key, and that is the purview of the Commission, and I think 4 that that's where they can make the most, obviously, impact.

I would take a slightly -- I think that disclosure 5 6 that's comparable is extremely important and the idea of having 7 graphs or charts that set out exactly the same disclosure that's required for all issuers is good, but I think in addition to 8 9 that, that narrative disclosure is very important, so that I 10 think issuers need to be given the opportunity to explain what is unique about -- for them in terms of diversity and inclusion. 11 12 So I'll leave it at that.

MS. KAPLAN: Thank you. So I will say just that, as a closing thought, that I think that in those narratives that I have now read all of, I would say that there's a lot of unhelpful rhetoric and jargon that is impeding progress, in particular, as I mentioned before, around meritocracy and quality and the pipeline, the supposed pipeline problem.

And just linking back to Geordie's comment earlier. It feels to me like that means that your skills matrix is not correctly set and that if you feel like you have a pipeline problem or meritocracy is impeding diversity, then you probably haven't looked correctly at your skills matrix. Why, for example, would any resource company not have Indigenous representation on its board? It just makes no sense.

And so one way to get around some of this, the challenge around the rhetoric, is simply to think about what are the implications of the 21st Century for the skills matrix and 1 do you have the right one, and meritocracy is just not an 2 adequate excuse anymore. It's -- people use it, but it's a 3 go-slow technique.

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MS. BERMAN: Geordie --

5 MR. HALL: So Wendy --

MS. BERMAN: Oh, Wes. Go ahead.

MR. HALL: First of all, it's not possible for me to talk about one thing for one minute, okay? So I'll take Paul's minute and among others. Okay, but here's the thing:

10 This conversation doesn't have to be the elephant in the room, and it has been treated that way for such a long 11 period of time. Nobody wants to touch it, and I'm not quite 12 13 sure why because it's really a good conversation to have, and I 14 hear all the time people say to me, "Wes, if you keep on talking 15 about this stuff, aren't you afraid that people are going to 16 tune you out?" And no, I'm not because the more you speak about 17 something because it's the right thing to speak about, the more 18 people actually start to pay attention to it.

19 When we sign The BlackNorth Initiative pledge, the 20 pledge is not a legal document. The pledge is a principle-based document that says, "On principle, my company will be 21 22 inclusive." That's it. If they don't do it, the companies 23 don't do it, they're not breaking any laws. They're not going to be thrown into jail. Nothing is going to happen to them. 24 25 They're going to continue being the CEO because the CEO pledge, 26 nothing changes, but you broke your principle and that means a 27 lot, and if you're investing in that company, that should mean a 28 lot to you as an investor, right?

So we're saying to folks is that do it because -- not only because it's the right thing to do, but because you're running a business that should return profit to investors, it's the most profitable thing to do, and you're actually doing your job.

MS. BERMAN: Thank you, Wes. So just over a minute, so you took maybe some of Geordie and Rahul's time, but we can probably extend. So Geordie, I don't know if you have anything you'd like to add on and then pass the baton to Rahul.

10 MR. HUNGERFORD: Yeah, sure. We Indigenous people say 11 nothing about us without us. So we want inclusion of Indigenous 12 peoples and activities that affect our rights and our lands, but 13 right now, capital markets and securities regulation which 14 manages the flow of money and commerce, which frequently 15 interacts with those Indigenous rights and title, doesn't 16 include Indigenous people.

17 The CBCA data speaks to the 25 times 18 underrepresentation: The zero Indigenous TSX.V executives. I 19 know of one Indigenous staff member across the whole CSA, for 20 example. I understand there's only a dozen Indigenous CFA 21 charter holders in all of North America.

Accounting, finance, investment banking, asset management, Wes's fast car and business class professions, there's a huge underrepresentation, and I find it hard to name prominent Indigenous executives or finance professionals, but I know hundreds of Indigenous people, particularly younger leaders, who are capable and ready. It's time for reporting issuers, registrants, and regulators to pick up their game and

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report on Indigenous inclusion.

2 I'm going to leave you with some words of Senator 3 Murray Sinclair, who was the Chair of the Truth and 4 Reconciliation Commission speaking on reconciliation. He said: 5 "We have described for you a mountain. We have shown you the way to the top. We call upon you to do the climbing." 6 7 So now I think is the time for corporations and securities regulators to do the climbing. Hi cho [ph]. 8 9 MS. BERMAN: Very powerful words, Geordie. Thank you. 10 And now, Rahul, you're the follow-up to that. MR. BHARDWAJ: Great. So I don't want to go over the 11 excellent comments I've already heard, but let me just amplify 12 13 them a little bit by saying with the greatest of respect, 14 leaders and particularly corporate leaders know the right thing 15 to say, especially when it relates to diversity. What they need are the tools to do the right thing now. 16 17 And I think, building off of Grant's earlier comments, 18 where I picked up around societal signals around the culture 19 change about the regulator not being within a bubble, it's a 20 leadership role that the regulator can take by putting those 21 tools in place and corporate leaders can work with. 22 And I think there's been an issue all along on what 23 those tools are, and I know you're looking far and wide to find out what they are, but at the end of the day, wherever you land, 24

25 it's going to take risk, but I would leave you with, there's 26 more risk in not acting now than ever.

27 28 QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

MS. BERMAN: So thank you, all. I think I'm going to

1 turn now to questions. We've got a short period of time.

2 So the first question is actually directed to you, 3 Geordie. So there's been lots of discussion about 4 self-identification, and the question is whether it's even 5 possible to self-identify as a particular group, or are there 6 cultural issues that come into play when you're asked to 7 self-identify? And then the same question when it comes to 8 gender, so -- and recognizing the, you know, sort of gender 9 fluidity and whether or not it's possible or are there other 10 hurdles?

11 So start off with Geordie and then if there's one of 12 the women on the panel would like to take the second part of the 13 question.

MR. HUNGERFORD: Yeah. I wouldn't let the good get in the way of the perfect, and I don't see any evidence of issues with the CBCA reporting which, presumably, focuses on personal identification or self-disclosure, but if there ever was a need for more bright line tests, there are options.

Indigenous identity generally means that a community or nation owns you, and you identify with that community, and so there are metrics and ways that this is proven. So an Indian status card, membership in an Indian band, enrollment in a modern treaty nation, Métis cards, these are all bright line tests that show evidence of membership, and these types of documents cover the vast majority of Indigenous peoples.

26 So, you know, I wouldn't -- unless there's evidence of 27 a problem, I wouldn't flag it.

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MS. BERMAN: Thank you. I don't know, Sarah or

1 Catherine or Rima, if you want to address.

2 MS. KAPLAN: I can just say a little bit. One, I 3 think people are recognizing that gender is not a binary, and so 4 more and more forms are including, you know, different ways of 5 people identifying their gender, and I think that's incredibly 6 important.

And I just want to double down on the point that Paul made earlier about in the U.S., the EEOC and the fact that every -- over a hundred [inaudible] must ask each employee to self-identify, and what that does is it creates this very safe space because it's the government mandate that everyone self-identifies.

13 Right now in Canada, each employer has to basically 14 ask their employees if they would be willing to do it with no 15 broader mandate, and I think that's more the problem when it 16 comes to this self-identification, is that we don't have the 17 government umbrella in terms of that self-identification that 18 occurs in the U.S. and, therefore, the data is then available in 19 the ways that we talked about.

20 MS. RAMCHANDANI: I would just add, I mean, obviously, 21 the data isn't perfect because it requires voluntary self-identification. I think though, coming back to the earlier 22 23 comment, these are personal, very personal characteristics of people, right? And we can talk about this in big terms about 24 25 the importance of diversity, the importance of the data, but 26 when you're talking about, again, a very small group of people, 27 the notion of anonymity in that information is kind of ridiculous, right? 28

You know, you know the directors and the executive officers, and so I don't think we should underestimate the point that Sarah just made, which is when you're talking about information like this, when it's aggregated and when it's across the organization, that looks very different than when you're talking about a chart of these 10 people and who fits the box.

7 That's like to me the definition of the box-ticking 8 exercise. That's where I think you get into some of these 9 issues about, you know, what's really happening. You've got to 10 really look deeper in the organization to get at this.

So I don't think -- while I don't think this leads you 11 to the conclusion that you just don't ask, right, but I do think 12 13 we should be sensitive to the fact that our current regime 14 really doesn't protect people's anonymity. It really doesn't 15 protect people's personal information, and when we're talking 16 about, you know, gender with -- maybe that's easier, although 17 probably not, but there's lots of other qualities that we're 18 talking about that I think are very personal and people may be 19 very reluctant to disclose.

20 So I do think when you're thinking about rules around 21 diversity disclosure, more aggregated, bigger numbers, capturing 22 the bigger number of employees is, frankly, easier and better 23 disclosure for a lot of people.

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MR. HALL: Wendy, just quickly add.

MS. BERMAN: Okay. Go ahead. And then Catherine.
MR. HALL: I've heard a lot of comments regarding
that, and the thing that companies are missing is the why. They
don't give their employees the why are you collecting this data.

1 They just go, "Give me your diverse information," and because of 2 the fact that people in minority groups, for example, have had 3 this information used against them when they used to put on 4 applications, "Do you have a criminal record? Do you have this? Do you have that?", it was used historically to exclude people 5 6 from the organization. It was used as a weapon against them, 7 and now we have it as a benefit, but we're not explaining to the folks what the benefit is of self-identity, and once we do a 8 9 good job of that, when people actually see us being intentional 10 about how we're using the data, over time people will self-identify happily, but right now, we just don't give them 11 12 the why.

MS. MCCALL: I would just say that I think it is a more complex issue, the privacy problem with this, and to your point, Rima, about the smaller groups and smaller companies, that it's very challenging and I'm not sure even if, you know, you're given the why, if that would necessarily overcome that. So I think that's going to be a big hurdle.

19 MS. BERMAN: Thank you. So I want to pick up on 20 another question, which sort of triggers off of your comments, 21 Rahul, which is wanting to hear about, you know, the notion that 22 the current tools being used, like a comply and explain model, 23 are doomed to fail or have been a failure, and are -- you know, and so then this question, very provocatively to my boss, Grant, 24 25 is, are securities regulators prepared to provide Corporate 26 Canada with the tools necessary to drive this important change? 27 MR. VINGOE: Well, actually, we certainly are willing to do it and, you know, it's sort of -- actually, the way the 28

question was posed, it also implicates whether we'd be prepared to move to quotas which, in turn, relates to the split between corporate law and securities regulation.

4 My hope is that targets can be made to work and, you know, I do believe that the discourse that has arisen over the 5 6 last seven years based on women on boards and in executive 7 positions, you know, has jump-started discussions, and while the 8 progress has been slow and you can actually say, as was 9 mentioned, that even in the absence of a regime like that, other 10 jurisdictions have outstripped Canada. So that's a reality, but it's still, you know, been part of a complex that's brought us 11 to this point of discussion and has contributed to a cultural 12 13 change and to this moment.

So I think with even more emphasis on the tools that we have and moving to more directive targets on a comply or explain basis, possibly introducing term limits as an additional cultural and disclosure signal, we can be doing a lot more and we need, as securities regulators, to continue to facilitate that discussion and make -- and really emphasize the importance of these tools and what they can accomplish.

21 You know, one thing about the NASDAQ rule that often 22 gets overlooked is the fact that they also offered recruiting 23 services to their especially smaller companies that are listed on NASDAQ, and I actually do think that the professionals who 24 were involved in the selection of director nominees and the 25 26 recruitment process that interacts with the governance and 27 nominating committees of corporations need also to make this a focus of attention. 28

I don't think we have enough recruiting resources, and resources actually expended in identifying candidates and mentoring candidates to actually fulfill board and executive positions. So that part of the professional ecosystem could really be enhanced.

And I'd like to see the securities regulators work with private sector groups in actually enhancing access to really well-developed recruitment and mentorship opportunities and professionals to make this work better because I think that's something that's lacking today in the Canadian environment.

MS. KAPLAN: I just want to jump in on one thing about what the Ontario Securities Commission could do, which is, as I suggested earlier, don't make all of this disclosure happen just somewhere in the information circular.

I mean, we've studied the language. The language in the circular is actually more obfuscating than, the language on diversity, than in any other area of the circular. I think we need people to click something that says, "I have targets or not and here's what the target is," and then we need to make it more transparent and searchable.

And I was told by people at the OSC that the reason it's not that way is because of paperwork minimization rules, but I do not think, based on having read all of these documents, that paperwork has been minimized through that approach.

And so I think one easy thing, maybe not easy, but one important thing the OSC should do is make this a separate reporting Web form and then make it searchable so that anyone 1 can get that information.

2 MR. VINGOE: I'm very supportive of that, and, in 3 fact, it lends itself to the behavioural insights approach that 4 we're taking to improve all our disclosure documents, and it has 5 to be easy to find, searchable, and in a position that has an 6 impact and not just for, you know, professional users, but for 7 all users of the disclosure.

8 MS. BERMAN: I think we have a moment to just squeeze 9 in one more question, which is directed probably more to Rahul 10 and/or Catherine, is how do you tackle the skills matrix issue 11 to expand the corporate vision to be receptive to diversity? 12 And so how do we -- what's the most pragmatic way to tackle 13 that?

MS. MCCALL: Can I go first? I think from our perspective, it's -- my perspective, it's shareholders insisting on the matrix be a meaningful document that actually reflects thought and what's needed by the company.

18 So I think shareholders have a role to play when 19 they're engaging with companies, that they make sure it isn't 20 the sort of just formalistic practice that Sarah's alluding to 21 in other areas. I think that shareholders can pursue this 22 effectively if they use their voice and they use their ability, 23 their rights.

MS. BERMAN: Rahul, any last comment?
MR. BHARDWAJ: Sure. I'd support that, and add
something as well. When I think of what happened with the
ExxonMobil case down in the U.S., there's shareholders, you
know, flexing their muscle in terms of board composition, and I

1 think you're going to see a lot more of that.

2 So if you haven't looked up "Engine No. 1", go look 3 that up, that's quite a story, but the other thing that I would 4 say is, this is where leadership and the role of a chair are 5 really, really important. When you start to think about, you 6 know, oversight of culture, strategy and risk, in particular 7 around strategy, this is where a board needs to do some deep 8 thinking to understand what their oversight role is, what their 9 own makeup is, and this should be reflected in its matrix.

10 So I think the shareholders are certainly, you know, 11 one very important stakeholder group to provide input on to that 12 to make sure there's an alignment around strategy, but this is 13 the deep thinking and learning that a board has to do and its 14 own self-assessment to say, do they have the skill set around 15 the table, to have proper oversight of culture, strategy and risk.

And as we know, this is becoming even more and more complex in a time of, you know, geopolitical uncertainty, digital, cyber, all the transformations, and it's at the heart of what we teach in our courses at ICD, by the way, but at the end of the day, does boil down to strong leadership at the chair level and a really good assessment process and connecting it with strategy.

23 MR. SCHNEIDER: Wendy, can I just jump in? Sorry,24 I'll be very quick.

Just on the skills matrix, you know, I've seen lots and lots of skills matrices over my years, and what I'm seeing now, more companies or a few companies talking about why that skill is there. Like, so not just present the skill, but what 1 is it -- why, why did the board decide that this was an 2 important skill.

And also, we encourage companies not to have, like, a laundry list of skills. You know, we've seen that where, you know, if everybody has a skill, then it's probably -- you can probably take it off your matrix. It's really the skills that are really important for your operation of the board.

8 MS. BERMAN: Thank you, Paul. Well, I'm going to turn 9 it over to Grant to have the last and important word to sum up 10 today's incredible roundtable.

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CLOSING REMARKS:

MR. VINGOE: Well, it's been incredibly -- as you say, it's been really valuable for me and I think for all of us to hear where we have common ground and what the issues are. It's been a really rich discussion and I'm glad we had an opportunity to answer some of the questions from the audience as well.

17 The Women on Boards Initiative, as I said before, I think has really had a significant impact on the discourse, 18 19 maybe not the numbers that we would want to see, but on the 20 discourse that's led us to this point about discussing broader diversity and what the role of securities regulation is, and 21 22 we're in a really good position to build on that, and we can 23 improve the quality of disclosure to make it even more impactful. So, you know, I certainly support that. 24

25 So we -- my belief is that we have had an impact. 26 Securities regulation absolutely has a role in this, and it's 27 also a very useful mechanism. Like, we have the machinery in 28 place for disclosure. We have the machinery in place for examinations to determine that standards are met and that the quality of the disclosure is appropriate and to disseminate information.

So, you know, to those who think it should fall to another agency or another realm of law and regulation, I think expedience and the urgency of this necessitates our involvement and the use of the resources that we have to carry it out, so I think we're central in the change that has to come.

9 And there really is an urgency for this change, given 10 the circumstances that we've seen in the world, you know, the increasing divisiveness, the violence in some cases, the 11 exclusion that persists in the face of the most compelling cases 12 13 for inclusion, and so we have to take advantage of this 14 opportunity. I think there is always a risk that it just gets 15 out of sight and out of mind and ceases to be at the top of mind for people because something else displaces it. I don't know 16 17 what that something else would be, this is so compelling, but the urgent need is there now. We need to seize the opportunity. 18

And the OSC itself is part of the journey in the same way that others have described how their own institutions are reflecting on these issues and engaging with their employees and outside stakeholders to enhance their own diversity and their own inclusion and culture shift.

So we're doing that. We're deeply engaged. We've set up, you know, infrastructure within the OSC for engagement with management. We've, as Wes mentioned, endorsed The BlackNorth Initiative commitments and we're deeply committed to actually quantitative and cultural change at the OSC as an important part 1 of the justice system.

And it's both a -- it's of practical importance, and as I said earlier, I think it's also of symbolic importance that extends even, you know, beyond our function for an entity that's central to the capital markets to itself display this commitment to change, and we are committed to doing that.

So with that, I'd like to thank everyone, the audience and especially my fellow panelists for participating today, and we look forward to our next steps.

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MS. ROBINSON: Thank you. MS. BERMAN: Thanks, everyone.

12 --- Whereupon the proceedings were adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING to be a true and accurate transcription of my shorthand notes to the best of my skill and ability.

> Beverley Killen, CSR Computer-Aided Transcription