John Stevenson, Secretary Ontario Securities Commission 20 Queen Street West 19<sup>th</sup> Floor, Box 55 Toronto, ON M5H 3S8 By email: jstevenson@osc.gov.on.ca

## **RE: Proposed National Instrument 31-103**

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you in response to the request for comments on the Proposed Instrument NI-31-103. As a mutual fund investor, I shall be relying heavily on my investments for my retirement.

I would like to express my concern regarding additional costs the proposed instrument will impose on mutual funds and small independent investment firms that are currently registered as ICPM's. I believe that increasing regulation is harmful to me as an investor because it increases the cost of doing business and reduces competition by deterring new advisors and small firms.

Specifically:

## Section 4.14

I believe that the current working capital level requirement is sufficient for firms that do not hold investor money and use third party custodians. Increasing the required level of working capital would hit the boutique fund industry particularly hard in an unfair and unnecessary manner.

## Section 4.18

Insuring assets of a fund that has a quality third party custodian does not provide any benefit what so ever, it only increases the funds' cost that will inevitably be passed on to me and reduce my returns. The text as proposed will require double insurance.

Your invitation to the May 14-15 information session held by the CSA in Toronto introduces NI-31-103 as "The Rule . . . will create a flexible registration regime leading to administrative efficiencies, and reduced regulatory burden for registrants."

The effect of the two above sections on my investment will be contrary to your stated intent. Therefore, I ask you to reconsider these points or at least allow for the flexibility of informed opting-out.

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