

# Everything you need to know about the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO): a dynamic resource

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Welcome to BLG and BLG Beyond AUM Law's dynamic resource on the <u>Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization</u> (CIRO). We invite you to bookmark and revisit this page which will be updated to reflect developments of importance to CIRO registered firms. Resulting from the amalgamation of the <u>Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada</u> (IIROC) and the <u>Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada</u> (MFDA), CIRO has been operating since January 1, 2023 and has led to - and will continue to generate - significant changes in the registration and oversight of investment and mutual fund dealers across Canada, as well as new opportunities. This resource is designed to help you find, understand and act on CIRO-related topics, such as new developments, rules, registration requirements, enforcement and examinations and more.

### **2025 Developments**

 On July 3, 2025 - <u>CIRO published amendments</u> (the "Amendments") to the Mutual Fund Dealer Rules ("MFD Rules") and the Investment Dealer and Partially Consolidated Rules ("IDPC Rules") intended to implement the Total Cost Reporting Enhancements ("TCR Enhancements") contained in National Instrument 31-103 ("NI 31-103"). Implementation will be effective on January 1, 2026. Together with the Amendments CIRO also published an <u>Exemption Application (Outside Holdings)</u> form to be used by member firms making a new application or seeking an extension of an existing exemption regarding the reporting of fees and charges related to outside holdings.

On June 30, 2025 - CIRO released a bulletin concerning the <u>Quebec</u>
 Regulation respecting complaint processing and dispute resolution in
 the financial sector - CIRO Dealer Member Exemptions. The bulletin
 reminds CIRO member dealers of their obligation to comply with certain
 requirements included in the Quebec complaint regulation. The bulletin
 also has a link to a FAQ document published by the Autorité des



marchés financiers (AMF) intended to assist CIRO members with

compliance.

On June 27, 2025 - CIRO released a report summarizing Exemptions Granted in 2024. The report provides stakeholders with a useful summary exemptions that were granted to Members and Approved

Persons last year.

• On June 26, 2025 - CIRO and the Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) announced that effective July 1, 2025 they will delegate to CIRO additional registration functions, including the registration of investment dealers, mutual fund dealers, derivatives dealers and persons acting on their behalf. This is further to the delegation of functions made by Alberta, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Yukon effective April 1, 2025. Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and British Columbia are expected to follow, but their timing is not known.

On June 25, 2025 - CIRO released the 2025 annual Enforcement Report. The report highlights the previous year's (April 2024- March 2025) enforcement activities and contains key statistics and summaries

of enforcement matters.

 On June 4, 2025 - Québec's National Assembly passed Bill 92— An Act to amend various provisions mainly with respect to the financial sector.

The major impacts on mutual fund dealers and investment dealers

registered in Québec are as follows:

- The Chambre de la sécurité financière (CSF) merges with the Chambre de l'assurance de dommages (ChAD) to form the Chambre de l'assurance. After a period of transition the new organization stop regulating mutual fund advisors. At a future date the oversight of mutual fund advisors will be delegated by the AMF to CIRO.
- Investment dealers will be subject to Québec's Financial Services Compensation Fund.
- On April 17, 2025 CIRO released <u>Guidance on the new CIRO Proficiency Model for Approved Persons of Investment Dealers Exemptions, Recognition, Transition and Validity Provisions.</u> The Guidance will help dealer members and Approved Persons prepare for the implementation on January 1, 2026, of the new proficiency model.
- On April 17 2025 CIRO published <u>Guidance on Dealer Member training for Registered Representatives and Investment Representatives</u>. Under the new proficiency model dealers must provide training to registered representatives and investment representatives within 90 days of approval. The Guidance is intended to inform dealers of the training program requirements. This new training requirement replaces the current pre-registration dealer training requirements. The Guidance is effective January 1, 2026.
- On April 4, 2025 CIRO released its Annual Priorities for the 2026 fiscal year (April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026) to provide CIRO members, the investing public, and other stakeholders with a preview of near-term initiatives.
  - The top priorities for the coming year include:
  - Completing the rule-consolidation project
  - Advancing proposed rule changes related to proficiency, disclosure, and access to advice



- Progressing the next phase of advisor incorporation

- Exploring how CIRO can support open banking in Canada

• On April 1, 2025 - The Delegation to CIRO of certain registration functions by Alberta, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, and Yukon takes effect. The Delegation authorizes CIRO to undertake the registration function for firms registered as, or applying for registration as, investment dealers, mutual fund dealers, and futures commission merchants, and the individuals who act on their behalf. The AMF intends to publish its delegation order with an expected effective date of July 1, 2025, with similar delegations by Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and British Columbia to follow.

Consolidation Project (the Proposal) relating to the consolidation of the two sets of rules currently applicable to investment dealers (IDPC Rules) and mutual fund dealers (MFD Rules). The Proposal relates to requirements that are common to the IDPC Rules and MFD Rules and have been assessed as having differences deemed to be significant with potential material impacts on stakeholders. The Proposals involve rules relating to business organization, outsourcing and service arrangements, continuing education, complaint handling, internal investigations and reportable matters, recordkeeping and client reporting, and financial operations and reporting. The Proposals will have significant implications for both investment dealers and mutual fund dealers. The comment period is open until June 25, 2025.

 On March 7, 2025 - The Ontario Securities Commission announced the <u>Delegation</u> of certain registration functions to the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO). The Delegation authorizes CIRO to undertake the registration function for firms registered as, or applying for registration as, investment dealers, mutual fund dealers, and futures commission merchants, and the individuals who act on their behalf. The

Delegation takes effect on April 1, 2025.

On February 18, 2025 - CIRO announced that it will <u>Consult on Supporting the Consumer-Driven Banking Framework in Canada</u>. CIRO stated that one key area of focus will be evaluating the need for a standardized KYC process to facilitate greater client data portability. CIRO intends to establish working groups and engage with stakeholders. Stakeholders interested in participating should contact MembershipServices@ciro.ca.

• On January 31, 2025 - CIRO released the <u>CIRO Compliance Report for 2025: Helping Dealers with Compliance</u>, which is intended to help dealer members with their supervision and risk-management efforts. This report is important reading for dealer Chief Compliance Officers

and Ultimate Designated Persons.

 On January 9, 2025 - CIRO requested comments concerning <u>Proposed</u> <u>Amendments Respecting Mandatory Close-Out Requirements</u>, which would require investment dealers to:

• close out a fail-to-deliver position in the event of a settlement failure within a specified time,



- pre-borrow the affected security when there was a settlement failure for all future short sales in the same security, provide for mandatory reporting, and
- have a reasonable expectation to settle on settlement date for investment dealer members that are not UMIR participants.

The proposals are drafted to align with similar provisions in the U.S. CIRO acknowledges that the impact may be significant, particularly for firms that trade in junior securities and smaller or regional dealers. Comments are due by April 10, 2025.

## **2024 Developments**

- On December 20, 2024 CIRO issued a Guidance Note concerning <u>Underwriting regulatory financial reporting and capital requirements</u>, which provides guidance on regulatory financial reporting and capital requirements that arise when a CIRO investment dealer enters a securities underwriting commitment as part of the underwriting syndicate or selling group. The guidance is effective December 31, 2024.
- On December 19, 2024 CIRO released a Proposal to harmonize CIRO Continuing Education (CE) Programs (the "Proposals"). CIRO intend to harmonize CE requirements for mutual fund dealers and investment dealers. CIRO propose a phased approach, Phase 1 will focus on proposed rule amendments for the next CE cycle that have a minimal impact on firms and Approved Persons, and Phase 2 will consider future rule amendments that have significant operational and/or IT system impacts, which would take place in the following CE cycle. Stakeholders should review the Proposals and consider commenting before March 18, 2025.
- On December 13, 2024 CIRO released a request for comments regarding Non-tailored Advice in the Order Execution Only Channel to evaluate whether investment dealers offering order execution only services (OEO Dealers) can provide non-tailored advice to meet the needs of DIY investors. CIRO proposes to revise the OEO Guidance to clarify the range of alerts, proactive notifications, educational information, and self-help investing tools that OEO Dealers can provide to clients. Stakeholder comments are due by February 26, 2024.
- Amendments Respecting Trading Increments together with Proposed Guidance. CIRO proposes to amend the Universal Market Integrity Rules (UMIR) to (i) distinguish between the applicable trading increment for a "U.S. inter-listed security" and a security that is not a "U.S. inter-listed security", and (ii) establish that the applicable trading increment for a "U.S. inter-listed security" will be designated by CIRO from time to time, with the goal of aligning Canadian trading increments for certain U.S. inter-listed securities with the United States, to avoid the potential for migration of trading activity away from the Canadian market. The comment period is open until January 27, 2025.
- On December 5, 2024 The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) approved <u>Amendments to the Universal Market Integrity Rules (UMIR)</u>



that support and clarify the short selling framework under UMIR by adding a new positive requirement in UMIR 3.3 to have, prior to order entry, a reasonable expectation to settle on settlement date any order that upon execution would be a short sale, adding supervisory and gatekeeper requirements pertaining to the requirement in UMIR 3.3, and consolidating other current provisions related to short selling to a common location within UMIR. CIRO also <u>published new Guidance</u> on requirements related to short selling and failed trades under UMIR.

- On November 20, 2024 The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) announced that its members will be considering delegating registration functions to the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO). CIRO currently performs certain registration functions for some CSA members under delegated authority, and this further delegation would create a consistent and harmonized approach in registration processes for CIRO members across Canada. In addition, the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC) has announced that, subject to an appropriate framework of oversight, it will be delegating to CIRO registration of investment dealers and mutual fund dealers, and the individuals who act on behalf of mutual fund dealers. (The OSC has already delegated the registration of individuals acting on behalf of investment dealers to CIRO.)
- On October 31, 2024 CIRO released for comment a revised <u>Proposal to Modernize the CIRO Arbitration Program</u> (the Proposal). Changes were made to the Proposal after consideration of comments received after an initial publication in December 2022 and considering the amalgamation of the MFDA and IIROC. CIRO's Proposal includes making the current Arbitration Program (The Program) available to clients of mutual fund dealers, limiting the Program to claims over the OBSI limit of \$350,000, raising the Program award limit to \$1,000,000. The comment period is open until January 31, 2025.
- On October 21, 2024 CIRO released for comment a revised proposal regarding <u>Distributing Funds Disgorged and Collected</u>
   through CIRO Disciplinary Proceedings to Harmed Investors
   (Phase II) (the Proposal). Changes were made to the Proposal after consideration of comments received after the initial publication in February 2023. The object of the Proposal is to provide for the distribution of disgorged funds collected through CIRO's enforcement processes to harmed investors. The comment period is open until January 20, 2025.
- On October 17, 2024 CIRO released for comment Phase 4 of the proposed changes to harmonize the two rule sets currently applicable to investment dealers and to mutual fund dealers into one set of rules. The Phase 4 changes concern rules that are mostly unique to the investment dealer and mutual fund dealer rules and have been assessed as having differences deemed to be significant with potential material impacts on stakeholders. The Phase 4 Proposed DC Rules involves the adoption of rules relating to: approval and proficiency for individuals, managing significant areas of risk, and business conduct and client accounts rules. The comment period is open until February 4, 2025.
- On October 10, 2024 CIRO released <u>Enhanced Cost Reporting Proposed Rule Amendments</u>. These amendments seek to harmonize CIRO member investment dealer and mutual fund dealer cost reporting



requirements with the <u>Total Cost Reporting Enhancements recently introduced respecting in National Instrument 31-103</u>. The proposed changes also include changes that aim to resolve some of the existing differences in client reporting requirements and practices of investment dealers and mutual fund dealers. Stakeholders are encouraged to comment. Comments are due January 8, 2025.

• On September 19, 2024 - CIRO released its <u>Annual Report for 2023-2024</u>, alongside the inaugural <u>Investor Advisory Panel (IAP) Annual Report</u>. These reports provide a comprehensive update on the activities of CIRO. The Annual Report includes enforcement, financial, and governance information that will be of interest to all CIRO stakeholders.

- On September 12, 2024 CIRO released a Rule Consolidation Project Update. The purpose of the Update is to provide information concerning Project Status and Timeline, Comment Period Participation and Decisions Made to Date. The Decisions Made include the decision to not proceed to allow mutual fund dealers to offer managed accounts, but to allow mutual fund dealers to offer margin and use client free credit balances within their operations. CIRO plan to complete all Rule consultations and publish the complete Rules for comment during winter 2025-2026.
- On July 18, 2024 CIRO published for comment Proposed Amendments Respecting Net Asset Value Orders and Intentional Crosses. The proposed amendments relate to the Universal Market Integrity Rules (UMIR) and will impact trading in Exempt Exchange-traded Funds (ETFs) where the execution price of the order references the net asset value (NAV) of the ETF as published by the issuer of the ETF in accordance with applicable securities legislation, and will remove an outdated prohibition in the definition of "intentional cross" that prohibits an intentional cross where one side of the trade is jitney. Stakeholders have until October 18, 2024 to comment.
- On July 16, 2024 CIRO released its <u>2023 2024 Enforcement Report</u>.
   The report highlights the continuing integration and evolution of CIRO mutual fund dealer and investment dealer enforcement functions, selected cases, and statistics on activities during the year. It is an interesting read for all stakeholders.
- On June 27, 2024 CIRO published an <u>Implementation Bulletin</u> announcing the approval of amendments to improve the clarity of the registration and proficiency requirements in the Investment Dealer and Partially Consolidate Rules (IDPC Rules). The amendments will be effective September 28, 2024.
- On April 25, 2024 CIRO published for comment a Proposed Integrated Fee Model. The proposed fee model is comprised of three components: Annual Dealer Member Fee, Application and Business Change Fees, and a Qualified Market Maker Discount. Annual Dealer Member Fees are proposed to be calculated based on the greater of a Minimum Fee, and an amount based on the Dealer Member's total revenue, plus a component based on the number of Approved persons at the Dealer Member. There will also be a minimum threshold amount for Mutual Fund Dealers only. There is also allowance for Québec based Mutual Fund Dealers during the transition period to CIRO regulation. Stakeholders have until June 24, 2024 to comment. Read BLG Beyond AUM Law's article here.



• On April 18, 2024 - CIRO released for comment <a href="Phase 3">Phase 3</a> of the proposed changes to harmonize the two rule sets currently applicable to investment dealers and to mutual fund dealers into one set of rules. The Phase 3 changes concern rules to be retained that are common to the IDPC and MFD Rules and have been assessed as not having a material impact on stakeholders. The Phase 3 Proposed DC Rules involve the adoption of rules relating to membership and member business activity approval matters, clearing and settlement of trades and trade delivery standards, and examination, and, investigation and enforcement rules. The comment period is open until July 17, 2024.

On April 11, 2024 - CIRO released it inaugural Three-Year Strategic Plan. The document is wide ranging and is an important read for all CIRO member dealers. CIRO set out their newly adopted Vision, Mission, and Values. They also identify Transformational Initiatives, including a proposal to "standardize KYC", and provide a detailed list of Strategic Objectives for all divisions of CIRO. It is a bold plan that CIRO

members should make themselves familiar with.

On March 13, 2024 - CIRO released <u>CIRO Compliance Priorities Report for 2024: Helping Firms with Compliance</u>. The document is wide ranging and is an important read for all CIRO member dealers. CIRO continue to align processes and procedures from the legacy organizations. Also, a focus on implementation and compliance with the Client Focussed Reforms continues.

On February 15, 2024 - CIRO released proposed amendments and draft guidance with respect to Fully Paid Securities Lending and Financing Arrangements. These amendments are intended in part to enhance the framework regarding retail fully paid securities lending and include protections for retail investors who participate in these programs. The changes will impact dealers who participate in these

programs. Comments are due by April 15, 2024.

On February 14, 2024 - the Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) published its final Regulation respecting complaint processing and dispute resolution in the financial sector, which aims to harmonize complaint handling across Québec's financial sector. In section 37, the AMF has exempted mutual fund and investment dealers from the regulation, subject to equivalent CIRO rules. However, some aspects of the regulation are not harmonized with what is currently in place in securities regulations. The regulation comes into force on July 1, 2025.

On January 25, 2024 - CIRO released a position paper titled Policy options for leveling the advisor compensation playing field. In the position paper policy options are presented to eliminate the anomaly which permits mutual fund dealer Approved Persons to direct commissions to a third-party corporation, while investment dealer approved persons cannot. Comments are requested before March 25, 2024.

2024.

• CIRO Approved for Financial Advisor Title Use \_\_ - On January 23, 2024, the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSRA) approved the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO) as a credentialing body under Ontario's Financial Professionals Title Protection Act, 2019 (FPTPA). CIRO now has the authority to grant credentials that permit individuals to use the Financial Advisor title in Ontario. The categories of individuals approved by CIRO, that may use



the Financial Advisor title are: Registered Representative; Mutual Fund Dealing Representative; Portfolio Manager; and Associate Portfolio

Manager.

• Rule Consolidation Project - Phase 2 - On January 11, 2024, CIRO released for comment Phase 2 of the proposed changes to harmonize the two rule sets currently applicable to investment dealers and to mutual fund dealers into one set of rules. The Phase 2 changes concern rules to be retained that are unique to the IDPC or MFD Rules and have been assessed as not having a material impact on stakeholders. The Phase 2 Proposed DC Rules involve the adoption of rules relating to margin, debt markets and Inter-Dealer Bond Brokers (IDBBs), and trading. The comment period is open until March 11, 2024.

• On January 9, 2024 - CIRO announced they will be moving their office, and as of February 12, 2024, they will be located at 40 Temperance Street, Suite 2600, Toronto ON M5H 0B4. The move is part of a strategy to come together as one organization following the amalgamation of the

former IIROC and MFDA.

## **2023 Developments**

On December 21, 2023 - CIRO released <u>Harmonized Sanction</u>
 <u>Guidelines and Enforcement Staff Policy Statements</u>, which replace
 the previous versions from IIROC and the MFDA. The Sanction
 Guidelines set out the general principles and key factors for determining
 an appropriate sanction in enforcement matters. The Enforcement Staff
 Policy Statements provide stakeholders with policy guidance regarding
 enforcement issues.

• On December 6, 2023 - the CSA and CIRO released an updated <u>Client Focused Reforms FAQ</u>, consisting of new guidance (starting at Q.43) on

Advisor Ranking Contests/Lists

• On November 30, 2023 - the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) set out a proposed regulatory framework for an independent dispute resolution service whose decisions would be binding. Under the proposed framework, it is expected that the Ombudsman for Banking Services and Investments (OBSI) would be the designated or recognized independent dispute resolution service for the investment industry. British Columbia Securities Commission (BCSC) supports the intended outcomes but is not participating in the proposal as it is considering legislative changes that may achieve the same results. Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) already provides conciliation and mediation services to consumers of financial products and services and is participating in the consultation by proposing to maintain the dispute resolution exemption applicable to Québec-registered firms. There is a 90-day comment period, and stakeholders are invited to provide comments in writing on or before February 28, 2024.

 On November 23, 2023 - CIRO and the Chambre de la sécurité financière (CSF) announced that they have agreed to exchange Continuing Education (CE) course completion information for individuals who are subject to both CIRO's Mutual Fund Dealer CE Program and the CSF's CE Program requirements, which will reduce the duplication

of reporting efforts for these individuals.



- Rule Consolidation Project Phase 1 On October 20 2023, CIRO released for comment Phase 1 of the proposed changes to harmonize the two rule sets currently applicable to investment dealers and to mutual fund dealers into one set of rules. The Phase 1 changes deal principally the items covered in Rule 1000 of the current investment dealer rules, and, they relate to interpretation, definitions, exemptions and general standards of conduct. The comment period is open until December 19, 2023.
- Request for Feedback on December 2022 SEC Market Structure
   Proposals and Potential Impact on Canadian Capital Markets On
   October 19, 2023 the CSA and CIRO released a Staff Notice requesting
   comment on significant market structure proposals under consideration
   by the SEC. The SEC proposals will have a likely impact on Canadian
   Markets. The CSA and CIRO are seeking stakeholder feedback. The
   comment period is open until December 4, 2023.
- Membership Disclosure CIRO Official Brochure On October 19, 2023, CIRO announce the availability of a revised Official Brochure, reflecting new content relevant to all dealer members and CIRO branding. Member dealers may begin to provide the new brochure to clients at any time. Investment dealer members will be required to distribute the new brochure by December 31, 2024. At present, there is no mandatory transition date upon which mutual fund dealers will be required to provide the CIRO Official Brochure. The new brochure can be found here.
- On October 12, 2023 the CSA and CIRO jointly published <u>CSA Staff Notice 31-364</u>, which serves as the Annual Report of the Joint Regulators Committee (JRC) of the Ombudsman for Banking Services and Investments (OBSI). The JRC comprises representatives from the CSA and CIRO and was formed with a mandate to facilitate information sharing and monitor the OBSI's dispute resolution process. The report outlines the activities and initiatives conducted by OBSI in 2022, including its progress toward creating an authority framework that would allow it to make binding awards.
- CIRO receives delegation of powers for mutual fund dealers in Québec On October 5, 2023, the Québec government and the Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) approved a delegation of powers from the AMF to CIRO, which will allow CIRO to register mutual fund dealer representatives in Québec, as well as conduct compliance examinations for mutual fund dealers with activities in Québec. CIRO and the AMF will work on a timeline for implementation, which will include a transition period to allow Québec-registered mutual fund dealers to make the necessary systems changes to integrate into CIRO's platform. CIRO's regulatory requirements, with the exception of the rules necessary to ensure its smooth functioning, will not apply to the dealers' activities in Québec during this transition period.
- <u>CIRO Elects 14 Board Directors</u> On September 26, 2023 at the annual general meeting of members 14 Directors were elected to the Board. The new directors will all serve a two year term.
- <u>CIRO Releases First Annual Report</u> On September 25, 2023 CIRO released its first <u>Annual Report</u>. In the report CIRO outlined the progress made on its first year priorities. The report also highlights the organization's efforts to support Canadians by protecting investors,



fostering healthy Canadian capital markets, and prioritizing industry transformation.

• CIRO Releases Competency Profiles for Approved Persons (Investment Dealers) On September 25, 2023 CIRO published updated Approved Person competency profiles. The previously published competency profiles were updated in response to comments received following notices published between 2020 to 2022. The updates also reflected regulatory changes made since initial publication, and address inconsistencies and improvements otherwise identified by CIRO.

Proposed Registration and Proficiency Amendments. On Aug. 31, 2023, CIRO released for comment <u>Proposed Clarifying Amendments to Registration and Proficiency Requirements</u> in the Investment Dealer and Partially Consolidated Rules (IDPC Rules). Comments are

requested by Oct. 2, 2023.

Investment Dealer Anti-Money Laundering Compliance Guidance. On Aug. 16, 2023 CIRO released updated guidance to assist investment dealers with their AML/ATF obligations. In the Guidance, CIRO outline the AML/ATF regulatory requirements and expectations applicable to Investment Dealers. They also include links to resources to assist

Investment Dealers in meeting their obligations.

• Client Research Project. On August 4, 2023, CIRO released a bulletin stating they will request investment dealers and mutual fund dealers to provide detailed information on the investments held by their retail clients for the purpose of producing a Client Research Report. This is a continuation and expansion of the project undertaken in the past by the Mutual Fund Dealers Association (MFDA). CIRO intend to contact Dealer Members with significant retail investor holdings to obtain feedback, recommendations, and advice on how to make the report as beneficial as possible, and the process of collecting data, as efficient as possible.

On August 3, 2023 - CIRO together with the CSA released <u>Joint Canadian Securities Administrators / Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization Staff Notice 31 - 363 Client Focused Reforms: Review of Registrants 'Conflicts of Interest Practices and <u>Additional Guidance</u>, which summarizes their review and provides additional guidance on conflicts of interest practices by registrants.
</u>

Membership Disclosure Requirements. On July 13, 2023, CIRO released a Rules Bulletin with detailed information to help dealer members update their membership disclosures from MFDA or IIROC names and logos, to the CIRO name and logo, by the deadline of December 31, 2024.

• New Business Change Template. On July 7, 2023, CIRO released a new "user friendly" template for dealer members to submit requests for business changes, along with a webcast to introduce the new template and review the business change notification requirement.

• **Proposed Proficiency Model.** On July 7, 2023, CIRO released for comment a new <u>proficiency model for Approved Persons</u>, which reflects a shift from a course-centric model with exams tied to courses, to an assessment-centric model with some mandatory education and training. Feedback is due by September 20, 2023, with the goal of launching the new standards in 2026.



- New SRO name. On June 1, 2023, the new SRO was renamed the Canadian Investment Regulatory Organization (CIRO). Members must make all updates related to the new name and Membership Disclosure by December 31, 2024. Mutual fund dealers must comply with the Canadian Investor Protection Fund (CIPF) Membership Disclosure Policy by December 31, 2024.
- **Financial advisor title.** CIRO is working with FSRA and the OSC to have the authority to grant credentials and permit the use of the <u>financial</u> advisor title in Ontario.
- CIRO Annual Priorities for fiscal 2024 published.
- Dual Registration Process published by New SRO and broadcast by the CSA.
- Proposed amendments published to facilitate move to T+1 settlement.
- Québec. The <u>transition period for mutual fund dealers in Québec</u> to move from AMF oversight to CIRO oversight will end when the CIRO harmonized rule book is implemented. See Québec Considerations for more details.

Ву

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Expertise

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