
B. Ontario Securities Commission

B.1 Notices

B.1.1 CSA Notice of Publication – Amendments to Multilateral Instrument 13-102 System Fees



Canadian Securities
Administrators

Autorités canadiennes
en valeurs mobilières

CSA NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AMENDMENTS TO MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENT 13-102 SYSTEM FEES

July 10, 2025

Introduction

The Canadian Securities Administrators (the **CSA** or **we**) are adopting amendments (the **Amendments**) to Multilateral Instrument 13-102 *System Fees* (**MI 13-102**)¹.

Provided all required approvals are obtained, the Amendments will come into force on November 28, 2025, in all CSA jurisdictions.

This notice is available on the websites of the following CSA jurisdictions:

www.bcsc.bc.ca
www.asc.ca
www.fcaa.gov.sk.ca
www.mbsecurities.ca
www.osc.ca
www.lautorite.qc.ca
www.fcnb.ca
nssc.novascotia.ca

Substance and Purpose

The CSA is introducing an updated system fee regime with annual increases in system fees over a 5-year period commencing in late November 2025. Under the Amendments:

- the total system fees collected by the CSA will increase,
- no new system fees are introduced,
- system fees remain established on a cost-recovery basis, and
- the flat-fee structure is retained.

We note that system fees fund the costs of the technology systems shared by CSA members and are separate from any regulatory or other fees a user may be required to pay in any province or territory.

Background

In 2019, the CSA proposed that MI 13-102 be repealed and replaced so that the principal and non-principal regulator system fees could be replaced with flat fees per filing type paid only to a filer's principal regulator. This change simplified the system fee regime for filers and was implemented when SEDAR+ went live in July 2023. This change also removed system fees for certain filing

¹ While the Manitoba Securities Commission is not a participant in MI 13-102, it is a participant in the system fee regime as a result of Regulation 158/2013 under *The Securities Act* (Manitoba). It is anticipated that the Amendments would be reflected in corresponding amendments to Regulation 158/2013.

types and introduced some new fees. The system fee changes under this new structure, combined with changes in filing patterns, reduced the annual system fee revenue by 18%. As a result, fiscal 2024 system fee revenue was less than the fiscal 2013 system fee revenue.

Since this change was proposed in 2019, there has also been accelerated growth in IT labour costs for both IT system development and operations (including for SEDAR+). From 2021 to 2024, the labour costs for IT services increased between 35% and 45%, outpacing costs growth in other sectors². These IT labour costs are expected to continue increasing at a steady pace over the next few years.

Summary of the Amendments

The Amendments increase system fees to better align system fee revenues with projected national systems operating costs over the next 5 years.

To meet current national systems funding needs, the CSA will implement a 60% system fee increase in November 2025 and 3% increases in each of the following 4 years. These system fee increases are necessary to ensure sufficient funding to operate the CSA's national systems over the next 5 years. Since system fees continue to be based on the type and number of filings submitted and the number of individual registrants, the proportional fee increases will equitably impact all market segments.

We are reviewing whether the CSA can develop and operate national systems more effectively and efficiently. As part of that review, the CSA is developing a long-term strategic plan for the national systems that considers use of the latest technology tools and alternative operating models.

Summary of Written Comments Received by the CSA

During the comment period, we received submissions from 4 commenters. We have reviewed the comments received and thank the commenters for their input. The names of the commenters are contained in Annex B of this notice and a summary of their comments, together with our responses, are contained in Annex C of this notice. The comment letters can be viewed on the websites of the Alberta Securities Commission at www.asc.ca, Ontario Securities Commission at www.osc.ca and Autorité des marchés financiers at www.lautorite.qc.ca.

Summary of Changes to the Proposed Instrument

After carefully considering the comments received, we have not made any material revisions to the materials that were published for comment. However, we do take note of them for consideration in future system, budget and stakeholder engagement planning. We invite the commenters to view our responses set out in Annex C. As mentioned above, the system fee increases are required to ensure the sustainability of the CSA's national systems over the next 5 years.

WKSJ-Related Amendments

As published for comment on September 21, 2023, the CSA plans on introducing an expedited shelf prospectus regime for well-known seasoned issuers (**WKSJs**) in Canada. The proposed WKSJ amendments include the introduction of system fees required upon the filing of a WKSJ base shelf prospectus, which are aligned with the fees required for the filing of a preliminary shelf prospectus. Since the WKSJ amendments are scheduled to come into force at the same time as the Amendments, the WKSJ-related system fees have been added to the MI 13-102 amendments set out in Annex A.

List of Annexes

This notice contains the following annexes:

- Annex A – Amendments to MI 13-102
- Annex B – List of commenters
- Annex C – Summary of Comments and CSA Responses
- Annex D – Local matters – this annex is being published in any local jurisdiction that is making related changes to local securities laws, local notices or other policy instruments in that jurisdiction. It also includes any additional information that is relevant to that jurisdiction only.

² <https://www.gartner.com/en/documents/3996699>

The Gartner Labor Rate Tool provides rates for 30+ countries for a selection of IT services. It uses salary analysis, which sources salary data from 65,000 global sources including government salary data, job boards, and corporate sources to collect compensation data. North American parameters were used to assess labor rate increases.

Questions

Please refer your questions to any of the following:

Autorité des marchés financiers

Mathieu Laberge
Senior Legal Counsel, Legal Affairs
mathieu.laberge@lautorite.qc.ca

British Columbia Securities Commission

Noreen Bent
Chief, Corporate Finance Legal Services
nbent@bcsc.bc.ca

Alberta Securities Commission

Duncan Pardoe
Legal Counsel, Office of the General Counsel
Duncan.Pardoe@asc.ca

Manitoba Securities Commission

Leigh-Anne Mercier
General Counsel
leigh-anne.mercier@gov.mb.ca

Financial and Consumer Services Commission (New Brunswick)

Ray Burke
Manager, Corporate Finance
ray.burke@fcnb.ca

Autorité des marchés financiers

Sylvia Pateras
Senior Legal Counsel, Legal Affairs
sylvia.pateras@lautorite.qc.ca

British Columbia Securities Commission

Ken Chow
Senior Legal Counsel
Corporate Finance Legal Services
kchow@bcsc.bc.ca

Financial and Consumer Services Commission Authority of Saskatchewan

Sonne Udemgba,
Director, Legal, Securities Division
Financial and Consumer Affairs
sonne.udemgba@gov.sk.ca

Ontario Securities Commission

Ashley Hsu
Legal Counsel, General Counsel's Department
ahsu@osc.gov.on.ca

Nova Scotia Securities Commission

Doug Harris
General Counsel, Director of Market Regulation and Policy
and Secretary
Doug.Harris@novascotia.ca

ANNEX A

AMENDMENTS TO MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENT 13-102 SYSTEM FEES

1. **Multilateral Instrument 13-102 System Fees is amended by this Instrument.**
2. **Subsection 1(1) is amended by adding the following definition:**

“WKSI base shelf prospectus” means a base shelf prospectus filed under Part 9B of National Instrument 44-102 *Shelf Distributions*..
3. **Subsection 3(1) is replaced with the following:**

(1) If a person or company described in Column A of Appendix A transmits a filing of a type described in Column B of the Appendix, the person or company must pay to the person or company’s principal regulator the system fee specified in Column C of the Appendix for the filing for the reference period corresponding to the date of transmission of the filing..
4. **Section 4 is amended by adding “for the reference period corresponding to that date” after “Appendix B”.**
5. **Appendix A is replaced with the following:**

Appendix A
System Fees

In this Appendix,

“**application**” means a request transmitted through SEDAR+ for a decision of the regulator or securities regulatory authority but, for greater certainty, does not include a pre-filing;

“**pre-filing**” means a request to consult with the principal regulator regarding the application of securities legislation or securities directions generally or the application of securities legislation or a direction to a particular transaction or matter or proposed transaction or matter.

Item	Column A	Column B	Column C				
			Reference periods and system fee payable				
			From 11/28/2025 to 11/29/2026	From 11/30/2026 to 11/29/2027	From 11/30/2027 to 11/29/2028	From 11/30/2028 to 11/29/2029	After 11/29/2029
1	Sponsoring firm – in respect of an individual registrant	Application for registration or reactivation of registration	\$138	\$143	\$148	\$153	\$158
2	International dealer or international adviser	Annual notice of reliance on exemption from dealer registration requirement or adviser registration requirement	\$560	\$577	\$595	\$613	\$632
3	Investment fund that is a reporting issuer	Annual financial statements	\$840	\$866	\$892	\$919	\$947

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Item	Column A	Column B	Column C				
	Person or company required to file	Filing type	Reference periods and system fee payable				
			From 11/28/2025 to 11/29/2026	From 11/30/2026 to 11/29/2027	From 11/30/2027 to 11/29/2028	From 11/30/2028 to 11/29/2029	After 11/29/2029
4	Investment fund	Preliminary, pro forma, or combined preliminary and pro forma long form prospectus	\$3520, regardless of whether the applicable long form prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3626, regardless of whether the applicable long form prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3735, regardless of whether the applicable long form prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3848, regardless of whether the applicable long form prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3964, regardless of whether the applicable long form prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund
		Preliminary, pro forma, or combined preliminary and pro forma simplified prospectus	\$3520, regardless of whether the applicable simplified prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3626, regardless of whether the applicable simplified prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3735, regardless of whether the applicable simplified prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3848, regardless of whether the applicable simplified prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund	\$3964, regardless of whether the applicable simplified prospectus relates to the distribution of the securities of one or more than one investment fund
5	Reporting issuer other than an investment fund	Annual financial statements	\$1224	\$1261	\$1299	\$1338	\$1379
6	Reporting issuer, other than an investment fund, that is not a short form prospectus issuer	Annual information form	\$688	\$709	\$731	\$753	\$776
7	Investment fund that is not a short form prospectus issuer	Annual information form	\$688	\$709	\$731	\$753	\$776
8	Reporting issuer that is a short form prospectus issuer	Annual information form	\$4048	\$4170	\$4296	\$4425	\$4558

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Item	Column A	Column B	Column C				
	Person or company required to file	Filing type	Reference periods and system fee payable				
			From 11/28/2025 to 11/29/2026	From 11/30/2026 to 11/29/2027	From 11/30/2027 to 11/29/2028	From 11/30/2028 to 11/29/2029	After 11/29/2029
9	Issuer other than an investment fund	Preliminary long form prospectus	\$1520	\$1566	\$1613	\$1662	\$1712
		Preliminary prospectus governed by a CPC instrument					
		Preliminary short form prospectus, preliminary shelf prospectus or preliminary MJDS prospectus	\$2400	\$2472	\$2547	\$2624	\$2703
		WKSI base shelf prospectus	\$2400	\$2472	\$2547	\$2624	\$2703
10	All filers	Issuer bid circular filed under Part 2 of National Instrument 62-104 <i>Take-Over Bids and Issuer Bids</i> or take-over bid circular filed under Part 2 of National Instrument 62-104 <i>Take-Over Bids and Issuer Bids</i>	\$560	\$577	\$595	\$613	\$632
11	Issuer, other than an investment fund	Rights offering circular	\$2400	\$2472	\$2547	\$2624	\$2703
12	All filers	Report of exempt distribution	\$64	\$66	\$68	\$71	\$74
13	All filers	Pre-filing that is transmitted through SEDAR+	\$560	\$577	\$595	\$613	\$632

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Item	Column A	Column B	Column C				
	Person or company required to file	Filing type	Reference periods and system fee payable				
			From 11/28/2025 to 11/29/2026	From 11/30/2026 to 11/29/2027	From 11/30/2027 to 11/29/2028	From 11/30/2028 to 11/29/2029	After 11/29/2029
14	All filers	Application that is required to be transmitted through SEDAR+ under National Instrument 13-103 <i>System for Electronic Data Analysis and Retrieval + (SEDAR+)</i> , (a) if a pre-filing referred to in Item 13 was previously transmitted in respect of the application, and (b) in any other case	\$0 \$560	\$0 \$577	\$0 \$595	\$0 \$613	\$0 \$632

6. Appendix B is replaced with the following:**Appendix B
System Fees**

Column A	Column B	Column C				
Person or company required to file	Filing type	Reference periods and system fee payable				
		From 11/28/2025 to 11/29/2026	From 11/30/2026 to 11/29/2027	From 11/30/2027 to 11/29/2028	From 11/30/2028 to 11/29/2029	After 11/29/2029
Sponsoring firm – in respect of each individual registrant sponsored by the firm	Annual registration renewal	\$138	\$143	\$148	\$153	\$158

7. (1) This Instrument comes into force on November 28, 2025.
- (2) In Saskatchewan, despite subsection (1), if this Instrument is filed with the Registrar of Regulations after November 28, 2025, this Instrument comes into force on the day on which it is filed with the Registrar of Regulations.

ANNEX B
LIST OF COMMENTERS

1. IGM Financial Inc.
2. Fidelity Investments Canada ULC
3. The Canadian Independent Finance and Innovation Counsel
4. The Investment Funds Institute of Canada (now Securities and Investment Management Association or SIMA)

ANNEX C

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS AND CSA RESPONSES

Proposed Amendments to Multilateral Instrument 13-102 System Fees

This Annex summarizes the comments we received and our responses to those comments.

ITEM	TOPIC	SUMMARIZED COMMENT	CSA RESPONSE
1	Size of the fee increase	<p>Commenters generally expressed disappointment in the size of the proposed increase in the first year. Two noted that while the increase would be less than \$2,500 for 95% of filers, it would still be significant to some smaller, cost-sensitive filing organizations.</p> <p>The commenters also generally acknowledged the rising costs of information technology. All asked the CSA to consider the cumulative cost impact of proposed system fees and policy changes, and the impact of the change experienced by market participants.</p> <p>There were several suggestions on how to approach system fees, including deferring increases until all national systems have been modernized, spreading the first-year increase over five years and only doing gradual increases when warranted. All encouraged planning so significant increases are avoided in the future.</p> <p>Specific comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We understand that the CSA is functioning on a cost-recovery basis and that the significant fee increases proposed in the Consultation are to recover exponential cost increases in the last few years for implementing and maintaining information technology (IT) systems. It is important to note, however, that the industry has concerns with how SEDAR+ was developed and therefore expects the increased new fees will be used optimally. While we acknowledge the necessity of funding to address rising technology and cybersecurity costs and to support the CSA's national systems, we believe that the fee increases proposed would be onerous for the Investment Dealers we represent. We note that there are other significant cost increases on the horizon for asset and wealth managers. In particular, the proposed amendments to NI 31-103 and Companion Policy to implement Total Cost 	<p>The CSA acknowledges the impact of the system fee increases on filing organizations.</p> <p>We take note of the comments regarding the cumulative impact of policy changes, and they will be considered in future planning.</p> <p>Before proposing the system fee changes, the CSA carefully examined all expenses and reduced national system spending to the point where additional reductions would negatively impact services in the short-term and the overall health and longevity of the national systems in the long-term.</p> <p>When the 2019 proposed flat filing fee structure was implemented in 2023, the filing patterns that year resulted in annual system fee revenue being reduced by 18%. As a result, fiscal 2024 system fee revenue was less than the fiscal 2013 system fee revenue.</p> <p>Additionally, from 2021 to 2024, the labour costs for IT services increased between 35% and 45%, outpacing costs growth in other sectors³. These IT labour costs are expected to continue increasing at a steady pace over the next few years. Therefore, the CSA must proceed with the proposed fee changes at this time.</p> <p>The CSA appreciates the benefit to market participants of understanding future fee increases. The proposed system fees include gradual inflationary increases for the 4 years that follow the larger increase in the first year, better aligning future system fees revenues with projected operating costs. This approach is intended to help moderate the impact of projected operating cost increases on market participants.</p>

³ <https://www.gartner.com/en/documents/3996699>

The Gartner Labor Rate Tool provides rates for 30+ countries for a selection of IT services. It uses salary analysis, which sources salary data from 65,000 global sources including government salary data, job boards, and corporate sources to collect compensation data. North American parameters were used to assess labor rate increases.

ITEM	TOPIC	SUMMARIZED COMMENT	CSA RESPONSE
		<p>Reporting and the proposed amendments to NI 81-106 and Companion Policy to replace the existing annual and interim MRFPs with new Fund Reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Independent dealers we represent object to the burden of higher fees being placed on them in order to cover these past shortcomings in financial planning and forecasting. For CSA staff to comment that “accelerated growth in IT labour costs for both system development and operations could not have been anticipated” is worrisome. 	
2	Transparency and involvement of market participants in strategic discussions	<p>All commenters requested greater transparency with respect to the CSA providing details on how collected system fees are allocated. They also requested that the CSA provide a list of existing system issues, a clear timeline and ongoing updates about fixing issues and replacing systems. Industry Association commenters advocated for greater inclusion in the system planning process, to ensure the national systems meet as many market participant needs as possible.</p>	<p>The CSA is committed to working closely with market participants to ensure SEDAR+ and other future systems are developed with their direct input.</p> <p>We are transparent about system priorities and changes. In 2024, the CSA began publishing a list of open SEDAR+ items, workarounds and anticipated resolutions. With each quarterly SEDAR+ update, the CSA hosts an informational filer webinar about the latest changes and the fixes or improvements that are planned for future SEDAR+ system updates.</p> <p>For the last year we have hosted a monthly SEDAR+ User Community meeting for filers. The goal was to better understand the SEDAR+ filer experience, better address challenging filing issues and gather user insights. This group’s ongoing contributions have added great value to our issue prioritization and resolution process. The SEDAR+ User Community meetings will continue in 2025.</p> <p>Additionally, this year the CSA is establishing an NRD User Community to provide input on current experiences with NRD and areas of improvement, and to explore how best to use the system for regulatory compliance and for registrants to run their businesses effectively.</p> <p>The CSA appreciates the varied perspectives and needs of national system users. In preparation for the launch of SEDAR+, the CSA increased industry stakeholder engagement. We are committed to engaging national system users earlier in the development process for future national systems changes, with the intent of better understanding and meeting the ongoing and changing needs of those users.</p>

ITEM	TOPIC	SUMMARIZED COMMENT	CSA RESPONSE
3	System funding model	<p>Three commenters felt that the CSA should bear the burden of some system costs, not just market participants. One commenter acknowledged the system fee reduction experienced in 2019. To ensure the sustainability of all market participants, one commenter recommended the introduction of a tiered fee structure that aligns fee increases with firm size, capacity to pay, and the value of the technological improvements made to the national systems.</p> <p>Specific comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We appreciate the CSA's initiative in 2019 to simplify the system fees regime so that the principal and non-principal regulator system fees could be replaced with flat fees per filing type paid only to a filer's principal regulator which, combined with changes in filing patterns, resulted in an annual system fee reduction. We believe that the CSA should consider paying the costs for SEDAR+ issues from each of the securities commissions' surplus funds, rather than placing this burden on the industry. We recommend periodic reviews of the fee structure alongside system performance with industry input, to ensure it remains equitable and reflective of actual system costs and to ensure useability and value for market participants. 	<p>We acknowledge the suggestion to have system development funded by the CSA and that is a consideration in future national system planning.</p> <p>The CSA's national systems are operated on a cost recovery basis, primarily through system fees.</p> <p>To maintain a fair and transparent cost recovery approach, the CSA uses the flat per-filing system fee model, where fees increase proportionally based on system use. Filing organizations that have the smallest filing or registrant volumes and/or a lower filing frequency pay the lowest proportion of the fees being collected.</p> <p>In addition to the flat fee structure enabling fees to be based on filing behaviour and volume of system use, it streamlines fee payment administration for multi-jurisdictional filers and for the CSA.</p>
4	Importance of system modernization	<p>Three commenters mentioned the critical role that the national systems play in ensuring the transparency, efficiency and confidence in Canada's capital markets. They also supported the CSA's focus on cybersecurity and long-term efficiency.</p> <p>All commenters noted that the multi-year, multi-million system modernization project, SEDAR+, did not deliver on all expectations and market participants experience residual issues. Larger issues, specifically the large Investment Fund Group filings (fixed in November 2024), had resulted in increased time (thus costs) to file. Three commenters urged the CSA to address the most pressing concerns before implementing the system fee increases. One offered a suggestion on how SEDAR+ can be enhanced to reduce regulatory burden, by becoming a central repository for mandatory investment industry disclosure documents.</p> <p>Specific comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We also find it difficult that the CSA can justify such a steep increase in fees when the performance of its new system 	<p>We thank the commenters and acknowledge their comments of support for the CSA's national systems.</p> <p>We also acknowledge that some aspects of SEDAR+ functionality have not fully met market participants' expectations, and some issues have impacted filing organizations negatively.</p> <p>Since the SEDAR+ launch in 2023, the CSA has and continues to diligently work with vendors to address the system issues most impacting market participants.</p> <p>In November 2024, we made notable improvements to the "large investment fund group" SEDAR+ filing process. Overall, filing organizations have indicated that SEDAR+ performance has been getting better.</p> <p>We have replied directly to the one commenter who provided a list that included the large investment fund group and other SEDAR+ issues experienced by their filing organization. Over 90% of the</p>

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ITEM	TOPIC	SUMMARIZED COMMENT	CSA RESPONSE
		<p>SEDAR+ has not delivered on its expectations of enhanced usability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For our team, it has caused a significant increase in the number of hours to complete filings, over 100 additional hours, and we have increased the number of team members involved in our regulatory filings as a result.• We are thankful that the most significant challenges have been addressed. However, using SEDAR+ still present some challenges such as the search function and slow functionality, which need to be addressed so that the system meets investor and industry needs.	<p>issues, including those with the highest impacts, have been addressed. The remaining are being investigated and/or scheduled to be fixed.</p>

ANNEX D

LOCAL MATTERS (ONTARIO)

In Ontario, the Amendments as well as other required materials, were delivered to the Minister of Finance on July 9, 2025. The Minister may approve or reject the Amendments or return them for further consideration within 60 days of delivery. If, in that time frame, the Minister approves the Amendments or does not take any further action, the Amendments will come into force on November 28, 2025.