# ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE COMMERCIAL LIST

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE AND ARRANGEMENT OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

Court File No. CV-11-431153-00CP

# ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

BETWEEN:

THE TRUSTEES OF THE LABOURER'S PENSION FUND OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN CANADA, THE TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 793 PENSION PLAN FOR OPERATING ENGINEERS IN ONTARIO, SJUNDE AP-FONDEN, DAVID GRANT and ROBERT WONG

**Plaintiffs** 

- and -

SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, ERNST & YOUNG LLP, BDO LIMITED (formerly known as BDO MCCABE LO LIMITED), ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, W. JUDSON MARTIN, KAI KIT POON, DAVID J. HORSLEY, WILLIAM E. ARDELL, JAMES P. BOWLAND, JAMES M.E. HYDE, EDMUND MAK, SIMON MURRAY, PETER WANG, GARRY J. WEST, PÖYRY (BEIJING) CONSULTING COMPANY LIMITED, CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (CANADA), INC., TD SECURITIES INC., DUNDEE SECURITIES CORPORATION, RBC DOMINION SECURITIES INC., SCOTIA CAPITAL INC., CIBC WORLD MARKETS INC., MERRILL LYNCH CANADA INC., CANACCORD FINANCIAL LTD., MAISON PLACEMENTS CANADA INC., CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC and MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED (successor by merger to Banc of America Securities LLC)

Proceeding under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992

BOOK OF AUTHORITIES OF THE MOVING PARTY, DAVID J. HORSLEY (Returnable: NOVEMBER 18, 2015)

November 5, 2015

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- 4. Ted Leroy Trucking (Century Services ) Ltd., Re, 2010 SCC 60
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#### **Chartered Accountants Act, 2010**

S.O. 2010, CHAPTER 6 SCHEDULE C

Consolidation Period: From October 25, 2010 to the e-Laws currency date.

Last amendment: 2010, c. 15, s. 216.

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# **DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

### **Definitions**

1. In this Act,

"appeal committee" means an appeal committee established by the by-laws; ("comité d'appel")

"by-laws" means the by-laws made under this Act; ("règlements administratifs")

"capacity committee" means the capacity committee established by the by-laws; ("comité de détermination de la capacité")

"complaints committee" means the complaints committee established by the by-laws; ("comité des plaintes")

"council" means the council of the Institute; ("conseil")

"discipline committee" means the discipline committee established by the by-laws; ("comité de discipline")

"document" includes data and information in electronic form; ("document")

"firm" means an entity registered under section 21 as a firm; ("cabinet")

"Institute" means The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario; ("Institut")

"limited liability partnership" means a limited liability partnership as defined in the *Partnerships Act*; ("société à responsabilité limitée")

"professional corporation" means a corporation incorporated under the *Business Corporations Act* that is established by one or more members of the Institute; ("société professionnelle")

"public accountant" and "public accounting" have the same meanings as in the *Public Accounting Act, 2004*; ("expert-comptable", "expertise comptable")

"registrar" means the registrar of the Institute appointed by the council; ("registrateur")

"student" means an individual registered as a student of the Institute in accordance with the by-laws. ("stagiaire") 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 1.

### Interpretation - rights not affected

2. This Act does not affect or interfere with the right of any person who is not a member of the Institute to practise as an accountant. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 2.

# THE INSTITUTE

#### Institute continued

3. (1) The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario is continued as a corporation without share capital under the name The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario in English and Institut des comptables agréés de l'Ontario in French. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 3 (1).

### Composition

(2) The Institute is composed of its members. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 3 (2).

### Powers, etc., of natural person

(3) For the purpose of carrying out its objects, the Institute has the capacity and the rights, powers and privileges of a natural person. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 3 (3).

# Implied provisions do not apply

(4) Section 92 (implied provisions for corporations) of the *Legislation Act*, 2006 does not apply to the Institute. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 3 (4).

Note: On a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, section 3 is amended by adding the following subsection:

#### Application of Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010

(5) The *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010* does not apply to the Institute, except as may be prescribed by regulation. 2010, c. 15, s. 216 (1).

See: 2010, c. 15, ss. 216 (1), 249.

# Objects of the Institute

- 4. The objects of the Institute are,
  - (a) to promote and protect the public interest by governing and regulating the practice of individuals and firms as Chartered Accountants in accordance with this Act and the by-laws, including,
    - (i) establishing, maintaining, developing and enforcing standards of qualification,
    - (ii) establishing, maintaining, developing and enforcing standards of practice,
    - (iii) establishing, maintaining, developing and enforcing standards of professional ethics,
    - (iv) establishing, maintaining, developing and enforcing standards of knowledge, skill and proficiency, and
    - (v) regulating the practice, competence and professional conduct of individuals and firms as Chartered Accountants;
  - (b) to promote and increase the knowledge, skill and proficiency of members of the Institute, firms and students;

- (c) to promote and protect the welfare and interests of the Institute and of the accounting profession;
- (d) to meet and maintain the standards that the Institute, as a designated body within the meaning of the *Public*Accounting Act, 2004, is required to meet and maintain in order to be authorized to license and govern the activities of its members as public accountants under that Act; and
- (e) to promote and protect the public interest by licensing members of the Institute as public accountants and regulating those members and professional corporations as public accountants under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004*, when authorized under that Act to do so, in accordance with that Act, this Act and the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 4.

# Meetings of the Institute Annual meetings

5. (1) The Institute shall hold an annual meeting of the members of the Institute in accordance with the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 5 (1).

# **General meetings**

(2) The Institute or the council may at any time call a general meeting of the members of the Institute in accordance with the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 5 (2).

# THE COUNCIL

### **Council of the Institute**

6. (1) The council of the Institute is continued and shall manage and administer the Institute's affairs in accordance with this Act and the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 6 (1).

# Composition

- (2) The council shall be composed of,
  - (a) no more than 16 individuals, as fixed by the by-laws, who are members of the Institute and who are elected by members of the Institute in accordance with the by-laws; and
  - (b) four individuals who are not members of the Institute or of a self-regulating accounting body and who are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 6 (2).

# **Deemed reappointment**

(3) An individual whose appointment under clause (2) (b) expires is deemed to have been reappointed until his or her successor takes office. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 6 (3).

# **Vacancy**

7. (1) If the seat of an elected member of the council becomes vacant, the council shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the member's term in accordance with the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 7 (1).

#### Same

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), an elected member's seat becomes vacant,
  - (a) if the member dies or resigns;
  - (b) if the member is removed from the council in accordance with the by-laws; or
  - (c) for any other reason specified by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 7 (2).

### Officers of the Institute

8. (1) The council shall elect from among its members the officers specified by the by-laws to be elected. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 8 (1).

#### Same

- (2) The council shall appoint as officers of the Institute,
  - (a) a President and Chief Executive Officer;
  - (b) a registrar; and
  - (c) any other officers specified by the by-laws to be appointed. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 8 (2).

# **Acting registrar**

(3) The registrar may designate in writing an individual identified by the council for the purpose to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the registrar in his or her absence. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 8 (3).

#### Committees

9. (1) The council shall by by-law establish a complaints committee, a discipline committee, a capacity committee and one or more appeal committees, and may establish additional committees as it considers appropriate. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 9 (1).

### Terms, conditions of appointment

(2) The council shall appoint the members of any committee established under this Act for the term and on the conditions that the council determines. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 9 (2).

#### **Panels**

(3) The by-laws may authorize a committee to sit in panels for the purpose of exercising its powers and performing its duties under this Act, and for any other purpose. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 9 (3).

#### Same

(4) A decision of a panel of a committee constitutes the decision of the committee. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 9 (4).

# Delegation

# Council may delegate

10. (1) The council may delegate any of its powers or duties under this Act to one or more committees, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Institute or the registrar, subject to any restrictions or conditions that the council may specify. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 10 (1).

# Registrar may delegate

(2) The registrar may delegate any of his or her powers or duties under this Act, other than the power to designate an acting registrar under subsection 8 (3), to one or more employees of the Institute identified by the council for the purpose, subject to any restrictions or conditions that the registrar may specify. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 10 (2).

# **M**EMBERSHIP

# Membership

11. The registrar shall admit as a member of the Institute any individual who meets the requirements and qualifications for membership that are established by the council. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 11.

### Restrictions, conditions

12. The right of a member of the Institute to practise as a Chartered Accountant is subject to any restrictions or conditions imposed under this Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 12.

#### Classes

13. The council may by by-law establish classes of members, including Fellows and Associates. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 13.

### **Designation and initials**

### **Designation**

14. A member of the Institute has the right to use the designation "Chartered Accountant". 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 14.

#### **Initials**

15. (1) A member of the Institute has the right to use the initials "C.A.", "CA", "A.C.A." and "ACA". 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 15 (1).

#### Same

(2) In addition, a Fellow of the Institute has the right to use the initials "F.C.A." and "FCA". 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 15 (2).

#### Restriction

16. The right of a member to use a designation or initials under section 14 or 15 is subject to any restrictions or conditions specified by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 16.

# Refusal, restrictions or conditions Refusal of membership

17. (1) An applicant who is refused membership or candidacy for membership to the Institute may appeal the decision to the appeal committee specified by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 17 (1).

#### Restrictions or conditions

(2) An applicant whose membership in the Institute is granted subject to restrictions or conditions on his or her right to practise as a Chartered Accountant may appeal the decision to the appeal committee specified by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 17 (2).

#### **Parties**

(3) The parties to an appeal under subsection (1) or (2) are the applicant and the registrar. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 17 (3).

#### **Powers**

(4) On hearing the appeal, the appeal committee may confirm or vary the decision being appealed, or may substitute its own decision for that of the registrar. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 17 (4).

#### **Decision final**

(5) The decision of the appeal committee under subsection (4) is final. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 17 (5).

# Suspension of membership

- 18. (1) The registrar may suspend the membership of a member of the Institute for failure to meet a requirement set out in the by-laws within the time set out in the by-laws for the requirement, including a failure to,
  - (a) pay all or part of any fee or other amount that is payable to the Institute;
  - (b) provide information or produce documents or other materials required under this Act to be provided or produced, including proof of professional liability insurance; or
  - (c) successfully complete a professional development course required under this Act to be completed. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 18 (1).

#### Same

- (2) A suspension imposed under subsection (1) remains in effect until the earlier of,
  - (a) the member's compliance with the requirement that is the subject of the suspension; and
  - (b) the revocation of the member's membership under subsection (3) or otherwise. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 18 (2).

# **Revocation of membership**

(3) If a suspension imposed under subsection (1) remains in effect for the period specified by the by-laws, the registrar shall revoke the member's membership. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 18 (3).

# **Appeal**

(4) An individual whose membership is suspended or revoked under this section may appeal the decision to the appeal committee specified by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 18 (4).

#### **Parties**

(5) The parties to an appeal under subsection (4) are the individual and the registrar. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 18 (5).

#### **Powers**

(6) On hearing the appeal, the appeal committee may confirm or vary the decision being appealed, or may substitute its own decision for that of the registrar. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 18 (6).

#### **Decision final**

(7) The decision of the appeal committee under subsection (6) is final. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 18 (7).

# **Continuing jurisdiction**

#### Former member

19. (1) An individual who resigns as a member of the Institute or whose membership is revoked or otherwise terminated remains subject to the continuing jurisdiction of the Institute in respect of an investigation or disciplinary proceeding arising from his or her conduct while a member, subject to subsection (2). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 19 (1).

#### Limitation

(2) No investigation shall be commenced respecting the conduct of an individual referred to in subsection (1) unless the conduct comes to the attention of the Institute before the sixth anniversary of the day on which the individual ceased to be a member. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 19 (2).

# Suspended member

(3) A member whose membership is suspended remains subject to the continuing jurisdiction of the Institute for all purposes under this Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 19 (3).

# **Honorary members**

<u>20.</u> The members who are present at a meeting of the members of the Institute may elect an individual to honorary membership in the Institute in accordance with the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 20.

### **FIRMS**

# **Registration of firms**

- 21. The registrar shall accept any of the following entities for registration as a firm in accordance with the by-laws:
  - 1. A partnership, including a limited liability partnership, or other association of members of the Institute.
  - 2. A professional corporation.
  - 3. Any other entity specified by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 21.

### Restrictions, conditions

22. (1) The right of a firm to practise as a Chartered Accountant is subject to any restrictions or conditions imposed on it under this Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 22 (1).

# **Application**

(2) A restriction or condition imposed under this Act on a member of the Institute practising as a Chartered Accountant through a firm applies to the firm in relation to the member's practice as a Chartered Accountant. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 22 (2).

#### Same

(3) A restriction or condition imposed under this Act on a firm applies to the members of the Institute practising as Chartered Accountants through the firm. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 22 (3).

# Application of Act and by-laws

23. (1) This Act and the by-laws apply to a member of the Institute even if the member practises as a Chartered Accountant through a firm. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 23 (1).

# Fiduciary and ethical obligations to clients

- (2) The fiduciary and ethical obligations of a member of the Institute to a person on whose behalf the member is practising as a Chartered Accountant,
  - (a) are not diminished by the fact that the member is practising through a firm; and
  - (b) in the case of a member practising through a professional corporation, apply equally to the corporation and to its directors, officers, shareholders, agents and employees. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 23 (2).

# Investigation or inspection

(3) If a member practising as a Chartered Accountant through a professional corporation is the subject of an investigation or inspection under this Act, the corporation is jointly and severally liable with the member for all fines and costs that the member is required to pay in relation to the investigation or inspection, unless otherwise provided by by-law or by an order of the discipline committee or an appeal committee. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 23 (3).

# **Continuing jurisdiction**

<u>24.</u> A firm whose registration is suspended remains subject to the continuing jurisdiction of the Institute for all purposes under this Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 24.

### Limited liability partnerships

25. (1) Subject to the by-laws, two or more members of the Institute may form a limited liability partnership or continue a partnership as a limited liability partnership for the purpose of practising as Chartered Accountants. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 25 (1).

#### Same

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a member of the Institute includes a professional corporation. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 25 (2).

#### Partnerships Act

(3) For greater certainty, this Act is an Act governing a profession for the purposes of section 44.2 of the *Partnerships Act*. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 25 (3).

### **Professional corporations**

<u>26. (1)</u> Subject to the by-laws, a member of the Institute, or two or more members of the Institute practising as individuals or as a partnership, may establish a professional corporation for the purpose of practising as Chartered Accountants, and the provisions of the *Business Corporations Act* that apply to professional corporations within the meaning of that Act apply to the corporation. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 26 (1).

### Notice, change of shareholder

(2) A professional corporation shall notify the registrar of a change in the shareholders of the corporation within the time and in the manner and form specified by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 26 (2).

# **PROHIBITIONS**

### **Prohibitions**

#### Prohibition, individuals

- 27. (1) No individual, other than a member of the Institute, shall, through an entity or otherwise,
  - (a) take or use the designation "Chartered Accountant" or the initials "C.A.", "CA", "A.C.A.", "ACA", "F.C.A." or "FCA", alone or in combination with other words or abbreviations;
  - (b) take or use any term, title, initials, designation or description implying that the individual is a Chartered Accountant;
  - (c) practise as a Chartered Accountant; or
  - (d) otherwise hold himself or herself out as a Chartered Accountant, regardless of whether he or she provides services as a Chartered Accountant to any individual or entity. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 27 (1).

### **Exceptions**

- (2) Clauses (1) (a) and (b) do not apply if an individual uses a term, title, initials, designation or description when making reference to authentic professional accounting qualifications obtained by the individual from a jurisdiction other than Ontario in,
  - (a) a speech or other presentation given at a professional or academic conference or other similar forum;

- (b) an application for employment or a private communication respecting the retainer of the individual's services, if the reference is made to indicate the individual's educational background and the individual expressly indicates that he or she is not a member of the Institute and is not governed by the Institute; or
- (c) a proposal submitted in response to a request for proposals, if the reference is made to demonstrate that the individual meets the requirements for the work to which the request for proposals relates. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 27 (2).

#### Same

(3) For the purposes of clause (2) (b), stating the name of the jurisdiction from which the qualifications were obtained after the term, title, initials, designation or description is not sufficient to expressly indicate that the individual is not a member of the Institute and is not governed by the Institute. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 27 (3).

# Prohibition, corporations

- (4) No corporation, other than a professional corporation, shall,
  - (a) take or use the designation "Chartered Accountant" or the initials "C.A.", "CA", "A.C.A.", "ACA", "F.C.A." or "FCA", alone or in combination with other words or abbreviations;
  - (b) take or use any term, title, initials, designation or description implying that the corporation is entitled to practise as a Chartered Accountant;
  - (c) practise as a Chartered Accountant; or
  - (d) otherwise hold itself out as a Chartered Accountant, regardless of whether it provides services as a Chartered Accountant to any individual or entity. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 27 (4).

### **Exception**

(5) Clauses (4) (a) and (b) do not apply if a corporation uses a term, title, initials, designation or description when making reference to authentic professional accounting qualifications obtained by the corporation from a jurisdiction other than Ontario in a proposal submitted in response to a request for proposals, if the reference is made to demonstrate that the corporation meets the requirements for the work to which the request for proposals relates. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 27 (5).

#### Non-residents, etc.

(6) Nothing in this section affects or interferes with the right of a person to use any term, title, initials, designation or description identifying himself or herself as an accountant, if the person does not reside, have an office or offer or provide accounting services in Ontario. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 27 (6).

# Offence and penalty

28. (1) Every person who contravenes section 27 is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$10,000. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 28 (1).

### Application to corporation

(2) If a corporation is guilty of an offence under subsection (1), every director or officer of the corporation who authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the commission of the offence is deemed to be a party to and guilty of the offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$10,000. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 28 (2).

#### **Probation orders**

(3) On conviction of a person for an offence under this section, the court may prescribe as a condition of a probation order any of the following:

- 1. That the person pay compensation or make restitution to any person who suffered a loss as a result of the offence.
- 2. That the person shall not contravene section 27. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 28 (3).

#### Costs

29. (1) In addition to the fine or any other penalty imposed on conviction for an offence under section 28, the court may order that the convicted person pay to the Institute some or all of the costs reasonably incurred by it in prosecuting the offence and in undertaking any investigation related to the subject matter of the prosecution. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 29 (1).

#### Same

(2) Costs payable under subsection (1) are deemed to be a fine for the purpose of enforcing payment. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 29 (2).

#### Limitation

<u>30.</u> No prosecution for a contravention of section 27 shall be commenced more than two years after the time when the subject matter of the prosecution arose. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 30.

# Order prohibiting contravention

31. (1) On application by the Institute, the Superior Court of Justice may make an order prohibiting a person from contravening section 27, if the court is satisfied that the person is contravening or has contravened that section. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 31 (1).

### No prosecution or conviction required

(2) An order may be made under subsection (1) whether or not the person has been prosecuted for or convicted of the offence of contravening section 27. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 31 (2).

# Variation or discharge

(3) Any person may apply to the Superior Court of Justice for an order varying or discharging an order made under subsection (1). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 31 (3).

# Offences under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* Limitation on prosecutions

32. (1) The Institute shall not commence a prosecution for a contravention of section 13, 14 or 15 of the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* with respect to any person who is not a member or former member of the Institute or a firm, except with the consent of The Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 32 (1).

#### Costs

(2) If a prosecution by the Institute for a contravention of section 13, 14 or 15 of the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* results in a conviction, the reference in section 16 of that Act to the Council shall be read as a reference to the Institute. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 32 (2).

# COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE

# **Complaints committee**

33. The complaints committee shall review every complaint regarding the conduct of a member of the Institute or a firm and, if the complaint contains information suggesting that the member or firm may be guilty of breaching the rules of professional conduct established by the by-laws, the committee may investigate the matter. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 33.

### **Decision of complaints committee**

- 34. (1) Following the investigation of a complaint by the complaints committee, the committee may,
  - (a) direct that the matter be referred, in whole or in part, to the discipline committee;
  - (b) direct that the matter not be referred to the discipline committee;
  - (c) negotiate a settlement agreement between the complaints committee and the member or firm and refer the agreement to the discipline committee for approval; or
  - (d) take any remedial action that it considers appropriate in the circumstances and that is not inconsistent with this Act or the by-laws, including providing guidance to or admonishing the member or firm, but not including any action described in subsection 35 (4). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 34 (1).

### Review of settlement agreement

- (2) If the complaints committee refers a settlement agreement to the discipline committee under clause (1) (c), the discipline committee shall review the agreement and,
  - (a) approve the agreement; or
  - (b) reject the agreement and refer the matter back to the complaints committee. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 34 (2).

# **Enforcement of settlement agreement**

(3) A settlement agreement that is approved by the discipline committee may be filed in the Superior Court of Justice. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 34 (3).

#### Same

(4) A settlement agreement that is filed under subsection (3) is enforceable as if it were an order of the Superior Court of Justice. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 34 (4).

# Discipline committee

35. (1) The discipline committee shall hear every matter referred to it by the complaints committee under clause 34 (1) (a). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 35 (1).

#### **Parties**

(2) The parties to a hearing under subsection (1) are the complaints committee and the member who or the firm that is the subject of the complaint. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 35 (2).

#### **Professional misconduct**

(3) The discipline committee may find a member or firm guilty of professional misconduct if the committee determines that the member or firm is guilty of breaching the rules of professional conduct established by the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 35 (3).

#### **Powers**

- (4) If the discipline committee finds a member or firm guilty of professional misconduct, it may by order do one or more of the following:
  - 1. Revoke the member's membership or the firm's registration.

- 2. Suspend the member's membership or the firm's registration.
- 3. Impose restrictions or conditions on the right of the member or firm to practise as a Chartered Accountant.
- 4. Direct the member or firm to pay a fine and specify the timing and manner of payment.
- 5. Direct the member or firm to take any specified rehabilitative measure, including requiring the member or any member practising as a Chartered Accountant through the firm to successfully complete specified professional development courses or to seek specified counselling or treatment.
- 6. Refer the matter back to the complaints committee for further investigation, on such terms and conditions as the discipline committee may specify.
- 7. Require a practice inspection under section 40, on such terms and conditions as the committee may specify.
- 8. Make any other order that the committee considers appropriate in the circumstances. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 35 (4).

# **Combining proceedings**

(5) If two or more proceedings before the discipline committee involve the same member or firm or the same or similar questions of fact, law or policy, the committee may, without the consent of the parties, combine the proceedings or any part of them or hear the proceedings at the same time. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 35 (5).

# Preliminary suspension, restrictions

36. (1) The discipline committee may order that the member's membership or the firm's registration be suspended, or be subject to any restrictions or conditions that the committee may specify, pending the outcome of a hearing or settlement agreement respecting the matter, if there are reasonable grounds to believe that,

- (a) there is a significant risk of harm to members of the public or to the public interest; and
- (b) making the order would likely reduce the risk. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 36 (1).

#### Same

- (2) An order may be made under subsection (1),
  - (a) at any time after a matter is referred to the discipline committee under clause 34 (1) (a) and before the committee makes a final order under section 35; or
  - (b) earlier on application by the complaints committee. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 36 (2).

#### **Parties**

(3) The parties to an application under clause (2) (b) are the complaints committee and the member who or the firm that is the subject of the complaint. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 36 (3).

#### Matter must be referred

(4) If an order under subsection (1) is made before the complaints committee makes a decision under subsection 34 (1) respecting the matter, the complaints committee shall, following its investigation,

- (a) refer the matter, in whole or in part, to the discipline committee under clause 34 (1) (a); or
- (b) negotiate a settlement agreement with the member or firm and refer the agreement to the discipline committee under clause 34 (1) (c). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 36 (4).

# Appeal committee

37. (1) A party to a proceeding before the discipline committee may appeal a final decision or order of the committee under section 35 or an order under section 36 to the appeal committee specified by the by-laws by filing a notice of appeal within the time and in the manner set out in the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 37 (1).

# Effect of appeal

(2) An appeal under subsection (1) does not operate as a stay in the matter unless the appeal committee, on motion by a party, orders otherwise. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 37 (2).

#### Same

(3) In making an order under subsection (2), the appeal committee may impose any restrictions or conditions on the right of the member or firm to practise as a Chartered Accountant that it considers appropriate, pending the outcome of the appeal. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 37 (3).

# Jurisdiction, powers

- (4) The appeal committee may determine any question of law or mixed fact and law that arises in an appeal under subsection (1) and may,
  - (a) make any decision or order that could have been made by the discipline committee;
  - (b) order a new hearing before the discipline committee; or
  - (c) dismiss the appeal. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 37 (4).

### Decision, order final

(5) A decision or order of the appeal committee under subsection (4) is final. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 37 (5).

#### Costs

38. (1) The discipline committee may award the costs of a proceeding before it under section 35 or 36 against the member who or firm that is the subject of the proceeding, in accordance with its procedural rules. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 38 (1).

#### Same

(2) An appeal committee may award the costs of a proceeding before it under section 37 against the member who or firm that is the subject of the proceeding, in accordance with its procedural rules. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 38 (2).

#### Inclusion of Institute's costs

(3) The costs ordered under subsection (1) or (2) may include costs incurred by the Institute arising from the investigation, including any further investigation ordered under subsection 35 (4), prosecution, hearing and, if applicable, appeal of the matter that is the subject of the proceeding. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 38 (3).

#### The Chartered Accountants Act, 1956

- (4) An order for costs made under *The Chartered Accountants Act, 1956* is deemed to have been validly made if the order was made,
  - (a) on or after December 6, 2000;
  - (b) by a committee established by by-laws made under clause 8 (1) (g) or (h) of that Act; and
  - (c) in respect of a proceeding referred to in subclause 8 (1) (g) (ii) of that Act or an appeal of that proceeding. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 38 (4).

#### Same

(5) The references in subsection (4) to *The Chartered Accountants Act, 1956* are to that Act as it read immediately before its repeal. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 38 (5).

## **Application**

(6) This section applies despite section 17.1 of the Statutory Powers Procedure Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 38 (6).

### Application to former members

39. Subject to subsection 19 (2), sections 33 to 38 apply with necessary modifications in respect of an individual who resigns as a member of the Institute or whose membership is revoked or otherwise terminated. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 39.

# PRACTICE INSPECTIONS

# **Practice inspections**

<u>40.</u> The Institute may conduct inspections respecting the practices of members of the Institute and firms in accordance with the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 40.

#### Costs

41. The costs to the Institute of an inspection respecting the practice of a member or firm shall be borne by the member or firm in accordance with the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 41.

### CAPACITY

# Interpretation - "incapacitated"

<u>42.</u> A member of the Institute is incapacitated for the purposes of sections 43 to 45 if, by reason of physical or mental illness, condition or disorder, other infirmity or addiction to or excessive use of alcohol or drugs, he or she is incapable of meeting his or her obligations under this Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 42.

# Investigation

43. If the Institute receives information suggesting that a member is incapacitated, the registrar may investigate the matter. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 43.

# **Application**

44. (1) Following an investigation under section 43, the registrar may apply to the capacity committee for a determination of whether the member is incapacitated. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (1).

#### **Parties**

(2) The parties to an application under subsection (1) are the registrar and the member. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (2).

# Medical or psychological examination

(3) If the capacity committee determines that it is necessary to obtain the opinion of a physician or psychologist in order to determine whether a member is incapacitated, the committee may, on its own or on motion, order the member to undergo a medical or psychological examination. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (3).

### **Examining physician, psychologist**

(4) The examining physician or psychologist shall be specified by the capacity committee after giving the parties an opportunity to make recommendations. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (4).

### Failure to comply

(5) If the member fails to comply with an order under subsection (3), the capacity committee may make an order suspending his or her membership until he or she complies. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (5).

#### **Assessment**

- (6) Following the examination of a member, the physician or psychologist shall provide to the capacity committee,
  - (a) an assessment of whether the member is incapacitated;
  - (b) an assessment of the extent of any incapacity; and
  - (c) any further information respecting the medical or psychological issues in the case. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (6).

### **Admissibility**

- (7) Information provided by a member to a physician or psychologist during a medical or psychological examination is not admissible in evidence except.
  - (a) in the application, including any appeal, and in any proceeding in court arising from or relating to the application; and
  - (b) in an application under section 52 for a custodianship order, including any appeal, and in any proceeding in court arising from or relating to the application. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (7).

#### **Powers**

- (8) If the capacity committee determines that the member is incapacitated, the committee may by order,
  - (a) suspend the member's membership;
  - (b) impose restrictions or conditions on the member's right to practise as a Chartered Accountant; or
  - (c) make any other order, other than revoking the member's membership, that the committee considers necessary to protect the public interest. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 44 (8).

# **Appeal**

45. (1) A party to the application may appeal a decision or order under section 44, or a refusal to make an order under that section, to the appeal committee specified by the by-laws by filing a notice of appeal within the time and in the manner set out in the by-laws. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 45 (1).

# Jurisdiction, powers

- (2) The appeal committee may determine any question of law or mixed fact and law that arises in an appeal under subsection (1) and may,
  - (a) make any decision or order that could have been made by the capacity committee;
  - (b) refer the matter back to the capacity committee; or
  - (c) dismiss the appeal. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 45 (2).

# Decision, order final

(3) A decision or order of the appeal committee under subsection (2) is final. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 45 (3).

# Investigation and Inspection Powers

### Investigators

46. (1) The complaints committee may appoint investigators for the purposes of section 33. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 46 (1).

#### Same

(2) The registrar may appoint investigators for the purposes of section 43. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 46 (2).

### **Inspectors**

47. The Institute may appoint inspectors for the purposes of section 40. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 47.

# **Proof of appointment**

48. Every investigator or inspector who exercises powers under this Act shall, on request, produce written proof of his or her appointment under section 46 or 47, as the case may be. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 48.

#### **Powers**

- 49. (1) In conducting an investigation under this Act, an investigator may,
  - (a) at any reasonable time, enter and inspect the business premises of the individual or firm under investigation, other than any part of the premises used as a dwelling, without the consent of the owner or occupier and without a warrant;
  - (b) question and require the individual or anyone who works with the individual, or anyone who works in the firm, as the case may be, to provide information that the investigator believes is relevant to the investigation;
  - (c) require the production of and examine any document or thing that the investigator believes is relevant to the investigation, including a client file;
  - (d) on giving a receipt for it, remove any document or thing that the investigator believes is relevant to the investigation for the purposes of making copies or extracts of any document or information, but the making of the copies or extracts shall be carried out with reasonable dispatch, taking into account the scope and complexity of the work involved in making the copies or extracts, and the document or thing shall afterwards be returned promptly to the person from whom it was taken; and
  - (e) use any data storage, processing or retrieval device or system used in carrying on business on the premises in order to produce a document in readable form. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 49 (1).

#### Same

(2) In conducting an inspection under this Act, an inspector may exercise any of the powers set out in subsection (1), with necessary modifications. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 49 (2).

#### No obstruction

50. (1) No person shall obstruct an investigator or inspector executing his or her duties or withhold from him or her or conceal, alter or destroy any document or thing relevant to the investigation or inspection. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 50 (1).

# Offence and penalty

(2) Every person who contravenes subsection (1) is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$25,000. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 50 (2).

# **Application to corporation**

(3) If a corporation is guilty of an offence under subsection (2), every director or officer of the corporation who authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the commission of the offence is deemed to be a party to and guilty of the offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$25,000. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 50 (3).

### Custodianship

# **Application**

<u>51. (1)</u> Sections 52 to 54 apply to property, wherever it may be located, that is or should be in the possession or control of a member of the Institute in connection with,

- (a) the business operations relating to the member's practice;
- (b) the business or affairs of a client or former client of the member;
- (c) an estate for which the member is or was executor, administrator or administrator with the will annexed;
- (d) a trust of which the member is or was a trustee;
- (e) a power of attorney under which the member is or was the attorney; or
- (f) a guardianship under which the member is or was the guardian. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 51 (1).

#### Same

(2) An order under subsection 52 (1) applies to property that is or should be in the possession or control of the member before or after the order is made. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 51 (2).

# Interpretation

(3) For the purposes of sections 52 to 54, property includes client files and other documents. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 51 (3).

# **Custodianship order**

52. (1) On application by the Institute, the Superior Court of Justice may order that all or part of the property that is or should be in the possession or control of a member of the Institute be given into the custody of a custodian appointed by the court. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 52 (1).

# **Application without notice**

(2) An application for an order under subsection (1) may be made without notice. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 52 (2).

#### Grounds for order

- (3) An order may be made under subsection (1) only if,
  - (a) the member's membership has been suspended or revoked;
  - (b) the member has died or disappeared;
  - (c) the member is incapacitated within the meaning of section 42;
  - (d) the member has neglected or abandoned his or her practice without making adequate provision for the protection of his or her clients' interests;
  - (e) the member has failed to conduct his or her practice in accordance with any restriction or condition to which he or she is subject under this Act;

- (f) there are reasonable grounds for believing that the member has or may have dealt improperly with property that is or should be in the possession or control of the member or any other property; or
- (g) there are reasonable grounds for believing that other circumstances exist in respect of the member or his or her practice that make an order under subsection (1) necessary for the protection of the public. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 52 (3).

## Purpose of order

- (4) An order may be made under subsection (1) only for one or more of the following purposes, as specified in the order:
  - 1. Preserving the property.
  - 2. Distributing the property.
  - 3. Preserving or carrying on the member's practice.
  - 4. Winding up the member's practice. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 52 (4).

#### Custodian

- (5) The court may appoint as custodian,
  - (a) the Institute; or
  - (b) a member in good standing of the Institute. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 52 (5).

### Use of agent

(6) If the Institute is appointed as custodian, it may appoint an agent to act on its behalf. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C. s. 52 (6).

## **Powers of court**

- (7) An order under subsection (1) may,
  - (a) authorize the custodian to employ or engage any professional or other assistance that is required to carry out the custodian's duties;
  - (b) authorize the custodian or the sheriff or any police officer or other person acting on the direction of the custodian or the sheriff to,
    - (i) enter, by force if necessary, any building, dwelling or other premises, or any vehicle or other place, where there are reasonable grounds for believing that property that is or should be in the possession or control of the member may be found,
    - (ii) search the building, dwelling, premises, vehicle or place,
    - (iii) open, by force if necessary, any safety deposit box or other receptacle,
    - (iv) require any person to provide access to any property that is or should be in the possession or control of the member, and
    - (v) seize, remove and deliver to the custodian any property that is or should be in the possession or control of the member;
  - (c) require a police officer to accompany the custodian or sheriff in the execution of the order;
  - (d) give directions to the custodian regarding the manner in which the custodian should carry out the purposes of the order;
  - (e) require the member to account to the Institute and to any other person named in the order for any property that the court may specify;

- (f) provide for the discharge of the custodian on completion of the custodian's duties under the order and any subsequent orders relating to the same matter; and
- (g) give any other directions that the court considers necessary in the circumstances. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 52 (7).

# Compensation

53. In an order under subsection 52 (1) or on a subsequent application, the court may make such order as it considers appropriate for the compensation of the custodian and the reimbursement of the custodian's expenses by the member, whether out of the property held by the custodian or otherwise as the court may specify. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 53.

# Variation or discharge

<u>54.</u> The Institute, the member or the custodian may apply to the Superior Court of Justice to vary or discharge an order made under subsection 52 (1). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 54.

# **Application to former members**

55. (1) Sections 51 to 54 apply with necessary modifications in respect of an individual who resigns as a member of the Institute or whose membership is revoked or otherwise terminated. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 55 (1).

## Same, property

(2) Sections 51 to 54 apply to property that is or should be in the possession or control of an individual referred to in subsection (1), before or after he or she ceases to be a member. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 55 (2).

# **M**ISCELLANEOUS

# Register

<u>56.</u> The registrar shall establish and maintain a register of the members of the Institute, firms and students. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 56.

# Registrar's certificate as evidence

<u>57.</u> Any statement containing information from the register purporting to be certified by the registrar is admissible in evidence as proof, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, of the information in the statement, without proof of the registrar's appointment or signature. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 57.

# **Duty of confidentiality**

<u>58. (1)</u> Every person engaged in the administration of this Act and the by-laws shall preserve secrecy respecting information or material that comes to his or her knowledge or possession in the course of his or her duties under this Act or the *Public Accounting Act, 2004*, and shall not disclose any such information or material to any person except,

- (a) to his or her counsel;
- (b) with the consent of the person to whom the information or material relates;
- (c) to the extent that the information or material is available to the public;
- (d) as may be required in connection with the administration of this Act and the by-laws or with any proceeding under this Act; or
- (e) as may otherwise be required by law. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 58 (1).

### Offence and penalty

(2) Every person who contravenes subsection (1) is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$25,000. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 58 (2).

### Application to corporation

(3) If a corporation is guilty of an offence under subsection (2), every director or officer of the corporation who authorized, permitted or acquiesced in the commission of the offence is deemed to be a party to and guilty of the offence and on conviction is liable to a fine of not more than \$25,000. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 58 (3).

#### Costs

(4) In addition to the fine, on conviction for an offence under this section, a court may order that the convicted person pay to the Institute some or all of the costs reasonably incurred by it in prosecuting the offence and in undertaking any investigation related to the subject matter of the prosecution. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 58 (4).

#### Same

(5) Costs payable under subsection (4) are deemed to be a fine for the purpose of enforcing payment. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 58 (5).

#### Limitation

(6) No prosecution for a contravention of subsection (1) shall be commenced more than two years after the time when the subject matter of the prosecution arose. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 58 (6).

## Disclosure to public authority

59. (1) The Institute may apply to the Superior Court of Justice for an order authorizing the disclosure to a public authority of any information that a person to whom subsection 58 (1) applies would otherwise be prohibited from disclosing under that subsection. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 59 (1).

#### Restrictions

- (2) The court shall not make an order under this section if the information sought to be disclosed came to the knowledge of the Institute as a result of.
  - (a) the making of an oral or written statement by a person in the course of an investigation, inspection or proceeding that may tend to criminate the person or establish the person's liability to civil proceedings, unless the statement was made at a hearing held under this Act;
  - (b) the making of an oral or written statement disclosing matters that the court determines to be subject to solicitor-client privilege; or
  - (c) the examination of a document that the court determines to be subject to solicitor-client privilege. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 59 (2).

# **Documents and other things**

(3) An order under this section that authorizes the disclosure of information may also authorize the delivery of documents or other things that are in the Institute's possession and that relate to the information. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 59 (3).

# Persons not compellable

<u>60.</u> No person to whom subsection 58 (1) applies shall be compelled to give testimony in any civil proceeding, other than a proceeding under this Act or a judicial review relating to a proceeding under this Act, with regard to information obtained in the course of his or her duties. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 60.

#### **Documents not admissible**

<u>61.</u> No record of a proceeding under this Act and no document or thing prepared for or statement given at such a proceeding and no decision or order made in such a proceeding is admissible in any civil proceeding, other than a proceeding under this Act or a judicial review relating to a proceeding under this Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 61.

Note: On a day to be named by proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, the Act is amended by adding the following section:

#### Regulations

<u>61.1</u> The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations prescribing provisions of the *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010* that apply to the Institute. 2010, c. 15, s. 216 (2).

See: 2010, c. 15, ss. 216 (2), 249.

### **Protection from liability**

62. No action or other proceeding may be instituted against the Institute, the council or any committee, any member or former member of the Institute, of the council or of a committee, or any officer, employee or agent of the Institute or of the council for any act done in good faith in the exercise or performance or the intended exercise or performance of any power or duty of the Institute under this Act or the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* or for any alleged neglect or default in the exercise or performance in good faith of such power or duty. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 62.

## **By-Laws**

# By-laws

63. (1) The council may make by-laws necessary or desirable to conduct the business and carry out the objects of the Institute. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 63 (1).

#### Same

(2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the council may make by-laws with respect to the following matters:

- Governing members of the Institute as Chartered Accountants, including establishing standards of practice, governing
  the imposition of restrictions and conditions on a member's right to practise as a Chartered Accountant, establishing
  classes of members and governing the granting, renewal, suspension and revocation of memberships.
- 2. Governing the calling and holding of meetings of the members of the Institute, including specifying and limiting the matters that may be considered at an annual meeting.
- 3. Governing the nomination and election of members of the Institute to the council, including fixing the number of elected members, setting out the qualifications that a member must meet in order to be elected to and serve on the council and setting out terms of office.
- 4. Governing the election and appointment of officers of the Institute and setting out their powers and duties.
- 5. Establishing the committees required by this Act and any additional committees, governing the names, composition, powers, duties and quorums of the committees, governing the appointment of individuals to the committees, and authorizing and governing the formation of panels of committees.
- 6. Delegating any of the council's powers or duties under this Act to one or more committees, to the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Institute or to the registrar, and specifying restrictions or conditions on the delegation.

- 7. Governing the registration of members of the Institute as sole proprietorships, including requiring the registration of sole proprietorships, specifying the requirements and qualifications for registration, governing applications for registration and governing the renewal, suspension and revocation of registrations.
- 8. Governing the registration of entities as firms, including requiring the registration of firms, specifying additional entities that may register as a firm, specifying the requirements and qualifications for registration, governing applications for registration and governing the renewal, suspension and revocation of registrations.
- 9. Governing firms as Chartered Accountants, including establishing standards of practice, governing the imposition of restrictions and conditions on a firm's practice, governing the names of firms and governing firms that are limited liability partnerships.
- 10. Governing the establishment of professional corporations in accordance with section 26 and respecting the notification of a change in the shareholders of those corporations.
- 11. Respecting any person, partnership or other entity that, in addition to practising as a Chartered Accountant, also practises another profession or provides other services, including requiring that the persons, partnerships and other entities be registered to engage in such activities, governing the registrations and their renewal, suspension and revocation and governing the restrictions and conditions that may be imposed on the registered persons, partnerships and other entities.
- 12. Respecting the election and rights and duties of honorary members.
- 13. Governing the resignation of members of the Institute.
- 14. Governing the reinstatement or readmission of individuals who have resigned or whose membership is suspended or revoked.
- 15. Governing the conduct of members of the Institute and firms as Chartered Accountants, including,
  - i. providing for rules of professional conduct, and
  - ii. governing complaints and discipline, including specifying requirements for the making of complaints.
- 16. Governing investigations and practice inspections under this Act, including respecting the payment of the costs of an inspection.
- 17. Governing continuing education and professional development, including providing for the development or approval of continuing education and professional development programs for members of the Institute and requiring members to successfully complete or participate in such programs, and governing the provision of professional development and related services to members and to non-members.
- 18. Governing individuals as students, including,
  - i. requiring the registration of individuals as students and governing applications for registration,
  - ii. respecting the rights and duties of students, and
  - iii. providing that any provision of this Act or the by-laws apply to students with necessary modifications or subject to such modifications as may be specified by the by-laws.
- 19. Respecting the minimum requirements for professional liability insurance that must be carried by members of the Institute and by firms.
- 20. Establishing and governing the payment of fees and other amounts that must be paid to the Institute and exempting any class of individual or entity from all or part of any fee or amount.
- 21. Respecting matters of procedure for any meeting, process or proceeding under this Act, including providing for the adoption of procedural rules for proceedings before committees under this Act.
- 22. Providing for the training and recognition of specialists.

- 23. Providing for the affiliation of the Institute with a university, college, school, corporation or other entity with similar or related objects.
- 24. Providing for the receipt, management and investment of contributions, donations and bequests from members of the Institute and others for benevolent and charitable purposes.
- 25. Governing the retention and destruction of information and documents in the possession of the Institute or any officer of the Institute, the council or any committee.
- 26. Respecting any matter that this Act refers to as a matter that the by-laws may specify, set out, determine or otherwise deal with.
- 27. Addressing any transitional issues that arise from the repeal of *The Chartered Accountants Act*, 1956. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 63 (2).

# Same, public accounting

- (3) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the council may make by-laws with respect to the following matters:
  - 1. Governing matters relating to meeting and maintaining the standards that the Institute, as a designated body within the meaning of the *Public Accounting Act, 2004*, is required to meet and maintain in order to be authorized to license and govern the activities of its members as public accountants under that Act.
  - 2. Governing matters relating to the licensing and governance of members of the Institute as public accountants, as permitted by the *Public Accounting Act, 2004*.
  - 3. Governing matters relating to the practice, through a professional corporation, of public accounting by members of the Institute who are licensed under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* as public accountants, as permitted by that Act.
  - 4. Providing that any provision of this Act or the by-laws apply, with necessary modifications or subject to such modifications as may be specified by the by-laws, with respect to,
    - i. members of the Institute who are licensed by the Institute under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* as public accountants, or
    - ii. professional corporations, established by one or more members of the Institute who are licensed by the Institute under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* as public accountants, that hold a valid certificate of authorization under that Act to practise as public accountants. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 63 (3).

#### Limitation

(4) Despite section 64, a by-law made under paragraph 2, 3 or 4 of subsection (3) is of no effect unless the Institute is authorized under the *Public Accounting Act, 2004* to license and govern the activities of its members as public accountants. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 63 (4).

# General or particular

(5) A by-law made under this section may be general or particular in its application. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 63 (5).

# When by-law effective

64. (1) A by-law made by the council is effective on and after the day it is made. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 64 (1).

# Approval of by-law by members

(2) Despite subsection (1), a by-law made by the council does not continue to have effect unless it is approved by the members of the Institute at the earlier of the first annual meeting of the Institute following the making of the by-law and any general meeting at which the by-law is considered. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 64 (2).

### Effect of rejection

(3) A by-law that is not approved by the members of the Institute in accordance with subsection (2) ceases to have effect on the day on which the approval is withheld. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 64 (3).

### Same, validity

(4) The rejection of a by-law by the members of the Institute does not affect the validity of any action taken under the by-law while it was in effect. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 64 (4).

#### **Transition**

65. Every by-law made by the council under *The Chartered Accountants Act, 1956* that is in force immediately before the day on which this section comes into force is deemed on that day to be a by-law of the Institute under this Act and shall remain in force, to the extent that it does not conflict with this Act, until it is amended or revoked by by-law under this Act. 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 65.

66., 67. Omitted (amends, repeals or revokes other legislation). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, ss. 66, 67.

68. Omitted (provides for coming into force of provisions of this Act). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 68.

69. OMITTED (ENACTS SHORT TITLE OF THIS ACT). 2010, c. 6, Sched. C, s. 69.

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#### **Français**

# TAB 2

# CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS OF ONTARIO

#### **REGULATION 7-3**

### **DISCIPLINE AND APPEAL**

Adopted by the Council pursuant to the *Chartered Accountants Act, 2010*, and the Bylaws on June 16, 2011, as amended to June 18, 2014.

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#### **REGULATION 7-3**

#### **DISCIPLINE AND APPEAL**

Adopted by the Council pursuant to the *Chartered Accountants Act, 2010*, and the Bylaws on June 16, 2011, as amended to June 18, 2014.

#### **Definitions**

1. In this regulation, words have the same meaning as they do in the Act, bylaws and rules

#### **Hearings**

- 2. A tribunal of the Discipline Committee shall hear every Allegation of professional misconduct and every reconsideration, and shall consider every Settlement Agreement, brought before it by the Professional Conduct Committee.
- 3. The Professional Conduct Committee may, as of right, withdraw any Allegation or portion thereof until such time as the subject of the Allegation admits or declines to admit professional misconduct as set out in the Allegation, and shall thereafter only withdraw the Allegation or any portion thereof with the consent of all parties and leave of the tribunal.
- 4. A tribunal may seek the advice of counsel to the tribunal during a hearing, and any advice shall be given on the record, and all parties shall have the opportunity to make submissions on that advice. The tribunal is not bound by the advice of its counsel.
- 5. A tribunal shall consider the evidence and make a determination whether, on the evidence, the party bearing the onus in the hearing has met that onus on the balance of probabilities.
- 6. Only members of the tribunal hearing a matter shall participate in deliberations and make any decision and order on the matter.

#### **Sanctions**

- 7. A tribunal shall not consider sanctions unless and until it has made a finding of professional misconduct.
- 8. In determining appropriate sanctions, the tribunal shall consider any aggravating and mitigating factors.
- 9. In determining appropriate sanctions, the tribunal may consider the relevant principles, which may, but need not, include:
  - 9.1 protection of the public interest:
  - 9.2 general deterrence of the membership;

Regulation 7-3

#### REGULATIONS

- 9.3 specific deterrence of the Member;
- 9.4 rehabilitation of the Member; and
- 9.5 denunciation.
- 10. A tribunal may by order impose one or more of the following sanctions on a person found to have committed professional misconduct:
  - 10.1 formal reprimand, orally or in writing;
  - 10.2 fine:
  - 10.3 completion of specified professional development or examinations;
  - 10.4 supervised practice for a specified period, with or without conditions;
  - 10.5 re-investigation by the Professional Conduct Committee by a specified date;
  - 10.6 practice inspection, with or without conditions;
  - 10.7 counselling or treatment;
  - 10.8 restriction of or conditions on practice or employment for a specified period;
  - 10.9 establishment and implementation of quality control procedures or professional training programs, as specified;
  - 10.10 monitoring of compliance;
  - 10.11 suspension of licence or authorization to practise public accounting, for a specified period, with or without conditions;
  - 10.12 suspension of membership or registration, with or without conditions;
  - 10.13 revocation of licence or authorization to practise public accounting;
  - 10.14 resignation of membership by a specified date;
  - 10.15 revocation of membership or registration; and
  - 10.16 any other order appropriate in the circumstances.
- 11. The final order of the tribunal may require the subject(s) of the order to pay all or part of the costs of the investigation and hearing.
- 12. The final order of the tribunal may provide for further sanctions for non-compliance with the terms of the order.
- 13. The tribunal of the Discipline Committee shall provide its final order and reasons, in writing, to all parties, along with a notice of the right to appeal that order.

Regulation 7-3

Amended June 18, 2014

14. A tribunal of the Discipline Committee has the power to informally admonish any person under the jurisdiction of CPA Ontario, either during or at the conclusion of the hearing, regardless of any finding of professional misconduct.

Amended June 18, 2014

#### **Appeals**

- 15. A tribunal of the Appeal Committee shall hear the appeal of every final decision and order appealed by a party from the Discipline and Capacity Committees.

  Amended June 18, 2014
- 16. The tribunal of the Appeal Committee shall not rehear a matter, but shall decide whether, on the record, the final decision and order made are reasonable on the evidence and law.

Amended June 18, 2014

- 17. The tribunal hearing the appeal may seek the advice of counsel to the tribunal during the appeal, and any advice shall be given on the record, and all parties shall have the opportunity to make submissions on that advice. The tribunal is not bound by the advice of its counsel.
- 18. Only members of the Appeal Committee hearing an appeal shall participate in deliberations and make any decision and order on the appeal.
- 19. The tribunal of the Appeal Committee has the power to: *Amended June 18, 2014* 
  - 19.1 dismiss the appeal;
  - 19.2 vary the final decision and order of the tribunal appealed from, and make any decision and order that the tribunal appealed from could have made; or
  - 19.3 order a new hearing before a differently constituted tribunal of the original adjudicative committee.
- 20. All matters where the Appeal Committee had jurisdiction under the former bylaws of CPA Ontario, but no longer has jurisdiction, in which a notice of appeal was filed on or before June 16, 2011, shall be heard and disposed of by the Appeal Committee as though the bylaws under which it had jurisdiction had not been repealed.

#### **Notice**

21. Notice of the place, date and time of all hearings of Allegations, reconsiderations, considerations of Settlement Agreements, and appeals shall be posted on CPA Ontario's website, along with the name(s) of the subject Member(s) or firm(s) and the originating process, and a notice that the hearing is open to the public.

Regulation 7-3

- 22. Notice of a finding of professional misconduct, including brief particulars of the misconduct and disclosing the name of the subject(s) of that finding and the sanction imposed, unless the tribunal orders otherwise, shall be given to:
  - 22.1 all Members of CPA Ontario;
  - 22.2 the Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario, if the subject is licensed or authorized to practise public accounting; and
  - 22.3 all provincial bodies. *Amended June 18, 2014*
- 23. Notice of the revocation of membership of a Member and of any restriction, suspension or revocation of a licence or authorization to practise public accounting, including the name of the subject of the revocation, suspension or restriction, shall be given in a newspaper or newspapers distributed in the geographic area where the subject of the revocation, suspension or restriction practised, if applicable, and in any other area ordered by the tribunal, and the subject shall bear the cost of such publication.
- 24. Notwithstanding section 23, the tribunal may order no newspaper publication if it finds that such publication is not required for the protection of the public and that it would be unfair to the subject, and provides written reasons for its decision.
- 25. In addition to section 23, the tribunal may order any publication or notice in any form or media it finds appropriate.
- 26. The Allegation, decision, order, and written reasons for every finding of professional misconduct, and every approved Settlement Agreement, shall be posted on a publicly accessible area of CPA Ontario's website, and shall be provided to any person on request, and such posting and production shall disclose the name of the subject(s) of the finding or Settlement Agreement, unless ordered otherwise by the tribunal.
- 27. The Discipline or Appeal Committee, as the case may be, shall report on the disposition of every matter referred to it:
  - 27.1 to the parties;
  - 27.2 to the Council; and
  - 27.3 if the subject of the matter is licensed or authorized to practise public accounting, to the Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario, along with the written reasons for the decision, disclosing the name of the subject.

#### **Discipline Committee**

28. The Discipline Committee shall normally consist of twenty-five to thirty-five (25 to 35) members, including a Chair and at least two Deputy Chairs, and between five and eight (5 and 8) public representatives. The Members of the Committee shall

Regulation 7-3 5

generally be representative of CPA Ontario's membership by legacy designation, occupation and geographic location, and shall include public accounting licensees.

Amended June 18, 2014

- 29. The members of the Discipline Committee shall be appointed for an initial one year term. Members are eligible for reappointment for three additional three year terms and, thereafter, on an annual basis.
- 30. The Chair and Deputy Chairs of the Committee shall be appointed from among the members of that Committee for a term of two years. They are each eligible for reappointment, thereafter, on an annual basis.

Amended June 18, 2014

31. The quorum for the Discipline Committee at any hearing to determine whether professional misconduct has been committed, at any reconsideration of its final order in a matter, and at any consideration of a Settlement Agreement shall be three (3) members and shall include a public representative and one Member with the same legacy designation as the subject(s) of the hearing, and, if the subject, or at least one of them, of the Allegation or Settlement Agreement holds a public accounting licence, should include at least one public accounting licensee.

Amended June 18, 2014

## **Appeal Committee**

32. The Appeal Committee shall normally consist of fifteen to twenty-five (15 to 25) members, including a Chair and at least one Deputy Chair, and between three and five (3 and 5) public representatives. The Members of the Committee shall generally be representative of CPA Ontario's membership by legacy designation, occupation and geographic location, and shall include public accounting licensees.

Amended June 18, 2014

- 33. The members of the Appeal Committee shall be appointed for an initial one year term. Members are eligible for reappointment for three additional three year terms and, thereafter, on an annual basis.
- 34. The Chair and Deputy Chair(s) of the Committee shall be appointed from among the members of that Committee for a term of two years. They are each eligible for reappointment, thereafter, on an annual basis.
- 35. The quorum for the Appeal Committee at the hearing of any appeal shall be three (3) members and shall include a public representative and one Member with the same legacy designation as the subject(s) of the hearing and, if at least one of the parties to the appeal holds a public accounting licence, should include at least one public accounting licensee.

Amended June 18, 2014

Regulation 7-3

# TAB 3



**CONSOLIDATION** 

#### **CODIFICATION**

# Arrangement Act

# Companies' Creditors Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies

R.S.C., 1985, c. C-36

L.R.C. (1985), ch. C-36

Current to October 27, 2015

À jour au 27 octobre 2015

Last amended on February 26, 2015

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# OFFICIAL STATUS OF CONSOLIDATIONS

# CARACTÈRE OFFICIEL DES CODIFICATIONS

Subsections 31(1) and (2) of the *Legislation Revision and Consolidation Act*, in force on June 1, 2009, provide as follows:

Published consolidation is evidence

**31.** (1) Every copy of a consolidated statute or consolidated regulation published by the Minister under this Act in either print or electronic form is evidence of that statute or regulation and of its contents and every copy purporting to be published by the Minister is deemed to be so published, unless the contrary is shown.

Inconsistencies in Acts

(2) In the event of an inconsistency between a consolidated statute published by the Minister under this Act and the original statute or a subsequent amendment as certified by the Clerk of the Parliaments under the *Publication of Statutes Act*, the original statute or amendment prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.

Les paragraphes 31(1) et (2) de la *Loi sur la révision et la codification des textes législatifs*, en vigueur le 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2009, prévoient ce qui suit :

**31.** (1) Tout exemplaire d'une loi codifiée ou d'un règlement codifié, publié par le ministre en vertu de la présente loi sur support papier ou sur support électronique, fait foi de cette loi ou de ce règlement et de son contenu. Tout exemplaire donné comme publié par le ministre est réputé avoir été ainsi publié, sauf preuve contraire.

comme élément de preuve

Codifications

(2) Les dispositions de la loi d'origine avec ses modifications subséquentes par le greffier des Parlements en vertu de la *Loi sur la publication des lois* l'emportent sur les dispositions incompatibles de la loi codifiée publiée par le ministre en vertu de la présente loi.

Incompatibilité
— lois

#### NOTE

This consolidation is current to October 27, 2015. The last amendments came into force on February 26, 2015. Any amendments that were not in force as of October 27, 2015 are set out at the end of this document under the heading "Amendments Not in Force".

#### NOTE

Cette codification est à jour au 27 octobre 2015. Les dernières modifications sont entrées en vigueur le 26 février 2015. Toutes modifications qui n'étaient pas en vigueur au 27 octobre 2015 sont énoncées à la fin de ce document sous le titre « Modifications non en vigueur ».

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#### R.S.C., 1985, c. C-36

#### L.R.C., 1985, ch. C-36

An Act to facilitate compromises and arrangements between companies and their creditors

Loi facilitant les transactions et arrangements entre les compagnies et leurs créanciers

#### SHORT TITLE

Short title

**1.** This Act may be cited as the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act.* 

R.S., c. C-25, s. 1.

#### INTERPRETATION

Definitions

**2.** (1) In this Act,

"aircraft objects" [Repealed, 2012, c. 31, s. 419]

"bargaining agent" «agent négociateur» "bargaining agent" means any trade union that has entered into a collective agreement on behalf of the employees of a company;

"bond" «obligation» "bond" includes a debenture, debenture stock or other evidences of indebtedness:

"cash-flow statement" «état de l'évolution de l'encaisse» "cash-flow statement", in respect of a company, means the statement referred to in paragraph 10(2)(a) indicating the company's projected cash flow;

"claim" «réclamation» "claim" means any indebtedness, liability or obligation of any kind that would be a claim provable within the meaning of section 2 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*;

"collective agreement" «convention collective» "collective agreement", in relation to a debtor company, means a collective agreement within the meaning of the jurisdiction governing collective bargaining between the debtor company and a bargaining agent;

"company" «compagnie»

"company" means any company, corporation or legal person incorporated by or under an Act of Parliament or of the legislature of a province, any incorporated company having assets or doing business in Canada, wherever incorporated, and any income trust, but does not include banks, authorized foreign banks within the meaning of section 2 of the *Bank Act*, railway

#### TITRE ABRÉGÉ

1. Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies.

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 1.

#### DÉFINITIONS ET APPLICATION

**2.** (1) Les définitions qui suivent s'appliquent à la présente loi.

«accord de transfert de titres pour obtention de crédit» Accord aux termes duquel une compagnie débitrice transfère la propriété d'un bien en vue de garantir le paiement d'une somme ou l'exécution d'une obligation relativement à un contrat financier admissible.

«actionnaire» S'agissant d'une compagnie ou d'une fiducie de revenu assujetties à la présente loi, est assimilée à l'actionnaire la personne ayant un intérêt dans cette compagnie ou détenant des parts de cette fiducie.

«administrateur» S'agissant d'une compagnie autre qu'une fiducie de revenu, toute personne exerçant les fonctions d'administrateur, indépendamment de son titre, et, s'agissant d'une fiducie de revenu, toute personne exerçant les fonctions de fiduciaire, indépendamment de son titre.

«agent négociateur» Syndicat ayant conclu une convention collective pour le compte des employés d'une compagnie.

«biens aéronautiques» [Abrogée, 2012, ch. 31, art. 419]

«compagnie» Toute personne morale constituée par une loi fédérale ou provinciale ou sous son régime et toute personne morale qui possède un actif ou exerce des activités au Canada, Titre abrégé

Définitions

«accord de transfert de titres pour obtention de crédit» "title transfer credit support agreement"

«actionnaire» "shareholder"

«administrateur» "director"

«agent négociateur» "bargaining agent"

«compagnie» "company" or telegraph companies, insurance companies and companies to which the Trust and Loan Companies Act applies;

"court" «tribunal»

"debtor

company"

déhitrice»

«compagnie

"court" means

- (a) in Nova Scotia, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island, the Supreme Court,
- (a.1) in Ontario, the Superior Court of Jus-
- (b) in Quebec, the Superior Court,
- (c) in New Brunswick, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the Court of Queen's Bench,
- (c.1) in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Trial Division of the Supreme Court, and
- (d) in Yukon and the Northwest Territories, the Supreme Court, and in Nunavut, the Nunavut Court of Justice:

"debtor company" means any company that

- (a) is bankrupt or insolvent,
- (b) has committed an act of bankruptcy within the meaning of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act or is deemed insolvent within the meaning of the Winding-up and Restructuring Act, whether or not proceedings in respect of the company have been taken under either of those Acts,
- (c) has made an authorized assignment or against which a bankruptcy order has been made under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act. or
- (d) is in the course of being wound up under the Winding-up and Restructuring Act because the company is insolvent;

"director" means, in the case of a company other than an income trust, a person occupying the position of director by whatever name called and, in the case of an income trust, a person occupying the position of trustee by whatever

"eligible financial contract" means an agreement of a prescribed kind;

named called; "eligible

quel que soit l'endroit où elle a été constituée, ainsi que toute fiducie de revenu. La présente définition exclut les banques, les banques étrangères autorisées, au sens de l'article 2 de la Loi sur les banques, les compagnies de chemin de fer ou de télégraphe, les compagnies d'assurances et les sociétés auxquelles s'applique la Loi sur les sociétés de fiducie et de prêt.

«compagnie débitrice» Toute compagnie qui, selon le cas:

a) est en faillite ou est insolvable;

b) a commis un acte de faillite au sens de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité ou est réputée insolvable au sens de la Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations, que des procédures relatives à cette compagnie aient été intentées ou non sous le régime de l'une ou l'autre de ces lois;

- c) a fait une cession autorisée ou à l'encontre de laquelle une ordonnance de faillite a été rendue en vertu de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité;
- d) est en voie de liquidation aux termes de la Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations parce que la compagnie est insolvable.

«contrat financier admissible» Contrat d'une catégorie réglementaire.

«contrôleur» S'agissant d'une compagnie, la personne nommée en application de l'article 11.7 pour agir à titre de contrôleur des affaires

«convention collective» S'entend au sens donné à ce terme par les règles de droit applicables aux négociations collectives entre la compagnie débitrice et l'agent négociateur.

financières et autres de celle-ci.

«créancier chirographaire» Tout créancier d'une compagnie qui n'est pas un créancier garanti, qu'il réside ou soit domicilié au Canada ou à l'étranger. Un fiduciaire pour les détenteurs d'obligations non garanties, lesquelles sont émises en vertu d'un acte de fiducie ou autre acte fonctionnant en faveur du fiduciaire. est réputé un créancier chirographaire pour toutes les fins de la présente loi sauf la votation à une assemblée des créanciers relativement à ces obligations.

«compagnie débitrice» 'debtor company"

«contrat financier admissible» "eligible financial contract"

«contrôleur» "monitor"

«convention collective» "collective agreement"

«créancier chirographaire» "unsecured creditor"

financial

contract" « contrat

"director"

teur»

« administra-

financier admissible»

"equity claim" « réclamation relative à des capitaux propres»

"equity claim" means a claim that is in respect of an equity interest, including a claim for. among others,

- (a) a dividend or similar payment,
- (b) a return of capital,
- (c) a redemption or retraction obligation,
- (d) a monetary loss resulting from the ownership, purchase or sale of an equity interest or from the rescission, or, in Quebec, the annulment, of a purchase or sale of an equity interest, or
- (e) contribution or indemnity in respect of a claim referred to in any of paragraphs (a) to (d);

"equity interest" «intérêt relatif à des capitaux propres»

"equity interest" means

- (a) in the case of a company other than an income trust, a share in the company — or a warrant or option or another right to acquire a share in the company — other than one that is derived from a convertible debt, and
- (b) in the case of an income trust, a unit in the income trust — or a warrant or option or another right to acquire a unit in the income trust — other than one that is derived from a convertible debt:

"financial collateral' «garantie financière»

"income trust"

«fiducie de

revenu»

"financial collateral" means any of the following that is subject to an interest, or in the Province of Quebec a right, that secures payment or performance of an obligation in respect of an eligible financial contract or that is subject to a title transfer credit support agreement:

- (a) cash or cash equivalents, including negotiable instruments and demand deposits,
- (b) securities, a securities account, a securities entitlement or a right to acquire securities, or
- (c) a futures agreement or a futures account;

- "income trust" means a trust that has assets in Canada if
  - (a) its units are listed on a prescribed stock exchange on the day on which proceedings commence under this Act, or
  - (b) the majority of its units are held by a trust whose units are listed on a prescribed stock exchange on the day on which proceedings commence under this Act;

«créancier garanti» Détenteur d'hypothèque, de gage, charge, nantissement ou privilège sur ou contre l'ensemble ou une partie des biens d'une compagnie débitrice, ou tout transport, cession ou transfert de la totalité ou d'une partie de ces biens, à titre de garantie d'une dette de la compagnie débitrice, ou un détenteur de quelque obligation d'une compagnie débitrice garantie par hypothèque, gage, charge, nantissement ou privilège sur ou contre l'ensemble ou une partie des biens de la compagnie débitrice, ou un transport, une cession ou un transfert de tout ou partie de ces biens, ou une fiducie à leur égard, que ce détenteur ou bénéficiaire réside ou soit domicilié au Canada ou à l'étranger. Un fiduciaire en vertu de tout acte de fiducie ou autre instrument garantissant ces obligations est réputé un créancier garanti pour toutes les fins de la présente loi sauf la votation à une assemblée de créanciers relativement à ces obligations.

«demande initiale» La demande faite pour la première fois en application de la présente loi relativement à une compagnie.

«état de l'évolution de l'encaisse» Relativement à une compagnie, l'état visé à l'alinéa 10(2)a) portant, projections à l'appui, sur l'évolution de l'encaisse de celle-ci.

«fiducie de revenu» Fiducie qui possède un actif au Canada et dont les parts sont inscrites à une bourse de valeurs mobilières visée par règlement à la date à laquelle des procédures sont intentées sous le régime de la présente loi, ou sont détenues en majorité par une fiducie dont les parts sont inscrites à une telle bourse à cette date.

«garantie financière» S'il est assujetti soit à un intérêt ou, dans la province de Québec, à un droit garantissant le paiement d'une somme ou l'exécution d'une obligation relativement à un contrat financier admissible, soit à un accord de transfert de titres pour obtention de crédit, l'un ou l'autre des éléments suivants :

- a) les sommes en espèces et les équivalents de trésorerie - notamment les effets négociables et dépôts à vue;
- b) les titres, comptes de titres, droits intermédiés et droits d'acquérir des titres;
- c) les contrats à terme ou comptes de contrats à terme.

«créancier garanti » 'secured creditor'

« demande initiale» "initial application"

« état de l'évolution de l'encaisse » "cash-flow statement"

«fiducie de revenu» "income trust"

« garantie financière» "financial collateral"

"initial application' «demande initiale»

"initial application" means the first application made under this Act in respect of a company:

"monitor"

"monitor", in respect of a company, means the person appointed under section 11.7 to monitor the business and financial affairs of the company;

"net termination value" «valeurs nettes dues à la date de résiliation»

"net termination value" means the net amount obtained after netting or setting off or compensating the mutual obligations between the parties to an eligible financial contract in accordance with its provisions;

"prescribed" Version anglaise seulement

"prescribed" means prescribed by regulation;

"secured creditor' «créancier garanti»

"secured creditor" means a holder of a mortgage, hypothec, pledge, charge, lien or privilege on or against, or any assignment, cession or transfer of, all or any property of a debtor company as security for indebtedness of the debtor company, or a holder of any bond of a debtor company secured by a mortgage, hypothec, pledge, charge, lien or privilege on or against, or any assignment, cession or transfer of, or a trust in respect of, all or any property of the debtor company, whether the holder or beneficiary is resident or domiciled within or outside Canada, and a trustee under any trust deed or other instrument securing any of those bonds shall be deemed to be a secured creditor for all purposes of this Act except for the purpose of voting at a creditors' meeting in respect of any of those bonds;

"shareholder" «actionnaire»

"shareholder" includes a member of a company — and, in the case of an income trust, a holder of a unit in an income trust — to which this Act applies;

"Superintendent of Bankruptcy' «surintendant des faillites»

"Superintendent of Bankruptcy" means the Superintendent of Bankruptcy appointed under subsection 5(1) of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act;

"Superintendent of Financial Institutions' «surintendani des institutions financières»

"Superintendent of Financial Institutions" means the Superintendent of Financial Institutions appointed under subsection 5(1) of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Act;

«intérêt relatif à des capitaux propres»

a) S'agissant d'une compagnie autre qu'une fiducie de revenu, action de celle-ci ou bon de souscription, option ou autre droit permettant d'acquérir une telle action et ne provenant pas de la conversion d'une dette convertible;

b) s'agissant d'une fiducie de revenu, part de celle-ci ou bon de souscription, option ou autre droit permettant d'acquérir une telle part et ne provenant pas de la conversion d'une dette convertible.

«obligation» Sont assimilés aux obligations les débentures, stock-obligations et autres titres de créance.

«réclamation» S'entend de toute dette, de tout engagement ou de toute obligation de quelque nature que ce soit, qui constituerait une réclamation prouvable au sens de l'article 2 de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité.

«réclamation relative à des capitaux propres» Réclamation portant sur un intérêt relatif à des capitaux propres et visant notamment :

- a) un dividende ou un paiement similaire;
- b) un remboursement de capital;
- c) tout droit de rachat d'actions au gré de l'actionnaire ou de remboursement anticipé d'actions au gré de l'émetteur;
- d) des pertes pécuniaires associées à la propriété, à l'achat ou à la vente d'un intérêt relatif à des capitaux propres ou à l'annulation de cet achat ou de cette vente;
- e) une contribution ou une indemnité relative à toute réclamation visée à l'un des alinéas a) à d).

«surintendant des faillites» Le surintendant des faillites nommé au titre du paragraphe 5(1) de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité.

«surintendant des institutions financières» Le surintendant des institutions financières nommé en application du paragraphe 5(1) de la *Loi sur* le Bureau du surintendant des institutions financières.

«tribunal»

a) Dans les provinces de la Nouvelle-Écosse, de la Colombie-Britannique et de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, la Cour suprême;

«intérêt relatif à des capitaux propres» 'equity interest'

«obligation» "hond

« réclamation » "claim"

«réclamation relative à des capitaux propres» "equity claim"

« surintendant des faillites» "Superintendent of Bankruptcy"

«surintendant des institutions financières » "Superintendent of Financial Institutions'

«tribunal» "court"

"title transfer credit support agreement" «accord de transfert de titres pour obtention de crédit»

"unsecured creditor" «créancier chirographaire» "title transfer credit support agreement" means an agreement under which a debtor company has provided title to property for the purpose of securing the payment or performance of an obligation of the debtor company in respect of an eligible financial contract;

"unsecured creditor" means any creditor of a company who is not a secured creditor, whether resident or domiciled within or outside Canada, and a trustee for the holders of any unsecured bonds issued under a trust deed or other instrument running in favour of the trustee shall be deemed to be an unsecured creditor for all purposes of this Act except for the purpose of voting at a creditors' meeting in respect of any of those bonds.

Meaning of "related" and "dealing at arm's length" (2) For the purpose of this Act, section 4 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* applies for the purpose of determining whether a person is related to or dealing at arm's length with a debtor company.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 2; R.S., 1985, c. 27 (2nd Supp.), s. 10; 1990, c. 17, s. 4; 1992, c. 27, s. 90; 1993, c. 34, s. 52; 1996, c. 6, s. 167; 1997, c. 12, s. 120(E); 1998, c. 30, s. 14; 1999, c. 3, s. 22, c. 28, s. 154; 2001, c. 9, s. 575; 2002, c. 7, s. 133; 2004, c. 25, s. 193; 2005, c. 3, s. 15, c. 47, s. 124; 2007, c. 29, s. 104, c. 36, ss. 61, 105; 2012, c. 31, s. 419; 2015, c. 3, s. 37.

Application

**3.** (1) This Act applies in respect of a debtor company or affiliated debtor companies if the total of claims against the debtor company or affiliated debtor companies, determined in accordance with section 20, is more than \$5,000,000 or any other amount that is prescribed.

Affiliated companies

- (2) For the purposes of this Act,
- (a) companies are affiliated companies if one of them is the subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same company or each of them is controlled by the same person; and
- (b) two companies affiliated with the same company at the same time are deemed to be affiliated with each other.

- *a.1*) dans la province d'Ontario, la Cour supérieure de justice;
- b) dans la province de Québec, la Cour supérieure;
- c) dans les provinces du Nouveau-Brunswick, du Manitoba, de la Saskatchewan et d'Alberta, la Cour du Banc de la Reine;
- *c.1*) dans la province de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador, la Section de première instance de la Cour suprême;
- d) au Yukon et dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest, la Cour suprême et, au Nunavut, la Cour de justice du Nunavut.

«valeurs nettes dues à la date de résiliation» La somme nette obtenue après compensation des obligations mutuelles des parties à un contrat financier admissible effectuée conformément à ce contrat.

«valeurs nettes dues à la date de résiliation» "net termination value"

(2) Pour l'application de la présente loi, l'article 4 de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité* s'applique pour établir si une personne est liée à une compagnie débitrice ou agit sans lien de dépendance avec une telle compagnie.

Définition de «personnes liées»

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 2; L.R. (1985), ch. 27 (2° suppl.), art. 10; 1990, ch. 17, art. 4; 1992, ch. 27, art. 90; 1993, ch. 34, art. 52; 1996, ch. 6, art. 167; 1997, ch. 12, art. 120(A); 1998, ch. 30, art. 14; 1999, ch. 3, art. 22, ch. 28, art. 154; 2001, ch. 9, art. 575; 2002, ch. 7, art. 133; 2004, ch. 25, art. 193; 2005, ch. 3, art. 15, ch. 47, art. 124; 2007, ch. 29, art. 104, ch. 36, art. 61 et 105; 2012, ch. 31, art. 419; 2015, ch. 3, art. 37.

Application

- 3. (1) La présente loi ne s'applique à une compagnie débitrice ou aux compagnies débitrices qui appartiennent au même groupe qu'elle que si le montant des réclamations contre elle ou les compagnies appartenant au même groupe, établi conformément à l'article 20, est supérieur à cinq millions de dollars ou à toute autre somme prévue par les règlements.
  - (2) Pour l'application de la présente loi :

Application

- a) appartiennent au même groupe deux compagnies dont l'une est la filiale de l'autre ou qui sont sous le contrôle de la même personne;
- b) sont réputées appartenir au même groupe deux compagnies dont chacune appartient au groupe d'une même compagnie.

Company controlled

Subsidiary

- (3) For the purposes of this Act, a company is controlled by a person or by two or more companies if
  - (a) securities of the company to which are attached more than fifty per cent of the votes that may be cast to elect directors of the company are held, other than by way of security only, by or for the benefit of that person or by or for the benefit of those companies; and
  - (b) the votes attached to those securities are sufficient, if exercised, to elect a majority of the directors of the company.
- (4) For the purposes of this Act, a company is a subsidiary of another company if
  - (a) it is controlled by
    - (i) that other company,
    - (ii) that other company and one or more companies each of which is controlled by that other company, or
    - (iii) two or more companies each of which is controlled by that other company; or
  - (b) it is a subsidiary of a company that is a subsidiary of that other company.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 3; 1997, c. 12, s. 121; 2005, c. 47, s. 125.

#### PART I

#### COMPROMISES AND ARRANGEMENTS

Compromise with unsecured creditors

**4.** Where a compromise or an arrangement is proposed between a debtor company and its unsecured creditors or any class of them, the court may, on the application in a summary way of the company, of any such creditor or of the trustee in bankruptcy or liquidator of the company, order a meeting of the creditors or class of creditors, and, if the court so determines, of the shareholders of the company, to be summoned in such manner as the court directs.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 4.

Compromise with secured creditors

5. Where a compromise or an arrangement is proposed between a debtor company and its secured creditors or any class of them, the court may, on the application in a summary way of the company or of any such creditor or of the trustee in bankruptcy or liquidator of the com-

- (3) Pour l'application de la présente loi, ont le contrôle d'une compagnie la personne ou les compagnies :
  - a) qui détiennent ou en sont bénéficiaires
     —, autrement qu'à titre de garantie seulement, des valeurs mobilières conférant plus de cinquante pour cent du maximum possible des voix à l'élection des administrateurs de la compagnie;
  - b) dont lesdites valeurs mobilières confèrent un droit de vote dont l'exercice permet d'élire la majorité des administrateurs de la compagnie.
- (4) Pour l'application de la présente loi, une compagnie est la filiale d'une autre compagnie dans chacun des cas suivants :

Application

Application

- a) elle est contrôlée :
  - (i) soit par l'autre compagnie,
  - (ii) soit par l'autre compagnie et une ou plusieurs compagnies elles-mêmes contrôlées par cette autre compagnie,
  - (iii) soit par des compagnies elles-mêmes contrôlées par l'autre compagnie;
- b) elle est la filiale d'une filiale de l'autre compagnie.

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 3; 1997, ch. 12, art. 121; 2005, ch. 47, art. 125.

#### PARTIE I

#### TRANSACTIONS ET ARRANGEMENTS

4. Lorsqu'une transaction ou un arrangement est proposé entre une compagnie débitrice et ses créanciers chirographaires ou toute catégorie de ces derniers, le tribunal peut, à la requête sommaire de la compagnie, d'un de ces créanciers ou du syndic en matière de faillite ou liquidateur de la compagnie, ordonner que soit convoquée, de la manière qu'il prescrit, une assemblée de ces créanciers ou catégorie de créanciers, et, si le tribunal en décide ainsi, des actionnaires de la compagnie.

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 4.

5. Lorsqu'une transaction ou un arrangement est proposé entre une compagnie débitrice et ses créanciers garantis ou toute catégorie de ces derniers, le tribunal peut, à la requête sommaire de la compagnie, d'un de ces créanciers ou du syndic en matière de faillite ou liquida-

Transaction avec

les créanciers

garantis

Transaction avec

les créanciers

chirographaires

pany, order a meeting of the creditors or class of creditors, and, if the court so determines, of the shareholders of the company, to be summoned in such manner as the court directs.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 5.

Claims against directors compromise **5.1** (1) A compromise or arrangement made in respect of a debtor company may include in its terms provision for the compromise of claims against directors of the company that arose before the commencement of proceedings under this Act and that relate to the obligations of the company where the directors are by law liable in their capacity as directors for the payment of such obligations.

Exception

- (2) A provision for the compromise of claims against directors may not include claims that
  - (a) relate to contractual rights of one or more creditors; or
  - (b) are based on allegations of misrepresentations made by directors to creditors or of wrongful or oppressive conduct by directors.

Powers of court

(3) The court may declare that a claim against directors shall not be compromised if it is satisfied that the compromise would not be fair and reasonable in the circumstances.

Resignation or removal of directors (4) Where all of the directors have resigned or have been removed by the shareholders without replacement, any person who manages or supervises the management of the business and affairs of the debtor company shall be deemed to be a director for the purposes of this section.

1997, c. 12, s. 122.

Compromises to be sanctioned by court

**6.** (1) If a majority in number representing two thirds in value of the creditors, or the class of creditors, as the case may be — other than, unless the court orders otherwise, a class of creditors having equity claims, — present and voting either in person or by proxy at the meeting or meetings of creditors respectively held under sections 4 and 5, or either of those sections, agree to any compromise or arrangement either as proposed or as altered or modified at the meeting or meetings, the compromise or arrangement may be sanctioned by the court and, if so sanctioned, is binding

teur de la compagnie, ordonner que soit convoquée, de la manière qu'il prescrit, une assemblée de ces créanciers ou catégorie de créanciers, et, si le tribunal en décide ainsi, des actionnaires de la compagnie.

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 5.

**5.1** (1) La transaction ou l'arrangement visant une compagnie débitrice peut comporter, au profit de ses créanciers, des dispositions relativement à une transaction sur les réclamations contre ses administrateurs qui sont antérieures aux procédures intentées sous le régime de la présente loi et visent des obligations de celle-ci dont ils peuvent être, ès qualités, responsables en droit.

Transaction réclamations contre les administrateurs

(2) La transaction ne peut toutefois viser des réclamations portant sur des droits contractuels d'un ou de plusieurs créanciers ou fondées sur la fausse représentation ou la conduite injustifiée ou abusive des administrateurs. Restriction

(3) Le tribunal peut déclarer qu'une réclamation contre les administrateurs ne peut faire l'objet d'une transaction s'il est convaincu qu'elle ne serait ni juste ni équitable dans les circonstances.

Pouvoir du tribunal

(4) Si tous les administrateurs démissionnent ou sont destitués par les actionnaires sans être remplacés, quiconque dirige ou supervise les activités commerciales et les affaires internes de la compagnie débitrice est réputé un administrateur pour l'application du présent article.

Démission ou destitution des administrateurs

1997, ch. 12, art. 122.

6. (1) Si une majorité en nombre représentant les deux tiers en valeur des créanciers ou d'une catégorie de créanciers, selon le cas, — mise à part, sauf ordonnance contraire du tribunal, toute catégorie de créanciers ayant des réclamations relatives à des capitaux propres — présents et votant soit en personne, soit par fondé de pouvoir à l'assemblée ou aux assemblées de créanciers respectivement tenues au titre des articles 4 et 5, acceptent une transaction ou un arrangement, proposé ou modifié à cette ou ces assemblées, la transaction ou l'arrangement

Homologation par le tribunal

- (a) on all the creditors or the class of creditors, as the case may be, and on any trustee for that class of creditors, whether secured or unsecured, as the case may be, and on the company; and
- (b) in the case of a company that has made an authorized assignment or against which a bankruptcy order has been made under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or is in the course of being wound up under the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act*, on the trustee in bankruptcy or liquidator and contributories of the company.

Court may order amendment (2) If a court sanctions a compromise or arrangement, it may order that the debtor's constating instrument be amended in accordance with the compromise or arrangement to reflect any change that may lawfully be made under federal or provincial law.

Restriction — certain Crown

- (3) Unless Her Majesty agrees otherwise, the court may sanction a compromise or arrangement only if the compromise or arrangement provides for the payment in full to Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province, within six months after court sanction of the compromise or arrangement, of all amounts that were outstanding at the time of the application for an order under section 11 or 11.02 and that are of a kind that could be subject to a demand under
  - (a) subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax* Act;
  - (b) any provision of the Canada Pension Plan or of the Employment Insurance Act that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the Income Tax Act and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the Canada Pension Plan, an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the Employment Insurance Act, or a premium under Part VII.1 of that Act, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts; or
  - (c) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it pro-

peut être homologué par le tribunal et, le cas échéant, lie :

- a) tous les créanciers ou la catégorie de créanciers, selon le cas, et tout fiduciaire pour cette catégorie de créanciers, qu'ils soient garantis ou chirographaires, selon le cas, ainsi que la compagnie;
- b) dans le cas d'une compagnie qui a fait une cession autorisée ou à l'encontre de laquelle une ordonnance de faillite a été rendue en vertu de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolva*bilité ou qui est en voie de liquidation sous le régime de la *Loi sur les liquidations et les re*structurations, le syndic en matière de faillite ou liquidateur et les contributeurs de la compagnie.
- (2) Le tribunal qui homologue une transaction ou un arrangement peut ordonner la modification des statuts constitutifs de la compagnie conformément à ce qui est prévu dans la transaction ou l'arrangement, selon le cas, pourvu que la modification soit légale au regard du droit fédéral ou provincial.
- (3) Le tribunal ne peut, sans le consentement de Sa Majesté, homologuer la transaction ou l'arrangement qui ne prévoit pas le paiement intégral à Sa Majesté du chef du Canada ou d'une province, dans les six mois suivant l'homologation, de toutes les sommes qui étaient dues lors de la demande d'ordonnance visée aux articles 11 ou 11.02 et qui pourraient, de par leur nature, faire l'objet d'une demande aux termes d'une des dispositions suivantes :
  - a) le paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu;
  - b) toute disposition du Régime de pensions du Canada ou de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi qui renvoie au paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu et qui prévoit la perception d'une cotisation, au sens du Régime de pensions du Canada, d'une cotisation ouvrière ou d'une cotisation patronale, au sens de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi, ou d'une cotisation prévue par la partie VII.1 de cette loi ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités ou autres charges afférents;
  - c) toute disposition législative provinciale dont l'objet est semblable à celui du paragraphe 224(1.2) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*, ou qui renvoie à ce paragraphe, et

Modification des statuts constitutifs

Certaines réclamations de la Couronne vides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum

- (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
- (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection.

Restriction default of remittance to Crown (4) If an order contains a provision authorized by section 11.09, no compromise or arrangement is to be sanctioned by the court if, at the time the court hears the application for sanction, Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province satisfies the court that the company is in default on any remittance of an amount referred to in subsection (3) that became due after the time of the application for an order under section 11.02.

Restriction — employees, etc.

- (5) The court may sanction a compromise or an arrangement only if
  - (a) the compromise or arrangement provides for payment to the employees and former employees of the company, immediately after the court's sanction, of
    - (i) amounts at least equal to the amounts that they would have been qualified to receive under paragraph 136(1)(d) of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act if the company had become bankrupt on the day on which proceedings commenced under this Act, and
    - (ii) wages, salaries, commissions or compensation for services rendered after proceedings commence under this Act and before the court sanctions the compromise or arrangement, together with, in the case of travelling salespersons, disbursements properly incurred by them in and about the company's business during the same period; and

qui prévoit la perception d'une somme, ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités ou autres charges afférents, laquelle somme :

- (i) soit a été retenue par une personne sur un paiement effectué à une autre personne, ou déduite d'un tel paiement, et se rapporte à un impôt semblable, de par sa nature, à l'impôt sur le revenu auquel les particuliers sont assujettis en vertu de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu,
- (ii) soit est de même nature qu'une cotisation prévue par le *Régime de pensions du Canada*, si la province est une province instituant un régime général de pensions au sens du paragraphe 3(1) de cette loi et si la loi provinciale a institué un régime provincial de pensions au sens de ce paragraphe.
- (4) Lorsqu'une ordonnance comporte une disposition autorisée par l'article 11.09, le tribunal ne peut homologuer la transaction ou l'arrangement si, lors de l'audition de la demande d'homologation, Sa Majesté du chef du Canada ou d'une province le convainc du défaut de la compagnie d'effectuer un versement portant sur une somme visée au paragraphe (3) et qui est devenue exigible après le dépôt de la demande d'ordonnance visée à l'article 11.02.
- (5) Le tribunal ne peut homologuer la transaction ou l'arrangement que si, à la fois :

a) la transaction ou l'arrangement prévoit le paiement aux employés actuels et anciens de la compagnie, dès son homologation, de sommes égales ou supérieures, d'une part, à celles qu'ils seraient en droit de recevoir en application de l'alinéa 136(1)d) de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité si la compagnie avait fait faillite à la date à laquelle des procédures ont été introduites sous le régime de la présente loi à son égard et, d'autre part, au montant des gages, salaires, commissions ou autre rémunération pour services fournis entre la date de l'introduction des procédures et celle de l'homologation, y compris les sommes que le voyageur de commerce a régulièrement déboursées dans le cadre de l'exploitation de la compagnie entre ces dates;

Défaut d'effectuer un versement

Restriction — employés, etc.

(b) the court is satisfied that the company can and will make the payments as required under paragraph (a).

Restriction — pension plan

- (6) If the company participates in a prescribed pension plan for the benefit of its employees, the court may sanction a compromise or an arrangement in respect of the company only if
  - (a) the compromise or arrangement provides for payment of the following amounts that are unpaid to the fund established for the purpose of the pension plan:
    - (i) an amount equal to the sum of all amounts that were deducted from the employees' remuneration for payment to the fund,
    - (ii) if the prescribed pension plan is regulated by an Act of Parliament,
      - (A) an amount equal to the normal cost, within the meaning of subsection 2(1) of the *Pension Benefits Standards Regulations*, 1985, that was required to be paid by the employer to the fund, and
      - (B) an amount equal to the sum of all amounts that were required to be paid by the employer to the fund under a defined contribution provision, within the meaning of subsection 2(1) of the *Pension Benefits Standards Act*, 1985,
      - (C) an amount equal to the sum of all amounts that were required to be paid by the employer to the administrator of a pooled registered pension plan, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Pooled Registered Pension Plans Act*, and
    - (iii) in the case of any other prescribed pension plan,
      - (A) an amount equal to the amount that would be the normal cost, within the meaning of subsection 2(1) of the *Pension Benefits Standards Regulations*, 1985, that the employer would be required to pay to the fund if the prescribed plan were regulated by an Act of Parliament, and
      - (B) an amount equal to the sum of all amounts that would have been required to be paid by the employer to the fund

- b) il est convaincu que la compagnie est en mesure d'effectuer et effectuera les paiements prévus à l'alinéa a).
- (6) Si la compagnie participe à un régime de pension réglementaire institué pour ses employés, le tribunal ne peut homologuer la transaction ou l'arrangement que si, à la fois :
  - a) la transaction ou l'arrangement prévoit que seront effectués des paiements correspondant au total des sommes ci-après qui n'ont pas été versées au fonds établi dans le cadre du régime de pension :
    - (i) les sommes qui ont été déduites de la rémunération des employés pour versement au fonds.
    - (ii) dans le cas d'un régime de pension réglementaire régi par une loi fédérale :
      - (A) les coûts normaux, au sens du paragraphe 2(1) du *Règlement de 1985 sur les normes de prestation de pension*, que l'employeur est tenu de verser au fonds.
      - (B) les sommes que l'employeur est tenu de verser au fonds au titre de toute disposition à cotisations déterminées au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi de* 1985 sur les normes de prestation de pension,
      - (C) les sommes que l'employeur est tenu de verser à l'administrateur d'un régime de pension agréé collectif au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi sur les ré*gimes de pension agréés collectifs,
    - (iii) dans le cas de tout autre régime de pension réglementaire :
      - (A) la somme égale aux coûts normaux, au sens du paragraphe 2(1) du *Règlement de 1985 sur les normes de prestation de pension*, que l'employeur serait tenu de verser au fonds si le régime était régi par une loi fédérale,
      - (B) les sommes que l'employeur serait tenu de verser au fonds au titre de toute disposition à cotisations déterminées au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi de 1985 sur les normes de prestation de pension* si le régime était régi par une loi fédérale,

Restriction régime de nension under a defined contribution provision, within the meaning of subsection 2(1) of the *Pension Benefits Standards Act, 1985*, if the prescribed plan were regulated by an Act of Parliament,

- (C) an amount equal to the sum of all amounts that would have been required to be paid by the employer in respect of a prescribed plan, if it were regulated by the *Pooled Registered Pension Plans Act*; and
- (b) the court is satisfied that the company can and will make the payments as required under paragraph (a).

Non-application of subsection (6)

(7) Despite subsection (6), the court may sanction a compromise or arrangement that does not allow for the payment of the amounts referred to in that subsection if it is satisfied that the relevant parties have entered into an agreement, approved by the relevant pension regulator, respecting the payment of those amounts.

Payment — equity claims

- (8) No compromise or arrangement that provides for the payment of an equity claim is to be sanctioned by the court unless it provides that all claims that are not equity claims are to be paid in full before the equity claim is to be paid.
- R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 6; 1992, c. 27, s. 90; 1996, c. 6, s. 167; 1997, c. 12, s. 123; 2004, c. 25, s. 194; 2005, c. 47, s. 126, 2007, c. 36, s. 106; 2009, c. 33, s. 27; 2012, c. 16, s. 82

Court may give directions

7. Where an alteration or a modification of any compromise or arrangement is proposed at any time after the court has directed a meeting or meetings to be summoned, the meeting or meetings may be adjourned on such term as to notice and otherwise as the court may direct, and those directions may be given after as well as before adjournment of any meeting or meetings, and the court may in its discretion direct that it is not necessary to adjourn any meeting or to convene any further meeting of any class of creditors or shareholders that in the opinion of the court is not adversely affected by the alteration or modification proposed, and any compromise or arrangement so altered or modified may be sanctioned by the court and have effect under section 6.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 7.

- (C) les sommes que l'employeur serait tenu de verser à l'égard du régime s'il était régi par la *Loi sur les régimes de* pension agréés collectifs;
- b) il est convaincu que la compagnie est en mesure d'effectuer et effectuera les paiements prévus à l'alinéa a).

- (7) Par dérogation au paragraphe (6), le tribunal peut homologuer la transaction ou l'arrangement qui ne prévoit pas le versement des sommes mentionnées à ce paragraphe s'il est convaincu que les parties en cause ont conclu un accord sur les sommes à verser et que l'autorité administrative responsable du régime de pension a consenti à l'accord.
- (8) Le tribunal ne peut homologuer la transaction ou l'arrangement qui prévoit le paiement d'une réclamation relative à des capitaux propres que si, selon les termes de celle-ci, le paiement intégral de toutes les autres réclamations sera effectué avant le paiement de la réclamation relative à des capitaux propres.
- L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 6; 1992, ch. 27, art. 90; 1996, ch. 6, art. 167; 1997, ch. 12, art. 123; 2004, ch. 25, art. 194; 2005, ch. 47, art. 126, 2007, ch. 36, art. 106; 2009, ch. 33, art. 27; 2012, ch. 16, art. 82.
- 7. Si une modification d'une transaction ou d'un arrangement est proposée après que le tribunal a ordonné qu'une ou plusieurs assemblées soient convoquées, cette ou ces assemblées peuvent être ajournées aux conditions que peut prescrire le tribunal quant à l'avis et autrement, et ces instructions peuvent être données tant après qu'avant l'ajournement de toute ou toutes assemblées, et le tribunal peut, à sa discrétion, prescrire qu'il ne sera pas nécessaire d'ajourner quelque assemblée ou de convoquer une nouvelle assemblée de toute catégorie de créanciers ou actionnaires qui, selon l'opinion du tribunal, n'est pas défavorablement atteinte par la modification proposée, et une transaction ou un arrangement ainsi modifié peut être ho-

Non-application du paragraphe (6)

Paiement d'une réclamation relative à des capitaux propres

Le tribunal peut donner des instructions Scope of Act

8. This Act extends and does not limit the provisions of any instrument now or hereafter existing that governs the rights of creditors or any class of them and has full force and effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in that instrument.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 8.

#### PART II

#### JURISDICTION OF COURTS

Jurisdiction of court to receive applications

**9.** (1) Any application under this Act may be made to the court that has jurisdiction in the province within which the head office or chief place of business of the company in Canada is situated, or, if the company has no place of business in Canada, in any province within which any assets of the company are situated.

Single judge may exercise powers, subject to appeal (2) The powers conferred by this Act on a court may, subject to appeal as provided for in this Act, be exercised by a single judge thereof, and those powers may be exercised in chambers during term or in vacation.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 9.

Form of applications

**10.** (1) Applications under this Act shall be made by petition or by way of originating summons or notice of motion in accordance with the practice of the court in which the application is made.

Documents that must accompany initial application

- (2) An initial application must be accompanied by
  - (a) a statement indicating, on a weekly basis, the projected cash flow of the debtor company;
  - (b) a report containing the prescribed representations of the debtor company regarding the preparation of the cash-flow statement; and
  - (c) copies of all financial statements, audited or unaudited, prepared during the year before the application or, if no such statements were prepared in that year, a copy of the most recent such statement.

mologué par le tribunal et être exécutoire en vertu de l'article 6.

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 7.

8. La présente loi n'a pas pour effet de limiter mais d'étendre les stipulations de tout instrument actuellement ou désormais existant relativement aux droits de créanciers ou de toute catégorie de ces derniers, et elle est pleinement exécutoire et effective nonobstant toute stipulation contraire de cet instrument.

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 8.

## PARTIE II

#### JURIDICTION DES TRIBUNAUX

- 9. (1) Toute demande prévue par la présente loi peut être faite au tribunal ayant juridiction dans la province où est situé le siège social ou le principal bureau d'affaires de la compagnie au Canada, ou, si la compagnie n'a pas de bureau d'affaires au Canada, dans la province où est situé quelque actif de la compagnie.
- Un seul juge peut exercer les pouvoirs, sous réserve d'appel

Le tribunal a

recevoir des

demandes

juridiction pour

présente loi peuvent être exercés par un seul de ses juges, sous réserve de l'appel prévu par la présente loi. Ces pouvoirs peuvent être exercés en chambre, soit durant une session du tribunal, soit pendant les vacances judiciaires.

(2) Les pouvoirs conférés au tribunal par la

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 9.

**10.** (1) Les demandes prévues par la présente loi peuvent être formulées par requête ou par voie d'assignation introductive d'instance ou d'avis de motion conformément à la pratique du tribunal auquel la demande est présentée.

Forme des demandes

(2) La demande initiale doit être accompagnée :

a) d'un état portant, projections à l'appui, sur l'évolution hebdomadaire de l'encaisse de la compagnie débitrice;

- b) d'un rapport contenant les observations réglementaires de la compagnie débitrice relativement à l'établissement de cet état;
- c) d'une copie des états financiers, vérifiés ou non, établis au cours de l'année précédant la demande ou, à défaut, d'une copie des états financiers les plus récents.

Champ d'application de la loi

Documents accompagnant la

demande initiale

Publication ban

(3) The court may make an order prohibiting the release to the public of any cash-flow statement, or any part of a cash-flow statement, if it is satisfied that the release would unduly prejudice the debtor company and the making of the order would not unduly prejudice the company's creditors, but the court may, in the order, direct that the cash-flow statement or any part of it be made available to any person specified in the order on any terms or conditions that the court considers appropriate.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 10; 2005, c. 47, s. 127.

General power of court

11. Despite anything in the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act or the Winding-up and Restructuring Act, if an application is made under this Act in respect of a debtor company, the court, on the application of any person interested in the matter, may, subject to the restrictions set out in this Act, on notice to any other person or without notice as it may see fit, make any order that it considers appropriate in the circumstances.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 11; 1992, c. 27, s. 90; 1996, c. 6, s. 167; 1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2005, c. 47, s. 128.

Rights of

- 11.01 No order made under section 11 or 11.02 has the effect of
  - (a) prohibiting a person from requiring immediate payment for goods, services, use of leased or licensed property or other valuable consideration provided after the order is made; or
  - (b) requiring the further advance of money or credit.

2005, c. 47, s. 128.

Stays, etc. application

- 11.02 (1) A court may, on an initial application in respect of a debtor company, make an order on any terms that it may impose, effective for the period that the court considers necessary, which period may not be more than 30 days,
  - (a) staying, until otherwise ordered by the court, all proceedings taken or that might be taken in respect of the company under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act or the Winding-up and Restructuring Act;
  - (b) restraining, until otherwise ordered by the court, further proceedings in any action, suit or proceeding against the company; and

(3) Le tribunal peut, par ordonnance, interdire la communication au public de tout ou partie de l'état de l'évolution de l'encaisse de la compagnie débitrice s'il est convaincu que sa communication causerait un préjudice indu à celle-ci et que sa non-communication ne causerait pas de préjudice indu à ses créanciers. Il peut toutefois préciser dans l'ordonnance que tout ou partie de cet état peut être communiqué, aux conditions qu'il estime indiquées, à la personne qu'il nomme.

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 10; 2005, ch. 47, art. 127.

11. Malgré toute disposition de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité ou de la Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations, le tribunal peut, dans le cas de toute demande sous le régime de la présente loi à l'égard d'une compagnie débitrice, rendre, sur demande d'un intéressé, mais sous réserve des restrictions prévues par la présente loi et avec ou sans avis, toute ordonnance qu'il estime indiquée.

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 11; 1992, ch. 27, art. 90; 1996, ch. 6, art. 167; 1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2005, ch. 47, art. 128.

suppliers

11.01 L'ordonnance prévue aux articles 11 ou 11.02 ne peut avoir pour effet :

- a) d'empêcher une personne d'exiger que soient effectués sans délai les paiements relatifs à la fourniture de marchandises ou de services, à l'utilisation de biens loués ou faisant l'objet d'une licence ou à la fourniture de toute autre contrepartie de valeur qui ont lieu après l'ordonnance;
- b) d'exiger le versement de nouvelles avances de fonds ou de nouveaux crédits.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128.

- 11.02 (1) Dans le cas d'une demande initiale visant une compagnie débitrice, le tribunal peut, par ordonnance, aux conditions qu'il peut imposer et pour la période maximale de trente jours qu'il estime nécessaire :
  - a) suspendre, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, toute procédure qui est ou pourrait être intentée contre la compagnie sous le régime de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité ou de la Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations;
  - b) surseoir, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, à la continuation de toute action, poursuite ou autre procédure contre la compagnie;

Interdiction de mettre l'état à la disposition du

Pouvoir général du tribunal

Droits des fournisseurs

Suspension demande initiale (c) prohibiting, until otherwise ordered by the court, the commencement of any action, suit or proceeding against the company.

Stays, etc. other than initial application

- (2) A court may, on an application in respect of a debtor company other than an initial application, make an order, on any terms that it may impose,
  - (a) staying, until otherwise ordered by the court, for any period that the court considers necessary, all proceedings taken or that might be taken in respect of the company under an Act referred to in paragraph (1)(a);
  - (b) restraining, until otherwise ordered by the court, further proceedings in any action, suit or proceeding against the company; and
  - (c) prohibiting, until otherwise ordered by the court, the commencement of any action, suit or proceeding against the company.

Burden of proof on application

- (3) The court shall not make the order unless
- (a) the applicant satisfies the court that circumstances exist that make the order appropriate; and
- (b) in the case of an order under subsection (2), the applicant also satisfies the court that the applicant has acted, and is acting, in good faith and with due diligence.

Restriction

(4) Orders doing anything referred to in subsection (1) or (2) may only be made under this section.

2005, c. 47, s. 128, 2007, c. 36, s. 62(F).

Stays directors 11.03 (1) An order made under section 11.02 may provide that no person may commence or continue any action against a director of the company on any claim against directors that arose before the commencement of proceedings under this Act and that relates to obligations of the company if directors are under any law liable in their capacity as directors for the payment of those obligations, until a compromise or an arrangement in respect of the company, if one is filed, is sanctioned by the court or is refused by the creditors or the court.

Exception

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of an action against a director on a guarantee given by the director relating to the company's obligations or an action seeking injunctive relief against a director in relation to the company.

- c) interdire, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, l'introduction de toute action, poursuite ou autre procédure contre la compagnie.
- (2) Dans le cas d'une demande, autre qu'une demande initiale, visant une compagnie débitrice, le tribunal peut, par ordonnance, aux conditions qu'il peut imposer et pour la période qu'il estime nécessaire :

Suspension : demandes autres qu'initiales

- a) suspendre, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, toute procédure qui est ou pourrait être intentée contre la compagnie sous le régime des lois mentionnées à l'alinéa (1)a);
- b) surseoir, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, à la continuation de toute action, poursuite ou autre procédure contre la compagnie;
- c) interdire, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, l'introduction de toute action, poursuite ou autre procédure contre la compagnie.
- (3) Le tribunal ne rend l'ordonnance que si :

Preuve

- a) le demandeur le convainc que la mesure est opportune;
- b) dans le cas de l'ordonnance visée au paragraphe (2), le demandeur le convainc en outre qu'il a agi et continue d'agir de bonne foi et avec la diligence voulue.
- (4) L'ordonnance qui prévoit l'une des mesures visées aux paragraphes (1) ou (2) ne peut être rendue qu'en vertu du présent article.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128, 2007, ch. 36, art. 62(F).

- 11.03 (1) L'ordonnance prévue à l'article 11.02 peut interdire l'introduction ou la continuation de toute action contre les administrateurs de la compagnie relativement aux réclamations qui sont antérieures aux procédures intentées sous le régime de la présente loi et visent des obligations de la compagnie dont ils peuvent être, ès qualités, responsables en droit, tant que la transaction ou l'arrangement, le cas échéant, n'a pas été homologué par le tribunal ou rejeté par celui-ci ou les créanciers.
- (2) La suspension ne s'applique toutefois pas aux actions contre les administrateurs pour les garanties qu'ils ont données relativement aux obligations de la compagnie ni aux mesures de la nature d'une injonction les visant au sujet de celle-ci

Restriction

Suspension administrateurs

Exclusion

Persons deemed to be directors

(3) If all of the directors have resigned or have been removed by the shareholders without replacement, any person who manages or supervises the management of the business and affairs of the company is deemed to be a director for the purposes of this section.

2005, c. 47, s. 128.

Persons obligated under letter of credit or guarantee 11.04 No order made under section 11.02 has affect on any action, suit or proceeding against a person, other than the company in respect of whom the order is made, who is obligated under a letter of credit or guarantee in relation to the company.

2005, c. 47, s. 128.

11.05 [Repealed, 2007, c. 29, s. 105]

Member of the Canadian Payments Association 11.06 No order may be made under this Act that has the effect of preventing a member of the Canadian Payments Association from ceasing to act as a clearing agent or group clearer for a company in accordance with the *Canadian Payments Act* or the by-laws or rules of that Association.

2005, c. 47, s. 128, 2007, c. 36, s. 64.

11.07 [Repealed, 2012, c. 31, s. 420]

Restriction — certain powers, duties and functions

**11.08** No order may be made under section 11.02 that affects

- (a) the exercise or performance by the Minister of Finance or the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of any power, duty or function assigned to them by the *Bank Act*, the *Cooperative Credit Associations Act*, the *Insurance Companies Act* or the *Trust and Loan Companies Act*;
- (b) the exercise or performance by the Governor in Council, the Minister of Finance or the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation of any power, duty or function assigned to them by the *Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation Act*; or
- (c) the exercise by the Attorney General of Canada of any power, assigned to him or her by the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act*.

2005, c. 47, s. 128.

Stay — Her Majesty **11.09** (1) An order made under section 11.02 may provide that

(3) Si tous les administrateurs démissionnent ou sont destitués par les actionnaires sans être remplacés, quiconque dirige ou supervise les activités commerciales et les affaires internes de la compagnie est réputé un administrateur pour l'application du présent article.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128.

11.04 L'ordonnance prévue à l'article 11.02 est sans effet sur toute action, poursuite ou autre procédure contre la personne — autre que la compagnie visée par l'ordonnance — qui a des obligations au titre de lettres de crédit ou de garanties se rapportant à la compagnie.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128.

11.05 [Abrogé, 2007, ch. 29, art. 105]

11.06 Aucune ordonnance prévue par la présente loi ne peut avoir pour effet d'empêcher un membre de l'Association canadienne des paiements de cesser d'agir, pour une compagnie, à titre d'agent de compensation ou d'adhérent correspondant de groupe conformément à la *Loi canadienne sur les paiements* et aux règles et règlements administratifs de l'Association.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2007, ch. 36, art. 64.

11.07 [Abrogé, 2012, ch. 31, art. 420]

**11.08** L'ordonnance prévue à l'article 11.02 ne peut avoir d'effet sur :

- a) l'exercice par le ministre des Finances ou par le surintendant des institutions financières des attributions qui leur sont conférées par la Loi sur les banques, la Loi sur les associations coopératives de crédit, la Loi sur les sociétés d'assurances ou la Loi sur les sociétés de fiducie et de prêt:
- b) l'exercice par le gouverneur en conseil, le ministre des Finances ou la Société d'assurance-dépôts du Canada des attributions qui leur sont conférées par la Loi sur la Société d'assurance-dépôts du Canada;
- c) l'exercice par le procureur général du Canada des pouvoirs qui lui sont conférés par la *Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations*.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128.

**11.09** (1) L'ordonnance prévue à l'article 11.02 peut avoir pour effet de suspendre :

Présomption : administrateurs

Suspension lettres de crédit ou garanties

Membre de l'Association canadienne des paiements

Restrictions : exercice de certaines attributions

Suspension des procédures : Sa Majesté

- (a) Her Majesty in right of Canada may not exercise rights under subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* or any provision of the Canada Pension Plan or of the Employment Insurance Act that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the Canada Pension Plan, an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the Employment Insurance Act, or a premium under Part VII.1 of that Act, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, in respect of the company if the company is a tax debtor under that subsection or provision, for the period that the court considers appropriate but ending not later than
  - (i) the expiry of the order,
  - (ii) the refusal of a proposed compromise by the creditors or the court,
  - (iii) six months following the court sanction of a compromise or an arrangement,
  - (iv) the default by the company on any term of a compromise or an arrangement, or
  - (v) the performance of a compromise or an arrangement in respect of the company; and
- (b) Her Majesty in right of a province may not exercise rights under any provision of provincial legislation in respect of the company if the company is a debtor under that legislation and the provision has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
  - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation estab-

- a) l'exercice par Sa Majesté du chef du Canada des droits que lui confère le paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu ou toute disposition du Régime de pensions du Canada ou de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi qui renvoie à ce paragraphe et qui prévoit la perception d'une cotisation, au sens du Régime de pensions du Canada, d'une cotisation ouvrière ou d'une cotisation patronale, au sens de la Loi sur l'assuranceemploi, ou d'une cotisation prévue par la partie VII.1 de cette loi ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents, à l'égard d'une compagnie qui est un débiteur fiscal visé à ce paragraphe ou à cette disposition, pour la période se terminant au plus
  - (i) à l'expiration de l'ordonnance,
  - (ii) au moment du rejet, par le tribunal ou les créanciers, de la transaction proposée,
  - (iii) six mois après que le tribunal a homologué la transaction ou l'arrangement,
  - (iv) au moment de tout défaut d'exécution de la transaction ou de l'arrangement,
  - (v) au moment de l'exécution intégrale de la transaction ou de l'arrangement;
- b) l'exercice par Sa Majesté du chef d'une province, pour la période que le tribunal estime indiquée et se terminant au plus tard au moment visé à celui des sous-alinéas a)(i) à (v) qui, le cas échéant, est applicable, des droits que lui confère toute disposition législative de cette province à l'égard d'une compagnie qui est un débiteur visé par la loi provinciale, s'il s'agit d'une disposition dont l'objet est semblable à celui du paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu, ou qui renvoie à ce paragraphe, et qui prévoit la perception d'une somme, ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents, laquelle :
  - (i) soit a été retenue par une personne sur un paiement effectué à une autre personne, ou déduite d'un tel paiement, et se rapporte à un impôt semblable, de par sa nature, à l'impôt sur le revenu auquel les particuliers sont assujettis en vertu de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu,

lishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection.

for the period that the court considers appropriate but ending not later than the occurrence or time referred to in whichever of subparagraphs (a)(i) to (v) that may apply.

When order ceases to be in effect

- (2) The portions of an order made under section 11.02 that affect the exercise of rights of Her Majesty referred to in paragraph (1)(a) or (b) cease to be in effect if
  - (a) the company defaults on the payment of any amount that becomes due to Her Majesty after the order is made and could be subject to a demand under
    - (i) subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*,
    - (ii) any provision of the Canada Pension Plan or of the Employment Insurance Act that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the Income Tax Act and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the Canada Pension Plan, an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the Employment Insurance Act, or a premium under Part VII.1 of that Act, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
    - (iii) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
      - (A) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
      - (B) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection; or

- (ii) soit est de même nature qu'une cotisation prévue par le *Régime de pensions du Canada*, si la province est une province instituant un régime général de pensions au sens du paragraphe 3(1) de cette loi et si la loi provinciale institue un régime provincial de pensions au sens de ce paragraphe.
- (2) Les passages de l'ordonnance qui suspendent l'exercice des droits de Sa Majesté visés aux alinéas (1)a) ou b) cessent d'avoir effet dans les cas suivants :
  - a) la compagnie manque à ses obligations de paiement à l'égard de toute somme qui devient due à Sa Majesté après le prononcé de l'ordonnance et qui pourrait faire l'objet d'une demande aux termes d'une des dispositions suivantes :
    - (i) le paragraphe 224(1.2) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*,
    - (ii) toute disposition du Régime de pensions du Canada ou de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi qui renvoie au paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu et qui prévoit la perception d'une cotisation, au sens du Régime de pensions du Canada, d'une cotisation ouvrière ou d'une cotisation patronale, au sens de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi, ou d'une cotisation prévue par la partie VII.1 de cette loi ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents.
    - (iii) toute disposition législative provinciale dont l'objet est semblable à celui du paragraphe 224(1.2) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*, ou qui renvoie à ce paragraphe, et qui prévoit la perception d'une somme, ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents, laquelle :
      - (A) soit a été retenue par une personne sur un paiement effectué à une autre personne, ou déduite d'un tel paiement, et se rapporte à un impôt semblable, de par sa nature, à l'impôt sur le revenu auquel les particuliers sont assujettis en vertu de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*,
      - (B) soit est de même nature qu'une cotisation prévue par le *Régime de pensions du Canada*, si la province est une province instituant un régime général de

Cessation d'effet

- (b) any other creditor is or becomes entitled to realize a security on any property that could be claimed by Her Majesty in exercising rights under
  - (i) subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*.
  - (ii) any provision of the Canada Pension Plan or of the Employment Insurance Act that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the Income Tax Act and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the Canada Pension Plan, an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the Employment Insurance Act, or a premium under Part VII.1 of that Act, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
  - (iii) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
    - (A) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
    - (B) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection.

- pensions au sens du paragraphe 3(1) de cette loi et si la loi provinciale institue un régime provincial de pensions au sens de ce paragraphe;
- b) un autre créancier a ou acquiert le droit de réaliser sa garantie sur un bien qui pourrait être réclamé par Sa Majesté dans l'exercice des droits que lui confère l'une des dispositions suivantes :
  - (i) le paragraphe 224(1.2) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*,
  - (ii) toute disposition du Régime de pensions du Canada ou de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi qui renvoie au paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu et qui prévoit la perception d'une cotisation, au sens du Régime de pensions du Canada, d'une cotisation ouvrière ou d'une cotisation patronale, au sens de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi, ou d'une cotisation prévue par la partie VII.1 de cette loi ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents,
  - (iii) toute disposition législative provinciale dont l'objet est semblable à celui du paragraphe 224(1.2) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*, ou qui renvoie à ce paragraphe, et qui prévoit la perception d'une somme, ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents, laquelle :
    - (A) soit a été retenue par une personne sur un paiement effectué à une autre personne, ou déduite d'un tel paiement, et se rapporte à un impôt semblable, de par sa nature, à l'impôt sur le revenu auquel les particuliers sont assujettis en vertu de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*,
    - (B) soit est de même nature qu'une cotisation prévue par le *Régime de pensions du Canada*, si la province est une province instituant un régime général de pensions au sens du paragraphe 3(1) de cette loi et si la loi provinciale institue un régime provincial de pensions au sens de ce paragraphe.
- (3) L'ordonnance prévue à l'article 11.02, à l'exception des passages de celle-ci qui suspendent l'exercice des droits de Sa Majesté visés aux alinéas (1)a) ou b), n'a pas pour effet

Operation of similar legislation

(3) An order made under section 11.02, other than the portions of that order that affect the exercise of rights of Her Majesty referred to in paragraph (1)(a) or (b), does not affect the operation of

Effet

- (a) subsections 224(1.2) and (1.3) of the *Income Tax Act*.
- (b) any provision of the Canada Pension Plan or of the Employment Insurance Act that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the Income Tax Act and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the Canada Pension Plan, an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the Employment Insurance Act, or a premium under Part VII.1 of that Act, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
- (c) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
  - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

and for the purpose of paragraph (c), the provision of provincial legislation is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c) (i), or as subsection 23(2) of the *Canada Pension Plan* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(ii), and in respect of any related interest, penalties or other amounts.

2005, c. 47, s. 128; 2009, c. 33, s. 28.

de porter atteinte à l'application des dispositions suivantes :

- *a*) les paragraphes 224(1.2) et (1.3) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*;
- b) toute disposition du Régime de pensions du Canada ou de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi qui renvoie au paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu et qui prévoit la perception d'une cotisation, au sens du Régime de pensions du Canada, d'une cotisation ouvrière ou d'une cotisation patronale, au sens de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi, ou d'une cotisation prévue par la partie VII.1 de cette loi ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents;
- c) toute disposition législative provinciale dont l'objet est semblable à celui du paragraphe 224(1.2) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*, ou qui renvoie à ce paragraphe, et qui prévoit la perception d'une somme, ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents, laquelle :
  - (i) soit a été retenue par une personne sur un paiement effectué à une autre personne, ou déduite d'un tel paiement, et se rapporte à un impôt semblable, de par sa nature, à l'impôt sur le revenu auquel les particuliers sont assujettis en vertu de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu,
  - (ii) soit est de même nature qu'une cotisation prévue par le *Régime de pensions du Canada*, si la province est une province instituant un régime général de pensions au sens du paragraphe 3(1) de cette loi et si la loi provinciale institue un régime provincial de pensions au sens de ce paragraphe.

Pour l'application de l'alinéa c), la disposition législative provinciale en question est réputée avoir, à l'encontre de tout créancier et malgré tout texte législatif fédéral ou provincial et toute autre règle de droit, la même portée et le même effet que le paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu quant à la somme visée au sous-alinéa c)(i), ou que le paragraphe 23(2) du Régime de pensions du Canada quant à la somme visée au sous-alinéa c)(ii), et quant aux intérêts, pénalités et autres charges affé-

Meaning of "regulatory body" 11.1 (1) In this section, "regulatory body" means a person or body that has powers, duties or functions relating to the enforcement or administration of an Act of Parliament or of the legislature of a province and includes a person or body that is prescribed to be a regulatory body for the purpose of this Act.

Regulatory bodies — order under section 11.02 (2) Subject to subsection (3), no order made under section 11.02 affects a regulatory body's investigation in respect of the debtor company or an action, suit or proceeding that is taken in respect of the company by or before the regulatory body, other than the enforcement of a payment ordered by the regulatory body or the court.

Exception

- (3) On application by the company and on notice to the regulatory body and to the persons who are likely to be affected by the order, the court may order that subsection (2) not apply in respect of one or more of the actions, suits or proceedings taken by or before the regulatory body if in the court's opinion
  - (a) a viable compromise or arrangement could not be made in respect of the company if that subsection were to apply; and
  - (b) it is not contrary to the public interest that the regulatory body be affected by the order made under section 11.02.

Declaration — enforcement of a payment

(4) If there is a dispute as to whether a regulatory body is seeking to enforce its rights as a creditor, the court may, on application by the company and on notice to the regulatory body, make an order declaring both that the regulatory body is seeking to enforce its rights as a creditor and that the enforcement of those rights is stayed.

1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2001, c. 9, s. 576; 2005, c. 47, s. 128; 2007, c. 29, s. 106, c. 36, s. 65.

**11.11** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 128]

Interim financing 11.2 (1) On application by a debtor company and on notice to the secured creditors who are likely to be affected by the security or charge, a court may make an order declaring that all or part of the company's property is

rents, quelle que soit la garantie dont bénéficie le créancier.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2009, ch. 33, art. 28.

11.1 (1) Au présent article, «organisme administratif» s'entend de toute personne ou de tout organisme chargé de l'application d'une loi fédérale ou provinciale; y est assimilé toute personne ou tout organisme désigné à ce titre par règlement.

Définition de «organisme administratif»

(2) Sous réserve du paragraphe (3), l'ordonnance prévue à l'article 11.02 ne porte aucunement atteinte aux mesures — action, poursuite ou autre procédure — prises à l'égard de la compagnie débitrice par ou devant un organisme administratif, ni aux investigations auxquelles il procède à son sujet. Elles n'ont d'effet que sur l'exécution d'un paiement ordonné par lui ou le tribunal.

Organisme administratif ordonnance rendue en vertu de l'article 11.02

(3) Le tribunal peut par ordonnance, sur demande de la compagnie et sur préavis à l'organisme administratif et à toute personne qui sera vraisemblablement touchée par l'ordonnance, déclarer que le paragraphe (2) ne s'applique pas à l'une ou plusieurs des mesures prises par ou devant celui-ci, s'il est convaincu que, à la fois :

Exception

- a) il ne pourrait être fait de transaction ou d'arrangement viable à l'égard de la compagnie si ce paragraphe s'appliquait;
- b) l'ordonnance demandée au titre de l'article 11.02 n'est pas contraire à l'intérêt public.
- (4) En cas de différend sur la question de savoir si l'organisme administratif cherche à faire valoir ses droits à titre de créancier dans le cadre de la mesure prise, le tribunal peut déclarer, par ordonnance, sur demande de la compagnie et sur préavis à l'organisme, que celui-ci agit effectivement à ce titre et que la mesure est suspendue.

Déclaration : organisme agissant à titre de créancier

1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2001, ch. 9, art. 576; 2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2007, ch. 29, art. 106, ch. 36, art. 65.

- **11.11** [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 128]
- 11.2 (1) Sur demande de la compagnie débitrice, le tribunal peut par ordonnance, sur préavis de la demande aux créanciers garantis qui seront vraisemblablement touchés par la charge ou sûreté, déclarer que tout ou partie des biens

Financement temporaire

subject to a security or charge — in an amount that the court considers appropriate — in favour of a person specified in the order who agrees to lend to the company an amount approved by the court as being required by the company, having regard to its cash-flow statement. The security or charge may not secure an obligation that exists before the order is made.

Priority — secured creditors

(2) The court may order that the security or charge rank in priority over the claim of any secured creditor of the company.

Priority — other orders

(3) The court may order that the security or charge rank in priority over any security or charge arising from a previous order made under subsection (1) only with the consent of the person in whose favour the previous order was made.

Factors to be considered

- (4) In deciding whether to make an order, the court is to consider, among other things,
  - (a) the period during which the company is expected to be subject to proceedings under this Act;
  - (b) how the company's business and financial affairs are to be managed during the proceedings;
  - (c) whether the company's management has the confidence of its major creditors;
  - (d) whether the loan would enhance the prospects of a viable compromise or arrangement being made in respect of the company;
  - (e) the nature and value of the company's property;
  - (f) whether any creditor would be materially prejudiced as a result of the security or charge; and
  - (g) the monitor's report referred to in paragraph 23(1)(b), if any.

1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2005, c. 47, s. 128; 2007, c. 36, s. 65.

Assignment of agreements

11.3 (1) On application by a debtor company and on notice to every party to an agreement and the monitor, the court may make an order assigning the rights and obligations of the com-

de la compagnie sont grevés d'une charge ou sûreté — d'un montant qu'il estime indiqué — en faveur de la personne nommée dans l'ordonnance qui accepte de prêter à la compagnie la somme qu'il approuve compte tenu de l'état de l'évolution de l'encaisse et des besoins de celle-ci. La charge ou sûreté ne peut garantir qu'une obligation postérieure au prononcé de l'ordonnance.

(2) Le tribunal peut préciser, dans l'ordonnance, que la charge ou sûreté a priorité sur toute réclamation des créanciers garantis de la compagnie. Priorité créanciers garantis

(3) Il peut également y préciser que la charge ou sûreté n'a priorité sur toute autre charge ou sûreté grevant les biens de la compagnie au titre d'une ordonnance déjà rendue en vertu du paragraphe (1) que sur consentement de la personne en faveur de qui cette ordonnance a été rendue.

Priorité autres ordonnances

(4) Pour décider s'il rend l'ordonnance, le tribunal prend en considération, entre autres, les facteurs suivants :

Facteurs à prendre en considération

- *a*) la durée prévue des procédures intentées à l'égard de la compagnie sous le régime de la présente loi;
- b) la façon dont les affaires financières et autres de la compagnie seront gérées au cours de ces procédures;
- c) la question de savoir si ses dirigeants ont la confiance de ses créanciers les plus importants;
- d) la question de savoir si le prêt favorisera la conclusion d'une transaction ou d'un arrangement viable à l'égard de la compagnie;
- e) la nature et la valeur des biens de la compagnie;
- f) la question de savoir si la charge ou sûreté causera un préjudice sérieux à l'un ou l'autre des créanciers de la compagnie;
- g) le rapport du contrôleur visé à l'alinéa 23(1)b).

1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2007, ch. 36, art. 65

11.3 (1) Sur demande de la compagnie débitrice et sur préavis à toutes les parties au contrat et au contrôleur, le tribunal peut, par ordonnance, céder à toute personne qu'il précise

Cessions

pany under the agreement to any person who is specified by the court and agrees to the assignment.

Exceptions

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of rights and obligations that are not assignable by reason of their nature or that arise under
  - (a) an agreement entered into on or after the day on which proceedings commence under this Act;
  - (b) an eligible financial contract; or
  - (c) a collective agreement.

Factors to be considered

- (3) In deciding whether to make the order, the court is to consider, among other things,
  - (a) whether the monitor approved the proposed assignment;
  - (b) whether the person to whom the rights and obligations are to be assigned would be able to perform the obligations; and
  - (c) whether it would be appropriate to assign the rights and obligations to that person.

Restriction

(4) The court may not make the order unless it is satisfied that all monetary defaults in relation to the agreement — other than those arising by reason only of the company's insolvency, the commencement of proceedings under this Act or the company's failure to perform a non-monetary obligation — will be remedied on or before the day fixed by the court.

Copy of order

(5) The applicant is to send a copy of the order to every party to the agreement.

1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2005, c. 47, s. 128; 2007, c. 29, s. 107, c. 36, ss. 65, 112.

11.31 [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 128]

Critical supplier

11.4 (1) On application by a debtor company and on notice to the secured creditors who are likely to be affected by the security or charge, the court may make an order declaring a person to be a critical supplier to the company if the court is satisfied that the person is a supplier of goods or services to the company and that the goods or services that are supplied are critical to the company's continued operation.

Obligation to supply

(2) If the court declares a person to be a critical supplier, the court may make an order re-

et qui y a consenti les droits et obligations de la compagnie découlant du contrat.

(2) Le paragraphe (1) ne s'applique pas aux droits et obligations qui, de par leur nature, ne peuvent être cédés ou qui découlent soit d'un contrat conclu à la date à laquelle une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi ou par la suite, soit d'un contrat financier admissible, soit d'une convention collective.

Exceptions

(3) Pour décider s'il rend l'ordonnance, le tribunal prend en considération, entre autres, les facteurs suivants :

Facteurs à prendre en considération

- a) l'acquiescement du contrôleur au projet de cession, le cas échéant:
- b) la capacité de la personne à qui les droits et obligations seraient cédés d'exécuter les obligations;
- c) l'opportunité de lui céder les droits et obligations.
- (4) Il ne peut rendre l'ordonnance que s'il est convaincu qu'il sera remédié, au plus tard à la date qu'il fixe, à tous les manquements d'ordre pécuniaire relatifs au contrat, autres que ceux découlant du seul fait que la compagnie est insolvable, est visée par une procédure intentée sous le régime de la présente loi ou ne s'est pas conformée à une obligation non pécuniaire.

Restriction

(5) Le demandeur envoie une copie de l'ordonnance à toutes les parties au contrat.

Copie de l'ordonnance

1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2007, ch. 29, art. 107, ch. 36, art. 65 et 112.

11.31 [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 128]

11.4 (1) Sur demande de la compagnie débitrice, le tribunal peut par ordonnance, sur préavis de la demande aux créanciers garantis qui seront vraisemblablement touchés par la charge ou sûreté, déclarer toute personne fournisseur essentiel de la compagnie s'il est convaincu que cette personne est un fournisseur de la compagnie et que les marchandises ou les services qu'elle lui fournit sont essentiels à la continuation de son exploitation.

(2) S'il fait une telle déclaration, le tribunal peut ordonner à la personne déclarée fournis-

Obligation de fourniture

Fournisseurs essentiels quiring the person to supply any goods or services specified by the court to the company on any terms and conditions that are consistent with the supply relationship or that the court considers appropriate.

Security or charge in favour of critical supplier (3) If the court makes an order under subsection (2), the court shall, in the order, declare that all or part of the property of the company is subject to a security or charge in favour of the person declared to be a critical supplier, in an amount equal to the value of the goods or services supplied under the terms of the order.

Priority

(4) The court may order that the security or charge rank in priority over the claim of any secured creditor of the company.

1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2000, c. 30, s. 156; 2001, c. 34, s. 33(E); 2005, c. 47, s. 128; 2007, c. 36, s. 65.

Removal of directors 11.5 (1) The court may, on the application of any person interested in the matter, make an order removing from office any director of a debtor company in respect of which an order has been made under this Act if the court is satisfied that the director is unreasonably impairing or is likely to unreasonably impair the possibility of a viable compromise or arrangement being made in respect of the company or is acting or is likely to act inappropriately as a director in the circumstances.

Filling vacancy

(2) The court may, by order, fill any vacancy created under subsection (1).

1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2005, c. 47, s. 128.

Security or charge relating to director's indemnification 11.51 (1) On application by a debtor company and on notice to the secured creditors who are likely to be affected by the security or charge, the court may make an order declaring that all or part of the property of the company is subject to a security or charge — in an amount that the court considers appropriate — in favour of any director or officer of the company to indemnify the director or officer against obligations and liabilities that they may incur as a director or officer of the company after the commencement of proceedings under this Act.

Priority

(2) The court may order that the security or charge rank in priority over the claim of any secured creditor of the company.

Restriction indemnification insurance (3) The court may not make the order if in its opinion the company could obtain adequate

seur essentiel de la compagnie de fournir à celle-ci les marchandises ou services qu'il précise, à des conditions compatibles avec les modalités qui régissaient antérieurement leur fourniture ou aux conditions qu'il estime indiquées.

(3) Le cas échéant, le tribunal déclare dans l'ordonnance que tout ou partie des biens de la compagnie sont grevés d'une charge ou sûreté, en faveur de la personne déclarée fournisseur essentiel, d'un montant correspondant à la valeur des marchandises ou services fournis en application de l'ordonnance.

Charge ou sûreté en faveur du fournisseur essentiel

(4) Il peut préciser, dans l'ordonnance, que la charge ou sûreté a priorité sur toute réclamation des créanciers garantis de la compagnie.

1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2000, ch. 30, art. 156; 2001, ch. 34, art. 33(A); 2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2007, ch. 36, art. 65.

11.5 (1) Sur demande d'un intéressé, le tribunal peut, par ordonnance, révoquer tout administrateur de la compagnie débitrice à l'égard de laquelle une ordonnance a été rendue sous le régime de la présente loi s'il est convaincu que ce dernier, sans raisons valables, compromet ou compromettra vraisemblablement la possibilité de conclure une transaction ou un arrangement viable ou agit ou agira vraisemblablement de façon inacceptable dans les circonstances.

Révocation des administrateurs

Priorité

(2) Le tribunal peut, par ordonnance, combler toute vacance découlant de la révocation.

Vacance

1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2005, ch. 47, art. 128.

11.51 (1) Sur demande de la compagnie débitrice, le tribunal peut par ordonnance, sur préavis de la demande aux créanciers garantis qui seront vraisemblablement touchés par la charge ou sûreté, déclarer que tout ou partie des biens de celle-ci sont grevés d'une charge ou sûreté, d'un montant qu'il estime indiqué, en faveur d'un ou de plusieurs administrateurs ou dirigeants pour l'exécution des obligations qu'ils peuvent contracter en cette qualité après l'introduction d'une procédure sous le régime de la

Biens grevés d'une charge ou sûreté en faveur d'administrateurs ou de dirigeants

(2) Il peut préciser, dans l'ordonnance, que la charge ou sûreté a priorité sur toute réclamation des créanciers garantis de la compagnie.

Priorité

(3) Il ne peut toutefois rendre une telle ordonnance s'il estime que la compagnie peut souscrire, à un coût qu'il estime juste, une assu-

Restriction — assurance

présente loi.

indemnification insurance for the director or officer at a reasonable cost.

Negligence, misconduct or fault (4) The court shall make an order declaring that the security or charge does not apply in respect of a specific obligation or liability incurred by a director or officer if in its opinion the obligation or liability was incurred as a result of the director's or officer's gross negligence or wilful misconduct or, in Quebec, the director's or officer's gross or intentional fault.

2005, c. 47, s. 128; 2007, c. 36, s. 66.

Court may order security or charge to cover certain costs

- 11.52 (1) On notice to the secured creditors who are likely to be affected by the security or charge, the court may make an order declaring that all or part of the property of a debtor company is subject to a security or charge in an amount that the court considers appropriate in respect of the fees and expenses of
  - (a) the monitor, including the fees and expenses of any financial, legal or other experts engaged by the monitor in the performance of the monitor's duties;
  - (b) any financial, legal or other experts engaged by the company for the purpose of proceedings under this Act; and
  - (c) any financial, legal or other experts engaged by any other interested person if the court is satisfied that the security or charge is necessary for their effective participation in proceedings under this Act.

Priority

(2) The court may order that the security or charge rank in priority over the claim of any secured creditor of the company.

2005, c. 47, s. 128; 2007, c. 36, s. 66.

Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act matters

- **11.6** Notwithstanding the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*,
  - (a) proceedings commenced under Part III of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* may be taken up and continued under this Act only if a proposal within the meaning of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* has not been filed under that Part; and
  - (b) an application under this Act by a bankrupt may only be made with the consent of inspectors referred to in section 116 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* but no application may be made under this Act by a bankrupt whose bankruptcy has resulted from

rance permettant d'indemniser adéquatement les administrateurs ou dirigeants.

(4) Il déclare, dans l'ordonnance, que la charge ou sûreté ne vise pas les obligations que l'administrateur ou le dirigeant assume, selon lui, par suite de sa négligence grave ou de son inconduite délibérée ou, au Québec, par sa faute lourde ou intentionnelle.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2007, ch. 36, art. 66.

11.52 (1) Le tribunal peut par ordonnance, sur préavis aux créanciers garantis qui seront vraisemblablement touchés par la charge ou sûreté, déclarer que tout ou partie des biens de la compagnie débitrice sont grevés d'une charge ou sûreté, d'un montant qu'il estime indiqué, pour couvrir :

Biens grevés d'une charge ou sûreté pour couvrir certains frais

Négligence,

faute

inconduite ou

- a) les débours et honoraires du contrôleur, ainsi que ceux des experts notamment en finance et en droit dont il retient les services dans le cadre de ses fonctions:
- b) ceux des experts dont la compagnie retient les services dans le cadre de procédures intentées sous le régime de la présente loi;
- c) ceux des experts dont tout autre intéressé retient les services, si, à son avis, la charge ou sûreté était nécessaire pour assurer sa participation efficace aux procédures intentées sous le régime de la présente loi.
- (2) Il peut préciser, dans l'ordonnance, que la charge ou sûreté a priorité sur toute réclamation des créanciers garantis de la compagnie.

2005, ch. 47, art. 128; 2007, ch. 36, art. 66.

**11.6** Par dérogation à la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité* :

Lien avec la *Loi* sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité

Priorité

- a) les procédures intentées sous le régime de la partie III de cette loi ne peuvent être traitées et continuées sous le régime de la présente loi que si une proposition au sens de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité n'a pas été déposée au titre de cette même partie;
- b) le failli ne peut faire une demande au titre de la présente loi qu'avec l'aval des inspecteurs visés à l'article 116 de la *Loi sur la* faillite et l'insolvabilité, aucune demande ne pouvant toutefois être faite si la faillite découle, selon le cas :

- (i) the operation of subsection 50.4(8) of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, or
- (ii) the refusal or deemed refusal by the creditors or the court, or the annulment, of a proposal under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*.

1997, c. 12, s. 124.

Court to appoint monitor

11.7 (1) When an order is made on the initial application in respect of a debtor company, the court shall at the same time appoint a person to monitor the business and financial affairs of the company. The person so appointed must be a trustee, within the meaning of subsection 2(1) of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*.

Restrictions on who may be monitor

- (2) Except with the permission of the court and on any conditions that the court may impose, no trustee may be appointed as monitor in relation to a company
  - (a) if the trustee is or, at any time during the two preceding years, was
    - (i) a director, an officer or an employee of the company,
    - (ii) related to the company or to any director or officer of the company, or
    - (iii) the auditor, accountant or legal counsel, or a partner or an employee of the auditor, accountant or legal counsel, of the company; or
  - (b) if the trustee is
    - (i) the trustee under a trust indenture issued by the company or any person related to the company, or the holder of a power of attorney under an act constituting a hypothec within the meaning of the *Civil Code of Quebec* that is granted by the company or any person related to the company, or
    - (ii) related to the trustee, or the holder of a power of attorney, referred to in subparagraph (i).

Court may replace monitor

(3) On application by a creditor of the company, the court may, if it considers it appropriate in the circumstances, replace the monitor by appointing another trustee, within the meaning of subsection 2(1) of the *Bankruptcy and Insol-*

- (i) de l'application du paragraphe 50.4(8) de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*,
- (ii) du rejet effectif ou présumé de sa proposition par les créanciers ou le tribunal ou de l'annulation de celle-ci au titre de cette loi.

1997, ch. 12, art. 124.

11.7 (1) Le tribunal qui rend une ordonnance sur la demande initiale nomme une personne pour agir à titre de contrôleur des affaires financières ou autres de la compagnie débitrice visée par la demande. Seul un syndic au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité* peut être nommé pour agir à titre de contrôleur.

Nomination du contrôleur

(2) Sauf avec l'autorisation du tribunal et aux conditions qu'il peut fixer, ne peut être nommé pour agir à titre de contrôleur le syndic :

Personnes qui ne peuvent agir à titre de contrôleur

- a) qui est ou, au cours des deux années précédentes, a été :
  - (i) administrateur, dirigeant ou employé de la compagnie,
  - (ii) lié à la compagnie ou à l'un de ses administrateurs ou dirigeants,
  - (iii) vérificateur, comptable ou conseiller juridique de la compagnie, ou employé ou associé de l'un ou l'autre;
- b) qui est:
  - (i) le fondé de pouvoir aux termes d'un acte constitutif d'hypothèque au sens du *Code civil du Québec* émanant de la compagnie ou d'une personne liée à celleci ou le fiduciaire aux termes d'un acte de fiducie émanant de la compagnie ou d'une personne liée à celle-ci,
  - (ii) lié au fondé de pouvoir ou au fiduciaire visé au sous-alinéa (i).
- (3) Sur demande d'un créancier de la compagnie, le tribunal peut, s'il l'estime indiqué dans les circonstances, remplacer le contrôleur en nommant un autre syndic, au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolva-*

Remplacement du contrôleur *vency Act*, to monitor the business and financial affairs of the company.

1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2005, c. 47, s. 129.

No personal liability in respect of matters before appointment

- 11.8 (1) Despite anything in federal or provincial law, if a monitor, in that position, carries on the business of a debtor company or continues the employment of a debtor company's employees, the monitor is not by reason of that fact personally liable in respect of a liability, including one as a successor employer,
  - (a) that is in respect of the employees or former employees of the company or a predecessor of the company or in respect of a pension plan for the benefit of those employees; and
  - (b) that exists before the monitor is appointed or that is calculated by reference to a period before the appointment.

Status of liability

(2) A liability referred to in subsection (1) shall not rank as costs of administration.

Liability of other successor employers

(2.1) Subsection (1) does not affect the liability of a successor employer other than the monitor.

Liability in respect of environmental matters

- (3) Notwithstanding anything in any federal or provincial law, a monitor is not personally liable in that position for any environmental condition that arose or environmental damage that occurred
  - (a) before the monitor's appointment; or
  - (b) after the monitor's appointment unless it is established that the condition arose or the damage occurred as a result of the monitor's gross negligence or wilful misconduct.

Reports, etc., still required (4) Nothing in subsection (3) exempts a monitor from any duty to report or make disclosure imposed by a law referred to in that subsection.

Non-liability re certain orders

(5) Notwithstanding anything in any federal or provincial law but subject to subsection (3), where an order is made which has the effect of requiring a monitor to remedy any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting property involved in a proceeding under this Act, the monitor is not personally liable for failure to comply with the order, and is not personally liable for any costs that are or would be incurred by any person in carrying out the terms of the order,

*bilité*, pour agir à ce titre à l'égard des affaires financières et autres de la compagnie.

1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2005, ch. 47, art. 129.

11.8 (1) Par dérogation au droit fédéral et provincial, le contrôleur qui, en cette qualité, continue l'exploitation de l'entreprise de la compagnie débitrice ou lui succède comme employeur est dégagé de toute responsabilité personnelle découlant de quelque obligation de la compagnie, notamment à titre d'employeur successeur, si celle-ci, à la fois :

Immunité

- a) l'oblige envers des employés ou anciens employés de la compagnie, ou de l'un de ses prédécesseurs, ou découle d'un régime de pension pour le bénéfice de ces employés;
- b) existait avant sa nomination ou est calculée par référence à une période la précédant.
- (2) L'obligation visée au paragraphe (1) ne fait pas partie des frais d'administration.

Obligation exclue des frais

(2.1) Le paragraphe (1) ne dégage aucun employeur successeur, autre que le contrôleur, de sa responsabilité.

Responsabilité de l'employeur successeur

(3) Par dérogation au droit fédéral et provincial, le contrôleur est, ès qualités, dégagé de toute responsabilité personnelle découlant de tout fait ou dommage lié à l'environnement survenu, avant ou après sa nomination, sauf celui causé par sa négligence grave ou son inconduite délibérée.

Responsabilité en matière d'environnement

(4) Le paragraphe (3) n'a pas pour effet de soustraire le contrôleur à l'obligation de faire rapport ou de communiquer des renseignements prévus par le droit applicable en l'espèce.

Rapports

(5) Par dérogation au droit fédéral et provincial, mais sous réserve du paragraphe (3), le contrôleur est, ès qualité, dégagé de toute responsabilité personnelle découlant du non-respect de toute ordonnance de réparation de tout fait ou dommage lié à l'environnement et touchant un bien visé par des procédures intentées au titre de la présente loi, et de toute responsabilité personnelle relativement aux frais engagés par toute personne exécutant l'ordonnance :

Immunité ordonnances

- (a) if, within such time as is specified in the order, within ten days after the order is made if no time is so specified, within ten days after the appointment of the monitor, if the order is in effect when the monitor is appointed or during the period of the stay referred to in paragraph (b), the monitor
  - (i) complies with the order, or
  - (ii) on notice to the person who issued the order, abandons, disposes of or otherwise releases any interest in any real property affected by the condition or damage;
- (b) during the period of a stay of the order granted, on application made within the time specified in the order referred to in paragraph (a) or within ten days after the order is made or within ten days after the appointment of the monitor, if the order is in effect when the monitor is appointed, by
  - (i) the court or body having jurisdiction under the law pursuant to which the order was made to enable the monitor to contest the order, or
  - (ii) the court having jurisdiction under this Act for the purposes of assessing the economic viability of complying with the order; or
- (c) if the monitor had, before the order was made, abandoned or renounced any interest in any real property affected by the condition or damage.

Stay may be granted

(6) The court may grant a stay of the order referred to in subsection (5) on such notice and for such period as the court deems necessary for the purpose of enabling the monitor to assess the economic viability of complying with the order.

Costs for remedying not costs of administration (7) Where the monitor has abandoned or renounced any interest in real property affected by the environmental condition or environmental damage, claims for costs of remedying the condition or damage shall not rank as costs of administration.

Priority of claims

(8) Any claim by Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province against a debtor company in respect of which proceedings have been commenced under this Act for costs of remedying any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting real property of the

- a) si, dans les dix jours suivant l'ordonnance ou dans le délai fixé par celle-ci, dans les dix jours suivant sa nomination si l'ordonnance est alors en vigueur ou pendant la durée de la suspension visée à l'alinéa b):
  - (i) il s'y conforme,
  - (ii) il abandonne, après avis à la personne ayant rendu l'ordonnance, tout intérêt dans l'immeuble en cause, en dispose ou s'en dessaisit;
- b) pendant la durée de la suspension de l'ordonnance qui est accordée, sur demande présentée dans les dix jours suivant l'ordonnance visée à l'alinéa a) ou dans le délai fixé par celle-ci, ou dans les dix jours suivant sa nomination si l'ordonnance est alors en vigueur:
  - (i) soit par le tribunal ou l'autorité qui a compétence relativement à l'ordonnance, en vue de permettre au contrôleur de la contester,
  - (ii) soit par le tribunal qui a compétence en matière de faillite, en vue d'évaluer les conséquences économiques du respect de l'ordonnance;
- c) si, avant que l'ordonnance ne soit rendue, il avait abandonné tout intérêt dans le bien immeuble en cause ou y avait renoncé, ou s'en était dessaisi.
- (6) En vue de permettre au contrôleur d'évaluer les conséquences économiques du respect de l'ordonnance, le tribunal peut en ordonner la suspension après avis et pour la période qu'il estime indiqués.

Suspension

(7) Si le contrôleur a abandonné tout intérêt dans le bien immeuble en cause ou y a renoncé, les réclamations pour les frais de réparation du fait ou dommage lié à l'environnement et touchant le bien ne font pas partie des frais d'administration.

Priorité des réclamations

(8) Dans le cas où des procédures ont été intentées au titre de la présente loi contre une compagnie débitrice, toute réclamation de Sa Majesté du chef du Canada ou d'une province contre elle pour les frais de réparation du fait ou dommage lié à l'environnement et touchant company is secured by a charge on the real property and on any other real property of the company that is contiguous thereto and that is related to the activity that caused the environmental condition or environmental damage, and the charge

- (a) is enforceable in accordance with the law of the jurisdiction in which the real property is located, in the same way as a mortgage, hypothec or other security on real property; and
- (b) ranks above any other claim, right or charge against the property, notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or anything in any other federal or provincial law.

Claim for cleanup costs (9) A claim against a debtor company for costs of remedying any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting real property of the company shall be a claim under this Act, whether the condition arose or the damage occurred before or after the date on which proceedings under this Act were commenced.

1997, c. 12, s. 124; 2007, c. 36, s. 67.

Fixing deadlines

**12.** The court may fix deadlines for the purposes of voting and for the purposes of distributions under a compromise or arrangement.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 12; 1992, c. 27, s. 90; 1996, c. 6, s. 167; 2004, c. 25, s. 195; 2005, c. 47, s. 130; 2007, c. 36, s. 68

Leave to appeal

13. Except in Yukon, any person dissatisfied with an order or a decision made under this Act may appeal from the order or decision on obtaining leave of the judge appealed from or of the court or a judge of the court to which the appeal lies and on such terms as to security and in other respects as the judge or court directs.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 13; 2002, c. 7, s. 134.

Court of appeal

**14.** (1) An appeal under section 13 lies to the highest court of final resort in or for the province in which the proceeding originated.

Practice

(2) All appeals under section 13 shall be regulated as far as possible according to the practice in other cases of the court appealed to, but no appeal shall be entertained unless, within twenty-one days after the rendering of the order or decision being appealed, or within

un de ses biens immeubles est garantie par une sûreté sur le bien immeuble en cause et sur ceux qui sont contigus à celui où le dommage est survenu et qui sont liés à l'activité ayant causé le fait ou le dommage; la sûreté peut être exécutée selon le droit du lieu où est situé le bien comme s'il s'agissait d'une hypothèque ou autre garantie sur celui-ci et, par dérogation aux autres dispositions de la présente loi et à toute règle de droit fédéral et provincial, a priorité sur tout autre droit, charge ou réclamation visant le bien.

(9) La réclamation pour les frais de réparation du fait ou dommage lié à l'environnement et touchant un bien immeuble de la compagnie débitrice constitue une réclamation, que la date du fait ou dommage soit antérieure ou postérieure à celle où des procédures sont intentées au titre de la présente loi.

1997, ch. 12, art. 124; 2007, ch. 36, art. 67.

**12.** Le tribunal peut fixer des échéances aux fins de votation et aux fins de distribution aux termes d'une transaction ou d'un arrangement.

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 12; 1992, ch. 27, art. 90; 1996, ch. 6, art. 167; 2004, ch. 25, art. 195; 2005, ch. 47, art. 130; 2007, ch. 36, art. 68.

13. Sauf au Yukon, toute personne mécontente d'une ordonnance ou décision rendue en application de la présente loi peut en appeler après avoir obtenu la permission du juge dont la décision fait l'objet d'un appel ou après avoir obtenu la permission du tribunal ou d'un juge du tribunal auquel l'appel est porté et aux conditions que prescrit ce juge ou tribunal concernant le cautionnement et à d'autres égards.

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 13; 2002, ch. 7, art. 134.

**14.** (1) Cet appel doit être porté au tribunal de dernier ressort de la province où la procédure a pris naissance.

(2) Tous ces appels sont régis autant que possible par la pratique suivie dans d'autres causes devant le tribunal saisi de l'appel; toute-fois, aucun appel n'est recevable à moins que, dans le délai de vingt et un jours après qu'a été rendue l'ordonnance ou la décision faisant l'ob-

Précision

Échéances

Permission d'en appeler

Cour d'appel

Pratique

such further time as the court appealed from, or, in Yukon, a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada, allows, the appellant has taken proceedings therein to perfect his or her appeal, and within that time he or she has made a deposit or given sufficient security according to the practice of the court appealed to that he or she will duly prosecute the appeal and pay such costs as may be awarded to the respondent and comply with any terms as to security or otherwise imposed by the judge giving leave to appeal.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 14; 2002, c. 7, s. 135.

Appeals

**15.** (1) An appeal lies to the Supreme Court of Canada on leave therefor being granted by that Court from the highest court of final resort in or for the province or territory in which the proceeding originated.

Jurisdiction of Supreme Court of Canada (2) The Supreme Court of Canada shall have jurisdiction to hear and to decide according to its ordinary procedure any appeal under subsection (1) and to award costs.

Stay of proceedings

(3) No appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada shall operate as a stay of proceedings unless and to the extent ordered by that Court.

Security for costs

(4) The appellant in an appeal under subsection (1) shall not be required to provide any security for costs, but, unless he provides security for costs in an amount to be fixed by the Supreme Court of Canada, he shall not be awarded costs in the event of his success on the appeal.

Decision final

(5) The decision of the Supreme Court of Canada on any appeal under subsection (1) is final and conclusive.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 15; R.S., c. 44(1st Supp.), s. 10.

Order of court of one province

16. Every order made by the court in any province in the exercise of jurisdiction conferred by this Act in respect of any compromise or arrangement shall have full force and effect in all the other provinces and shall be enforced in the court of each of the other provinces in the same manner in all respects as if the order had been made by the court enforcing it.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 16.

jet de l'appel, ou dans le délai additionnel que peut accorder le tribunal dont il est interjeté appel ou, au Yukon, un juge de la Cour suprême du Canada, l'appelant n'y ait pris des procédures pour parfaire son appel, et à moins que, dans ce délai, il n'ait fait un dépôt ou fourni un cautionnement suffisant selon la pratique du tribunal saisi de l'appel pour garantir qu'il poursuivra dûment l'appel et payera les frais qui peuvent être adjugés à l'intimé et se conformera aux conditions relatives au cautionnement ou autres qu'impose le juge donnant la permission d'en appeler.

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 14; 2002, ch. 7, art. 135.

**15.** (1) Un appel peut être interjeté à la Cour suprême du Canada sur autorisation à cet effet accordée par ce tribunal, du plus haut tribunal de dernier ressort de la province ou du territoire où la procédure a pris naissance.

Appels

(2) La Cour suprême du Canada a juridiction pour entendre et décider, selon sa procédure ordinaire, tout appel ainsi permis et pour adjuger des frais. Juridiction de la Cour suprême du Canada

(3) Un tel appel à la Cour suprême du Canada n'a pas pour effet de suspendre les procédures, à moins que ce tribunal ne l'ordonne et dans la mesure où il l'ordonne.

Suspension de

procédures

(4) L'appelant n'est pas tenu de fournir un cautionnement pour les frais; toutefois, à moins qu'il ne fournisse un cautionnement pour les frais au montant que fixe la Cour suprême du Canada, il ne lui est pas adjugé de frais en cas de réussite dans son appel.

Cautionnement pour les frais

(5) La décision de la Cour suprême du Canada sur un tel appel est définitive et sans appel.

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 15; S.R., ch. 44(1er suppl.), art. 10.

16. Toute ordonnance rendue par le tribunal d'une province dans l'exercice de la juridiction conférée par la présente loi à l'égard de quelque transaction ou arrangement a pleine vigueur et effet dans les autres provinces, et elle est appliquée devant le tribunal de chacune des autres provinces de la même manière, à tous égards, que si elle avait été rendue par le tribu-

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 16.

nal la faisant ainsi exécuter.

Décision finale

Ordonnance d'un tribunal d'une province Courts shall aid each other on request

17. All courts that have jurisdiction under this Act and the officers of those courts shall act in aid of and be auxiliary to each other in all matters provided for in this Act, and an order of a court seeking aid with a request to another court shall be deemed sufficient to enable the latter court to exercise in regard to the matters directed by the order such jurisdiction as either the court that made the request or the court to which the request is made could exercise in regard to similar matters within their respective jurisdictions.

R.S., c. C-25, s. 17.

- **18.** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 131]
- **18.1** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 131]
- **18.2** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 131]
- **18.3** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 131]
- **18.4** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 131]
- **18.5** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 131]
- **18.6** [Repealed, 2005, c. 47, s. 131]

## PART III

## **GENERAL**

## CLAIMS

Claims that may be dealt with by a compromise or arrangement

- 19. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the only claims that may be dealt with by a compromise or arrangement in respect of a debtor company are
  - (a) claims that relate to debts or liabilities, present or future, to which the company is subject on the earlier of
    - (i) the day on which proceedings commenced under this Act, and
    - (ii) if the company filed a notice of intention under section 50.4 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or commenced proceedings under this Act with the consent of inspectors referred to in section 116 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, the date of the initial bankruptcy event within the meaning of section 2 of that Act; and
  - (b) claims that relate to debts or liabilities, present or future, to which the company may become subject before the compromise or ar-

17. Tous les tribunaux ayant juridiction sous le régime de la présente loi et les fonctionnaires de ces tribunaux sont tenus de s'entraider et de se faire les auxiliaires les uns des autres en toutes matières prévues par la présente loi, et une ordonnance du tribunal sollicitant de l'aide au moyen d'une demande à un autre tribunal est réputée suffisante pour permettre à ce dernier tribunal d'exercer, en ce qui concerne les questions prescrites par l'ordonnance, la juridiction que le tribunal ayant formulé la demande ou le tribunal auquel est adressée la demande pourrait exercer à l'égard de questions similaires dans les limites de leurs juridictions respectives.

S.R., ch. C-25, art. 17.

- 18. [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 131]
- 18.1 [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 131]
- **18.2** [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 131]
- 18.3 [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 131]
- 18.4 [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 131]
- 18.5 [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 131]
- **18.6** [Abrogé, 2005, ch. 47, art. 131]

# PARTIE III

## DISPOSITIONS GÉNÉRALES

#### RÉCLAMATIONS

**19.** (1) Les seules réclamations qui peuvent être considérées dans le cadre d'une transaction ou d'un arrangement visant une compagnie débitrice sont :

Réclamations considérées dans le cadre des transactions ou arrangements

Les tribunaux

s'entraider sur

doivent

demande

- a) celles se rapportant aux dettes et obligations, présentes ou futures, auxquelles la compagnie est assujettie à celle des dates ciaprès qui est antérieure à l'autre :
  - (i) la date à laquelle une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi à l'égard de la compagnie,
  - (ii) la date d'ouverture de la faillite, au sens de l'article 2 de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*, si elle a déposé un avis d'intention sous le régime de l'article 50.4 de cette loi ou qu'elle a intenté une procédure sous le régime de la présente loi avec le consentement des inspecteurs visés à l'article 116 de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*;

rangement is sanctioned by reason of any obligation incurred by the company before the earlier of the days referred to in subparagraphs (a)(i) and (ii).

Exception

- (2) A compromise or arrangement in respect of a debtor company may not deal with any claim that relates to any of the following debts or liabilities unless the compromise or arrangement explicitly provides for the claim's compromise and the creditor in relation to that debt has voted for the acceptance of the compromise or arrangement:
  - (a) any fine, penalty, restitution order or other order similar in nature to a fine, penalty or restitution order, imposed by a court in respect of an offence;
  - (b) any award of damages by a court in civil proceedings in respect of
    - (i) bodily harm intentionally inflicted, or sexual assault, or
    - (ii) wrongful death resulting from an act referred to in subparagraph (i);
  - (c) any debt or liability arising out of fraud, embezzlement, misappropriation or defalcation while acting in a fiduciary capacity or, in Quebec, as a trustee or an administrator of the property of others;
  - (d) any debt or liability resulting from obtaining property or services by false pretences or fraudulent misrepresentation, other than a debt or liability of the company that arises from an equity claim; or
  - (e) any debt for interest owed in relation to an amount referred to in any of paragraphs (a) to (d).

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 19; 1996, c. 6, s. 167; 2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 69.

Determination of amount of

- **20.** (1) For the purposes of this Act, the amount represented by a claim of any secured or unsecured creditor is to be determined as follows:
  - (a) the amount of an unsecured claim is the amount

- b) celles se rapportant aux dettes et obligations, présentes ou futures, auxquelles elle peut devenir assujettie avant l'acceptation de la transaction ou de l'arrangement, en raison d'une obligation contractée antérieurement à celle des dates mentionnées aux sous-alinéas a)(i) et (ii) qui est antérieure à l'autre.
- (2) La réclamation se rapportant à l'une ou l'autre des dettes ou obligations ci-après ne peut toutefois être ainsi considérée, à moins que la transaction ou l'arrangement ne prévoie expressément la possibilité de transiger sur cette réclamation et que le créancier intéressé n'ait voté en faveur de la transaction ou de l'arrangement proposé :
  - *a*) toute ordonnance d'un tribunal imposant une amende, une pénalité, la restitution ou une autre peine semblable;
  - b) toute indemnité accordée en justice dans une affaire civile :
    - (i) pour des lésions corporelles causées intentionnellement ou pour agression sexuelle,
    - (ii) pour décès découlant d'un acte visé au sous-alinéa (i);
  - c) toute dette ou obligation résultant de la fraude, du détournement, de la concussion ou de l'abus de confiance alors que la compagnie agissait, au Québec, à titre de fiduciaire ou d'administrateur du bien d'autrui ou, dans les autres provinces, à titre de fiduciaire;
  - d) toute dette ou obligation résultant de l'obtention de biens ou de services par des fauxsemblants ou la présentation erronée et frauduleuse des faits, autre qu'une dette ou obligation de la compagnie qui découle d'une réclamation relative à des capitaux propres;
  - e) toute dette relative aux intérêts dus à l'égard d'une somme visée à l'un des alinéas
    a) à d).
- L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 19; 1996, ch. 6, art. 167; 2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 69.
- **20.** (1) Pour l'application de la présente loi, le montant de la réclamation d'un créancier garanti ou chirographaire est déterminé de la façon suivante :
  - *a*) le montant d'une réclamation non garantie est celui :

Exception

Détermination du montant de la réclamation

- (i) in the case of a company in the course of being wound up under the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act*, proof of which has been made in accordance with that Act,
- (ii) in the case of a company that has made an authorized assignment or against which a bankruptcy order has been made under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, proof of which has been made in accordance with that Act, or
- (iii) in the case of any other company, proof of which might be made under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, but if the amount so provable is not admitted by the company, the amount is to be determined by the court on summary application by the company or by the creditor; and
- (b) the amount of a secured claim is the amount, proof of which might be made under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act if the claim were unsecured, but the amount if not admitted by the company is, in the case of a company subject to pending proceedings under the Winding-up and Restructuring Act or the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, to be established by proof in the same manner as an unsecured claim under the Winding-up and Restructuring Act or the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, as the case may be, and, in the case of any other company, the amount is to be determined by the court on summary application by the company or the creditor.

Admission of claims

(2) Despite subsection (1), the company may admit the amount of a claim for voting purposes under reserve of the right to contest liability on the claim for other purposes, and nothing in this Act, the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act* or the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* prevents a secured creditor from voting at a meeting of secured creditors or any class of them in respect of the total amount of a claim as admitted.

R.S., 1985, c. C-36, s. 20; 2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 70.

Law of set-off or compensation to apply

21. The law of set-off or compensation applies to all claims made against a debtor company and to all actions instituted by it for the recovery of debts due to the company in the same manner and to the same extent as if the

- (i) dans le cas d'une compagnie en voie de liquidation sous le régime de la *Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations*, dont la preuve a été établie en conformité avec cette loi,
- (ii) dans le cas d'une compagnie qui a fait une cession autorisée ou à l'encontre de laquelle une ordonnance de faillite a été rendue sous le régime de la *Loi sur la* faillite et l'insolvabilité, dont la preuve a été établie en conformité avec cette loi,
- (iii) dans le cas de toute autre compagnie, dont la preuve peut être établie sous le régime de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*, mais si le montant ainsi prouvable n'est pas admis par la compagnie, il est déterminé par le tribunal sur demande sommaire de celle-ci ou du créancier;
- b) le montant d'une réclamation garantie est celui dont la preuve pourrait être établie sous le régime de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité si la réclamation n'était pas garantie, mais ce montant, s'il n'est pas admis par la compagnie, est, dans le cas où celle-ci est assujettie à une procédure pendante sous le régime de la Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations ou de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité, établi par preuve de la même manière qu'une réclamation non garantie sous le régime de l'une ou l'autre de ces lois, selon le cas, et, s'il s'agit de toute autre compagnie, il est déterminé par le tribunal sur demande sommaire de celle-ci ou du créancier.
- (2) Malgré le paragraphe (1), la compagnie peut admettre le montant d'une réclamation aux fins de votation sous réserve du droit de contester la responsabilité quant à la réclamation pour d'autres objets, et la présente loi, la *Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations* et la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité* n'ont pas pour effet d'empêcher un créancier garanti de voter à une assemblée de créanciers garantis ou d'une catégorie de ces derniers à l'égard du montant total d'une réclamation ainsi admis.

L.R. (1985), ch. C-36, art. 20; 2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 70.

21. Les règles de compensation s'appliquent à toutes les réclamations produites contre la compagnie débitrice et à toutes les actions intentées par elle en vue du recouvrement de ses

Admission des réclamations

Compensation

company were plaintiff or defendant, as the case may be.

1997, c. 12, s. 126; 2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### CLASSES OF CREDITORS

Company may establish classes

**22.** (1) A debtor company may divide its creditors into classes for the purpose of a meeting to be held under section 4 or 5 in respect of a compromise or arrangement relating to the company and, if it does so, it is to apply to the court for approval of the division before the meeting is held.

Factors

- (2) For the purpose of subsection (1), creditors may be included in the same class if their interests or rights are sufficiently similar to give them a commonality of interest, taking into account
  - (a) the nature of the debts, liabilities or obligations giving rise to their claims;
  - (b) the nature and rank of any security in respect of their claims;
  - (c) the remedies available to the creditors in the absence of the compromise or arrangement being sanctioned, and the extent to which the creditors would recover their claims by exercising those remedies; and
  - (d) any further criteria, consistent with those set out in paragraphs (a) to (c), that are prescribed.

Related creditors

(3) A creditor who is related to the company may vote against, but not for, a compromise or arrangement relating to the company.

1997, c. 12, s. 126; 2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 71.

Class — creditors having equity claims

**22.1** Despite subsection 22(1), creditors having equity claims are to be in the same class of creditors in relation to those claims unless the court orders otherwise and may not, as members of that class, vote at any meeting unless the court orders otherwise.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 71.

#### Monitors

Duties and functions

- 23. (1) The monitor shall
- (a) except as otherwise ordered by the court, when an order is made on the initial application in respect of a debtor company,

créances, comme si elle était demanderesse ou défenderesse, selon le cas.

1997, ch. 12, art. 126; 2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### Catégories de créanciers

22. (1) La compagnie débitrice peut établir des catégories de créanciers en vue des assemblées qui seront tenues au titre des articles 4 ou 5 relativement à une transaction ou un arrangement la visant; le cas échéant, elle demande au tribunal d'approuver ces catégories avant la tenue des assemblées.

Établissement des catégories de créanciers

(2) Pour l'application du paragraphe (1), peuvent faire partie de la même catégorie les créanciers ayant des droits ou intérêts à ce point semblables, compte tenu des critères énumérés ci-après, qu'on peut en conclure qu'ils ont un intérêt commun :

Critères

- *a*) la nature des créances et obligations donnant lieu à leurs réclamations;
- b) la nature et le rang de toute garantie qui s'y rattache;
- c) les voies de droit ouvertes aux créanciers, abstraction faite de la transaction ou de l'arrangement, et la mesure dans laquelle il pourrait être satisfait à leurs réclamations s'ils s'en prévalaient;
- d) tous autres critères réglementaires compatibles avec ceux énumérés aux alinéas a) à c).
- (3) Le créancier lié à la compagnie peut voter contre, mais non pour, l'acceptation de la transaction ou de l'arrangement.

1997, ch. 12, art. 126; 2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 71.

**22.1** Malgré le paragraphe 22(1), les créanciers qui ont des réclamations relatives à des capitaux propres font partie d'une même catégorie de créanciers relativement à ces réclamations, sauf ordonnance contraire du tribunal, et ne peuvent à ce titre voter à aucune assemblée, sauf ordonnance contraire du tribunal.

Catégorie de créanciers ayant des réclamations relatives à des capitaux propres

Créancier lié

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 71.

#### Contrôleurs

23. (1) Le contrôleur est tenu :

Attributions

a) à moins que le tribunal n'en ordonne autrement, lorsqu'il rend une ordonnance à

- (i) publish, without delay after the order is made, once a week for two consecutive weeks, or as otherwise directed by the court, in one or more newspapers in Canada specified by the court, a notice containing the prescribed information, and
- (ii) within five days after the day on which the order is made.
  - (A) make the order publicly available in the prescribed manner,
  - (B) send, in the prescribed manner, a notice to every known creditor who has a claim against the company of more than \$1,000 advising them that the order is publicly available, and
  - (C) prepare a list, showing the names and addresses of those creditors and the estimated amounts of those claims, and make it publicly available in the prescribed manner;
- (b) review the company's cash-flow statement as to its reasonableness and file a report with the court on the monitor's findings;
- (c) make, or cause to be made, any appraisal or investigation the monitor considers necessary to determine with reasonable accuracy the state of the company's business and financial affairs and the cause of its financial difficulties or insolvency and file a report with the court on the monitor's findings;
- (d) file a report with the court on the state of the company's business and financial affairs
   containing the prescribed information, if any
  - (i) without delay after ascertaining a material adverse change in the company's projected cash-flow or financial circumstances.
  - (ii) not later than 45 days, or any longer period that the court may specify, after the day on which each of the company's fiscal quarters ends, and
  - (iii) at any other time that the court may order;
- (d.1) file a report with the court on the state of the company's business and financial affairs containing the monitor's opinion as to the reasonableness of a decision, if any, to

l'égard de la demande initiale visant une compagnie débitrice :

- (i) de publier, sans délai après le prononcé de l'ordonnance, une fois par semaine pendant deux semaines consécutives, ou selon les modalités qui y sont prévues, dans le journal ou les journaux au Canada qui y sont précisés, un avis contenant les renseignements réglementaires,
- (ii) dans les cinq jours suivant la date du prononcé de l'ordonnance :
  - (A) de rendre l'ordonnance publique selon les modalités réglementaires,
  - (B) d'envoyer un avis, selon les modalités réglementaires, à chaque créancier connu ayant une réclamation supérieure à mille dollars les informant que l'ordonnance a été rendue publique,
  - (C) d'établir la liste des nom et adresse de chacun de ces créanciers et des montants estimés des réclamations et de la rendre publique selon les modalités réglementaires;
- b) de réviser l'état de l'évolution de l'encaisse de la compagnie, en ce qui a trait à sa justification, et de déposer auprès du tribunal un rapport où il présente ses conclusions;
- c) de faire ou de faire faire toute évaluation ou investigation qu'il estime nécessaire pour établir l'état des affaires financières et autres de la compagnie et les causes des difficultés financières ou de l'insolvabilité de celle-ci, et de déposer auprès du tribunal un rapport où il présente ses conclusions;
- d) de déposer auprès du tribunal un rapport portant sur l'état des affaires financières et autres de la compagnie et contenant les renseignements réglementaires :
  - (i) dès qu'il note un changement défavorable important au chapitre des projections relatives à l'encaisse ou de la situation financière de la compagnie,
  - (ii) au plus tard quarante-cinq jours ou le nombre de jours supérieur que le tribunal fixe — après la fin de chaque trimestre d'exercice,
  - (iii) à tout autre moment fixé par ordonnance du tribunal;

include in a compromise or arrangement a provision that sections 38 and 95 to 101 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* do not apply in respect of the compromise or arrangement and containing the prescribed information, if any — at least seven days before the day on which the meeting of creditors referred to in section 4 or 5 is to be held:

- (e) advise the company's creditors of the filing of the report referred to in any of paragraphs (b) to (d.1);
- (f) file with the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, in the prescribed manner and at the prescribed time, a copy of the documents specified in the regulations;
- (f.1) for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy incurred in performing his or her functions under this Act, pay the prescribed levy at the prescribed time to the Superintendent for deposit with the Receiver General;
- (g) attend court proceedings held under this Act that relate to the company, and meetings of the company's creditors, if the monitor considers that his or her attendance is necessary for the fulfilment of his or her duties or functions;
- (h) if the monitor is of the opinion that it would be more beneficial to the company's creditors if proceedings in respect of the company were taken under the *Bankruptcy* and *Insolvency Act*, so advise the court without delay after coming to that opinion;
- (i) advise the court on the reasonableness and fairness of any compromise or arrangement that is proposed between the company and its creditors:
- (j) make the prescribed documents publicly available in the prescribed manner and at the prescribed time and provide the company's creditors with information as to how they may access those documents; and
- (k) carry out any other functions in relation to the company that the court may direct.

- d.1) de déposer auprès du tribunal, au moins sept jours avant la date de la tenue de l'assemblée des créanciers au titre des articles 4 ou 5, un rapport portant sur l'état des affaires financières et autres de la compagnie, contenant notamment son opinion sur le caractère raisonnable de la décision d'inclure dans la transaction ou l'arrangement une disposition prévoyant la non-application à celle-ci des articles 38 et 95 à 101 de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité, et contenant les renseignements réglementaires;
- e) d'informer les créanciers de la compagnie du dépôt du rapport visé à l'un ou l'autre des alinéas b) à d. l);
- f) de déposer auprès du surintendant des faillites, selon les modalités réglementaires, de temps et autre, une copie des documents précisés par règlement;
- f.1) afin de défrayer le surintendant des faillites des dépenses engagées par lui dans l'exercice de ses attributions prévues par la présente loi, de lui verser, pour dépôt auprès du receveur général, le prélèvement réglementaire, et ce au moment prévu par les règlements;
- g) d'assister aux audiences du tribunal tenues dans le cadre de toute procédure intentée sous le régime de la présente loi relativement à la compagnie et aux assemblées de créanciers de celle-ci, s'il estime que sa présence est nécessaire à l'exercice de ses attributions;
- h) dès qu'il conclut qu'il serait plus avantageux pour les créanciers qu'une procédure visant la compagnie soit intentée sous le régime de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*, d'en aviser le tribunal;
- i) de conseiller le tribunal sur le caractère juste et équitable de toute transaction ou de tout arrangement proposés entre la compagnie et ses créanciers;
- j) de rendre publics selon les modalités réglementaires, de temps et autres, les documents réglementaires et de fournir aux créanciers de la compagnie des renseignements sur les modalités d'accès à ces documents;
- *k*) d'accomplir à l'égard de la compagnie tout ce que le tribunal lui ordonne de faire.

Monitor not liable

(2) If the monitor acts in good faith and takes reasonable care in preparing the report referred to in any of paragraphs (1)(b) to (d.1), the monitor is not liable for loss or damage to any person resulting from that person's reliance on the report.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 72.

Right of access

**24.** For the purposes of monitoring the company's business and financial affairs, the monitor shall have access to the company's property, including the premises, books, records, data, including data in electronic form, and other financial documents of the company, to the extent that is necessary to adequately assess the company's business and financial affairs.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Obligation to act honestly and in good faith

25. In exercising any of his or her powers or in performing any of his or her duties and functions, the monitor must act honestly and in good faith and comply with the Code of Ethics referred to in section 13.5 of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

## POWERS, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF SUPERINTENDENT OF BANKRUPTCY

Public records

**26.** (1) The Superintendent of Bankruptcy must keep, or cause to be kept, in the form that he or she considers appropriate and for the prescribed period, a public record of prescribed information relating to proceedings under this Act. On request, and on payment of the prescribed fee, the Superintendent of Bankruptcy must provide, or cause to be provided, any information contained in that public record.

Other records

(2) The Superintendent of Bankruptcy must keep, or cause to be kept, in the form that he or she considers appropriate and for the prescribed period, any other records relating to the administration of this Act that he or she considers appropriate.

Agreement to provide compilation

(3) The Superintendent of Bankruptcy may enter into an agreement to provide a compilation of all or part of the information that is contained in the public record.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 73.

Applications to court and right to intervene

27. The Superintendent of Bankruptcy may apply to the court to review the appointment or conduct of a monitor and may intervene, as

(2) S'il agit de bonne foi et prend toutes les précautions voulues pour bien établir le rapport visé à l'un ou l'autre des alinéas (1)b) à d.1), le contrôleur ne peut être tenu pour responsable des dommages ou pertes subis par la personne qui s'y fie.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 72.

**24.** Dans le cadre de la surveillance des affaires financières et autres de la compagnie et dans la mesure où cela s'impose pour lui permettre de les évaluer adéquatement, le contrôleur a accès aux biens de celle-ci, notamment les locaux, livres, données sur support électronique ou autre, registres et autres documents financiers

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

25. Le contrôleur doit, dans l'exercice de ses attributions, agir avec intégrité et de bonne foi et se conformer au code de déontologie mentionné à l'article 13.5 de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### Attributions du surintendant des faillites

faillites **26.** (1) Le surintendant des conserve ou fait conserver, en la forme qu'il estime indiquée et pendant la période réglementaire, un registre public contenant des renseignements réglementaires sur les procédures intentées sous le régime de la présente loi. Il fournit ou voit à ce qu'il soit fourni à quiconque le demande tous renseignements figurant au registre, sur paiement des droits réglementaires.

(2) Il conserve également, ou fait conserver,

- en la forme qu'il estime indiquée et pendant la période réglementaire, les autres dossiers qu'il estime indiqués concernant l'application de la présente loi.
- (3) Enfin, il peut conclure un accord visant la fourniture d'une compilation de tout ou partie des renseignements figurant au registre pu-

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 73.

27. Le surintendant des faillites peut demander au tribunal d'examiner la nomination ou la conduite de tout contrôleur et intervenir dans

Non-responsabilité du contrôleur

Droit d'accès aux biens

Diligence

Registres publics

Autres dossiers

Accord visant la fourniture d'une compilation

Demande au tribunal et intervention

though he or she were a party, in any matter or proceeding in court relating to the appointment or conduct of a monitor.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Complaints

**28.** The Superintendent of Bankruptcy must receive and keep a record of all complaints regarding the conduct of monitors.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Investigations

**29.** (1) The Superintendent of Bankruptcy may make, or cause to be made, any inquiry or investigation regarding the conduct of monitors that he or she considers appropriate.

Rights

- (2) For the purpose of the inquiry or investigation, the Superintendent of Bankruptcy or any person whom he or she appoints for the purpose
  - (a) shall have access to and the right to examine and make copies of the books, records, data, documents or papers including those in electronic form in the possession or under the control of a monitor under this Act: and
  - (b) may, with the leave of the court granted on an ex parte application, examine the books, records, data, documents or papers including those in electronic form relating to any compromise or arrangement in respect of which this Act applies that are in the possession or under the control of any other person designated in the order granting the leave, and for that purpose may under a warrant from the court enter and search any premises.
- (3) The Superintendent of Bankruptcy may engage the services of persons having technical or specialized knowledge, and persons to provide administrative services, to assist the Superintendent of Bankruptcy in conducting an inquiry or investigation, and may establish the terms and conditions of their engagement. The remuneration and expenses of those persons, when certified by the Superintendent of Bankruptcy, are payable out of the appropriation for the office of the Superintendent.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 74.

Powers in relation to licence

Staff

**30.** (1) If, after making or causing to be made an inquiry or investigation into the conduct of a monitor, it appears to the Superintendent of Bankruptcy that the monitor has not ful-

toute affaire ou procédure devant le tribunal se rapportant à ces nomination ou conduite comme s'il y était partie.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**28.** Le surintendant des faillites reçoit et note toutes les plaintes sur la conduite de tout contrôleur.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**29.** (1) Le surintendant des faillites effectue ou fait effectuer au sujet de la conduite de tout contrôleur les investigations ou les enquêtes qu'il estime indiquées.

Investigations et enquêtes

- (2) Pour les besoins de ces investigations ou enquêtes, le surintendant des faillites ou la personne qu'il nomme à cette fin :
  - a) a accès aux livres, registres, données, documents ou papiers, sur support électronique ou autre, se trouvant, en vertu de la présente loi, en la possession ou sous la responsabilité du contrôleur et a droit de les examiner et d'en tirer des copies;
  - b) peut, avec la permission du tribunal donnée ex parte, examiner les livres, registres, données, documents ou papiers, sur support électronique ou autre, qui sont en la possession ou sous la responsabilité de toute autre personne désignée dans l'ordonnance et se rapportent aux transactions ou arrangements auxquels la présente loi s'applique et peut, en vertu d'un mandat du tribunal et aux fins d'examen, pénétrer dans tout lieu et y faire des perquisitions.
- (3) Le surintendant des faillites peut retenir les services des experts ou autres personnes et du personnel administratif dont il estime le concours utile à l'investigation ou l'enquête et fixer leurs fonctions et leurs conditions d'emploi. La rémunération et les indemnités dues à ces personnes sont, une fois certifiées par le surintendant, imputables sur les crédits affectés à son bureau.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 74.

**30.** (1) Si, au terme d'une investigation ou d'une enquête sur la conduite du contrôleur, il estime que ce dernier n'a pas observé la présente loi ou les règlements ou que l'intérêt pu-

Décision relative à la licence

37

Plaintes

Droit d'accès

Personnel

ly complied with this Act and its regulations or that it is in the public interest to do so, the Superintendent of Bankruptcy may

- (a) cancel or suspend the monitor's licence as a trustee under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*; or
- (b) place any condition or limitation on the licence that he or she considers appropriate.

Notice to trustee

(2) Before deciding whether to exercise any of the powers referred to in subsection (1), the Superintendent of Bankruptcy shall send the monitor written notice of the powers that the Superintendent may exercise and the reasons why they may be exercised and afford the monitor a reasonable opportunity for a hearing.

Summons

- (3) The Superintendent of Bankruptcy may, for the purpose of the hearing, issue a summons requiring the person named in it
  - (a) to appear at the time and place mentioned in it;
  - (b) to testify to all matters within their knowledge relative to the subject matter of the inquiry or investigation into the conduct of the monitor; and
  - (c) to bring and produce any books, records, data, documents or papers including those in electronic form in their possession or under their control relative to the subject matter of the inquiry or investigation.

Effect throughout Canada (4) A person may be summoned from any part of Canada by virtue of a summons issued under subsection (3).

Fees and allowances (5) Any person summoned under subsection (3) is entitled to receive the like fees and allowances for so doing as if summoned to attend before the Federal Court.

Procedure at hearing

- (6) At the hearing, the Superintendent of Bankruptcy
  - (a) has the power to administer oaths;
  - (b) is not bound by any legal or technical rules of evidence in conducting the hearing;
  - (c) shall deal with the matters set out in the notice of the hearing as informally and expeditiously as the circumstances and a consideration of fairness permit; and
  - (d) shall cause a summary of any oral evidence to be made in writing.

blic le justifie, le surintendant des faillites peut annuler ou suspendre la licence que le contrôleur détient, en vertu de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*, à titre de syndic ou soumettre sa licence aux conditions ou restrictions qu'il estime indiquées.

(2) Avant de prendre l'une des mesures visées au paragraphe (1), le surintendant des faillites envoie au syndic un avis écrit et motivé de la ou des mesures qu'il peut prendre et lui donne la possibilité de se faire entendre.

Avis au syndic

(3) Le surintendant des faillites peut, aux fins d'audition, convoquer des témoins par assignation leur enjoignant :

Convocation de témoins

- a) de comparaître aux date, heure et lieu indiqués;
- b) de témoigner sur tous faits connus d'eux se rapportant à l'investigation ou à l'enquête sur la conduite du contrôleur:
- c) de produire tous livres, registres, données, documents ou papiers, sur support électronique ou autre, qui sont pertinents et dont ils ont la possession ou la responsabilité.
- (4) Les assignations visées au paragraphe (3) ont effet sur tout le territoire canadien.

Effet

(5) Toute personne assignée reçoit les frais et indemnités accordés aux témoins assignés devant la Cour fédérale.

Frais et indemnités

(6) Lors de l'audition, le surintendant :

a) peut faire prêter serment;

- b) n'est lié par aucune règle de droit ou de procédure en matière de preuve;
- c) règle les questions exposées dans l'avis d'audition avec célérité et sans formalisme, eu égard aux circonstances et à l'équité;
- *d*) fait établir un résumé écrit de toute preuve orale.

Procédure de l'audition Record

(7) The notice referred to in subsection (2) and, if applicable, the summary of oral evidence referred to in paragraph (6)(d), together with any documentary evidence that the Superintendent of Bankruptcy receives in evidence, form the record of the hearing, and that record and the hearing are public unless the Superintendent of Bankruptcy is satisfied that personal or other matters that may be disclosed are of such a nature that the desirability of avoiding public disclosure of those matters, in the interest of a third party or in the public interest, outweighs the desirability of the access by the public to information about those matters.

(7) L'audition et le dossier de celle-ci sont publics à moins que le surintendant ne juge que la nature des révélations possibles sur des questions personnelles ou autres est telle que, en l'occurrence, l'intérêt d'un tiers ou l'intérêt public l'emporte sur le droit du public à l'information. Le dossier comprend l'avis prévu au paragraphe (2), le résumé de la preuve orale prévu à l'alinéa (6)d) et la preuve documentaire reçue par le surintendant des faillites.

Dossier et audition

Decision

(8) The decision of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy after the hearing, together with the reasons for the decision, must be given in writing to the monitor not later than three months after the conclusion of the hearing, and is public.

Décision

Review by Federal Court (9) A decision of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy given under subsection (8) is deemed to be a decision of a federal board, commission or other tribunal that may be reviewed and set aside under the *Federal Courts Act*.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 75.

Delegation

**31.** (1) The Superintendent of Bankruptcy may, in writing, authorize any person to exercise or perform, subject to any terms and conditions that he or she may specify in the authorization, any of the powers, duties or functions of the Superintendent of Bankruptcy under sections 29 and 30.

Notification to monitor (2) If the Superintendent of Bankruptcy delegates in accordance with subsection (1), the Superintendent or the delegate must give notice of the delegation in the prescribed manner to any monitor who may be affected by the delegation.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### AGREEMENTS

Disclaimer or resiliation of agreements

32. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a debtor company may — on notice given in the prescribed form and manner to the other parties to the agreement and the monitor — disclaim or resiliate any agreement to which the company is a party on the day on which proceedings commence under this Act. The company may

(8) La décision du surintendant des faillites est rendue par écrit, motivée et remise au contrôleur dans les trois mois suivant la clôture de l'audition, et elle est publique.

(9) La décision du surintendant, rendue et remise conformément au paragraphe (8), est assimilée à celle d'un office fédéral et est soumise au pouvoir d'examen et d'annulation prévu par la *Loi sur les Cours fédérales*.

Examen de la Cour fédérale

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 75.

**31.** (1) Le surintendant des faillites peut, par écrit, selon les modalités qu'il précise, déléguer les attributions que lui confèrent les articles 29 et 30.

Pouvoir de délégation

Notification

(2) En cas de délégation, le surintendant des faillites ou le délégué en avise, de la manière réglementaire, tout contrôleur qui pourrait être touché par cette mesure.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### CONTRATS ET CONVENTIONS COLLECTIVES

**32.** (1) Sous réserve des paragraphes (2) et (3), la compagnie débitrice peut — sur préavis donné en la forme et de la manière réglementaires aux autres parties au contrat et au contrôleur et après avoir obtenu l'acquiescement de celui-ci relativement au projet de résiliation — résilier tout contrat auquel elle est partie à la

Résiliation de contrats

not give notice unless the monitor approves the proposed disclaimer or resiliation.

Court may prohibit disclaimer or resiliation (2) Within 15 days after the day on which the company gives notice under subsection (1), a party to the agreement may, on notice to the other parties to the agreement and the monitor, apply to a court for an order that the agreement is not to be disclaimed or resiliated.

Court-ordered disclaimer or resiliation

(3) If the monitor does not approve the proposed disclaimer or resiliation, the company may, on notice to the other parties to the agreement and the monitor, apply to a court for an order that the agreement be disclaimed or resiliated.

Factors to be considered

- (4) In deciding whether to make the order, the court is to consider, among other things,
  - (a) whether the monitor approved the proposed disclaimer or resiliation;
  - (b) whether the disclaimer or resiliation would enhance the prospects of a viable compromise or arrangement being made in respect of the company; and
  - (c) whether the disclaimer or resiliation would likely cause significant financial hardship to a party to the agreement.

Date of disclaimer or resiliation

- (5) An agreement is disclaimed or resiliated
- (a) if no application is made under subsection (2), on the day that is 30 days after the day on which the company gives notice under subsection (1);
- (b) if the court dismisses the application made under subsection (2), on the day that is 30 days after the day on which the company gives notice under subsection (1) or on any later day fixed by the court; or
- (c) if the court orders that the agreement is disclaimed or resiliated under subsection (3), on the day that is 30 days after the day on which the company gives notice or on any later day fixed by the court.

Intellectual property

(6) If the company has granted a right to use intellectual property to a party to an agreement, the disclaimer or resiliation does not affect the party's right to use the intellectual property — including the party's right to enforce an exclusive use — during the term of the agreement, including any period for which the party ex-

date à laquelle une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi.

(2) Dans les quinze jours suivant la date à laquelle la compagnie donne le préavis mentionné au paragraphe (1), toute partie au contrat peut, sur préavis aux autres parties au contrat et au contrôleur, demander au tribunal d'ordonner que le contrat ne soit pas résilié.

Absence d'acquiescement du contrôleur

Contestation

(3) Si le contrôleur n'acquiesce pas au projet de résiliation, la compagnie peut, sur préavis aux autres parties au contrat et au contrôleur, demander au tribunal d'ordonner la résiliation du contrat.

Facteurs à prendre en considération

- (4) Pour décider s'il rend l'ordonnance, le tribunal prend en considération, entre autres, les facteurs suivants :
  - *a*) l'acquiescement du contrôleur au projet de résiliation, le cas échéant;
  - b) la question de savoir si la résiliation favorisera la conclusion d'une transaction ou d'un arrangement viable à l'égard de la compagnie;
  - c) le risque que la résiliation puisse vraisemblablement causer de sérieuses difficultés financières à une partie au contrat.
  - (5) Le contrat est résilié :

Résiliation

- a) trente jours après la date à laquelle la compagnie donne le préavis mentionné au paragraphe (1), si aucune demande n'est présentée en vertu du paragraphe (2);
- b) trente jours après la date à laquelle la compagnie donne le préavis mentionné au paragraphe (1) ou à la date postérieure fixée par le tribunal, si ce dernier rejette la demande présentée en vertu du paragraphe (2);
- c) trente jours après la date à laquelle la compagnie donne le préavis mentionné au paragraphe (3) ou à la date postérieure fixée par le tribunal, si ce dernier ordonne la résiliation du contrat en vertu de ce paragraphe.
- (6) Si la compagnie a autorisé par contrat une personne à utiliser un droit de propriété intellectuelle, la résiliation n'empêche pas la personne de l'utiliser ni d'en faire respecter l'utilisation exclusive, à condition qu'elle respecte ses obligations contractuelles à l'égard de l'utilisation de ce droit, et ce pour la période prévue

Propriété intellectuelle tends the agreement as of right, as long as the party continues to perform its obligations under the agreement in relation to the use of the intellectual property.

Loss related to disclaimer or resiliation (7) If an agreement is disclaimed or resiliated, a party to the agreement who suffers a loss in relation to the disclaimer or resiliation is considered to have a provable claim.

Reasons for disclaimer or resiliation (8) A company shall, on request by a party to the agreement, provide in writing the reasons for the proposed disclaimer or resiliation within five days after the day on which the party requests them.

Exceptions

- (9) This section does not apply in respect of
- (a) an eligible financial contract;
- (b) a collective agreement;
- (c) a financing agreement if the company is the borrower; or
- (d) a lease of real property or of an immovable if the company is the lessor.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 29, s. 108, c. 36, ss. 76, 112.

Collective agreements

**33.** (1) If proceedings under this Act have been commenced in respect of a debtor company, any collective agreement that the company has entered into as the employer remains in force, and may not be altered except as provided in this section or under the laws of the jurisdiction governing collective bargaining between the company and the bargaining agent.

Application for authorization to serve notice to bargain (2) A debtor company that is a party to a collective agreement and that is unable to reach a voluntary agreement with the bargaining agent to revise any of the provisions of the collective agreement may, on giving five days notice to the bargaining agent, apply to the court for an order authorizing the company to serve a notice to bargain under the laws of the jurisdiction governing collective bargaining between the company and the bargaining agent.

Conditions for issuance of order

- (3) The court may issue the order only if it is satisfied that
  - (a) a viable compromise or arrangement could not be made in respect of the company,

au contrat et pour toute période additionnelle dont elle peut et décide de se prévaloir de son propre gré.

(7) En cas de résiliation du contrat, toute partie à celui-ci qui subit des pertes découlant de la résiliation est réputée avoir une réclamation prouvable. Pertes découlant de la résiliation

(8) Dans les cinq jours qui suivent la date à laquelle une partie au contrat le lui demande, la compagnie lui expose par écrit les motifs de son projet de résiliation.

Motifs de la résiliation

(9) Le présent article ne s'applique pas aux contrats suivants :

Exceptions

- a) les contrats financiers admissibles;
- b) les conventions collectives;
- c) les accords de financement au titre desquels la compagnie est l'emprunteur;
- d) les baux d'immeubles ou de biens réels au titre desquels la compagnie est le locateur. 2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 29, art. 108, ch. 36, art. 76 et 112.

Conventions

- 33. (1) Si une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi à l'égard d'une compagnie débitrice, toute convention collective que celle-ci a conclue à titre d'employeur demeure en vigueur et ne peut être modifiée qu'en conformité avec le présent article ou les règles de droit applicables aux négociations entre les parties.
- (2) Si elle est partie à une convention collective à titre d'employeur et qu'elle ne peut s'entendre librement avec l'agent négociateur sur la révision de celle-ci, la compagnie débitrice peut, après avoir donné un préavis de cinq jours à l'agent négociateur, demander au tribunal de l'autoriser, par ordonnance, à donner à l'agent négociateur un avis de négociations collectives pour que celui-ci entame les négociations collectives en vue de la révision de la convention collective conformément aux règles de droit applicables aux négociations entre les parties.

Demande pour que le tribunal autorise le début de négociations en vue de la révision

- (3) Le tribunal ne rend l'ordonnance que s'il est convaincu, à la fois :
  - a) qu'une transaction ou un arrangement viable à l'égard de la compagnie ne pourrait

Cas où l'autorisation est accordée

taking into account the terms of the collective agreement;

- (b) the company has made good faith efforts to renegotiate the provisions of the collective agreement; and
- (c) a failure to issue the order is likely to result in irreparable damage to the company.

No delay on vote

(4) The vote of the creditors in respect of a compromise or an arrangement may not be delayed solely because the period provided in the laws of the jurisdiction governing collective bargaining between the company and the bargaining agent has not expired.

Claims arising from termination or amendment (5) If the parties to the collective agreement agree to revise the collective agreement after proceedings have been commenced under this Act in respect of the company, the bargaining agent that is a party to the agreement is deemed to have a claim, as an unsecured creditor, for an amount equal to the value of concessions granted by the bargaining agent with respect to the remaining term of the collective agreement.

Order to disclose information

(6) On the application of the bargaining agent and on notice to the person to whom the application relates, the court may, subject to any terms and conditions it specifies, make an order requiring the person to make available to the bargaining agent any information specified by the court in the person's possession or control that relates to the company's business or financial affairs and that is relevant to the collective bargaining between the company and the bargaining agent. The court may make the order only after the company has been authorized to serve a notice to bargain under subsection (2).

Parties

(7) For the purpose of this section, the parties to a collective agreement are the debtor company and the bargaining agent that are bound by the collective agreement.

Unrevised collective agreements remain in force

(8) For greater certainty, any collective agreement that the company and the bargaining agent have not agreed to revise remains in force, and the court shall not alter its terms. 2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Certain rights limited **34.** (1) No person may terminate or amend, or claim an accelerated payment or forfeiture of the term under, any agreement, including a se-

être fait compte tenu des dispositions de la convention collective:

- b) que la compagnie a tenté de bonne foi d'en négocier de nouveau les dispositions;
- c) qu'elle subirait vraisemblablement des dommages irréparables si l'ordonnance n'était pas rendue.

(4) Le vote des créanciers sur la transaction ou l'arrangement ne peut être retardé pour la seule raison que le délai imparti par les règles de droit applicables aux négociations collectives entre les parties à la convention collective n'est pas expiré.

Vote sur la

(5) Si les parties parviennent à une entente sur la révision de la convention collective après qu'une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi à l'égard d'une compagnie, l'agent négociateur en cause est réputé avoir une réclamation à titre de créancier chirographaire pour une somme équivalant à la valeur des concessions accordées à l'égard de la période non écoulée de la convention.

Réclamation consécutive à la révision

(6) Sur demande de l'agent négociateur partie à la convention collective et sur avis aux personnes qui ont un intérêt, le tribunal peut ordonner à celles-ci de communiquer au demandeur, aux conditions qu'il précise, tout renseignement qu'elles ont en leur possession ou à leur disposition sur les affaires et la situation financière de la compagnie pertinent pour les négociations collectives. Le tribunal ne peut rendre l'ordonnance qu'après l'envoi à l'agent négociateur de l'avis de négociations collectives visé au paragraphe (2).

Ordonnance de communication

(7) Pour l'application du présent article, les parties à la convention collective sont la compagnie débitrice et l'agent négociateur liés par elle.

Parties

(8) Il est entendu que toute convention collective que la compagnie et l'agent négociateur n'ont pas convenu de réviser demeure en vigueur et que les tribunaux ne peuvent en modifier les termes. Maintien en vigueur des conventions collectives

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**34.** (1) Il est interdit de résilier ou de modifier un contrat — notamment un contrat de garantie — conclu avec une compagnie débitrice

Limitation de certains droits

curity agreement, with a debtor company by reason only that proceedings commenced under this Act or that the company is insolvent.

Lease

(2) If the agreement referred to in subsection (1) is a lease, the lessor may not terminate or amend the lease by reason only that proceedings commenced under this Act, that the company is insolvent or that the company has not paid rent in respect of any period before the commencement of those proceedings.

Public utilities

(3) No public utility may discontinue service to a company by reason only that proceedings commenced under this Act, that the company is insolvent or that the company has not paid for services rendered or goods provided before the commencement of those proceedings.

Certain acts not prevented

- (4) Nothing in this section is to be construed as
  - (a) prohibiting a person from requiring payments to be made in cash for goods, services, use of leased property or other valuable consideration provided after the commencement of proceedings under this Act;
  - (b) requiring the further advance of money or credit; or
  - (c) [Repealed, 2012, c. 31, s. 421]

Provisions of section override agreement

(5) Any provision in an agreement that has the effect of providing for, or permitting, anything that, in substance, is contrary to this section is of no force or effect.

Powers of court

(6) On application by a party to an agreement or by a public utility, the court may declare that this section does not apply — or applies only to the extent declared by the court — if the applicant satisfies the court that the operation of this section would likely cause the applicant significant financial hardship.

Eligible financial contracts

- (7) Subsection (1) does not apply
- (a) in respect of an eligible financial contract; or
- (b) to prevent a member of the Canadian Payments Association from ceasing to act as a clearing agent or group clearer for a company in accordance with the *Canadian Pay*-

ou de se prévaloir d'une clause de déchéance du terme figurant dans un tel contrat au seul motif qu'une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi à l'égard de la compagnie ou que celle-ci est insolvable.

(2) Lorsque le contrat visé au paragraphe (1) est un bail, l'interdiction prévue à ce paragraphe vaut également dans le cas où la compagnie est insolvable ou n'a pas payé son loyer à l'égard d'une période antérieure à l'introduction de la procédure.

Baux

(3) Il est interdit à toute entreprise de service public d'interrompre la prestation de ses services auprès d'une compagnie débitrice au seul motif qu'une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi à l'égard de la compagnie, que celle-ci est insolvable ou qu'elle n'a pas payé des services ou marchandises fournis avant l'introduction de la procédure.

Entreprise de service public

(4) Le présent article n'a pas pour effet :

Exceptions

- a) d'empêcher une personne d'exiger que soient effectués des paiements en espèces pour toute contrepartie de valeur marchandises, services, biens loués ou autres fournie après l'introduction d'une procédure sous le régime de la présente loi;
- b) d'exiger la prestation de nouvelles avances de fonds ou de nouveaux crédits.
- c) [Abrogé, 2012, ch. 31, art. 421]
- (5) Le présent article l'emporte sur les dispositions incompatibles de tout contrat, cellesci étant sans effet.

Incompatibilité

Pouvoirs du tribunal

(6) À la demande de l'une des parties à un contrat ou d'une entreprise de service public, le tribunal peut déclarer le présent article inapplicable, ou applicable uniquement dans la mesure qu'il précise, s'il est établi par le demandeur que son application lui causerait vraisemblablement de sérieuses difficultés financières.

Contrats financiers admissibles

(7) Le paragraphe (1) ne s'applique pas aux contrats financiers admissibles et n'a pas pour effet d'empêcher un membre de l'Association canadienne des paiements de cesser d'agir, pour une compagnie, à titre d'agent de compensation ou d'adhérent correspondant de groupe conformément à la *Loi canadienne sur les paie-*

*ments Act* and the by-laws and rules of that Association.

Permitted actions

- (8) The following actions are permitted in respect of an eligible financial contract that is entered into before proceedings under this Act are commenced in respect of the company and is terminated on or after that day, but only in accordance with the provisions of that contract:
  - (a) the netting or setting off or compensation of obligations between the company and the other parties to the eligible financial contract; and
  - (b) any dealing with financial collateral including
    - (i) the sale or foreclosure or, in the Province of Quebec, the surrender of financial collateral, and
    - (ii) the setting off or compensation of financial collateral or the application of the proceeds or value of financial collateral.

Restriction

(9) No order may be made under this Act if the order would have the effect of staying or restraining the actions permitted under subsection (8).

Net termination values

(10) If net termination values determined in accordance with an eligible financial contract referred to in subsection (8) are owed by the company to another party to the eligible financial contract, that other party is deemed to be a creditor of the company with a claim against the company in respect of those net termination values.

Priority

(11) No order may be made under this Act if the order would have the effect of subordinating financial collateral.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 29, s. 109, c. 36, ss. 77, 112; 2012, c. 31, s. 421.

#### OBLIGATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS

Obligation to provide assistance

- **35.** (1) A debtor company shall provide to the monitor the assistance that is necessary to enable the monitor to adequately carry out the monitor's functions.
- Obligation to duties set out in section 158 of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act
- (2) A debtor company shall perform the duties set out in section 158 of the *Bankruptcy* and *Insolvency Act* that are appropriate and applicable in the circumstances.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

*ments* et aux règles et règlements administratifs de l'association.

(8) Si le contrat financier admissible conclu avant qu'une procédure soit intentée sous le régime de la présente loi à l'égard de la compagnie est résilié à la date d'introduction de la procédure ou par la suite, il est permis d'effectuer les opérations ci-après en conformité avec le contrat :

Opérations permises

- a) la compensation des obligations entre la compagnie et les autres parties au contrat;
- b) toute opération à l'égard de la garantie financière afférente, notamment :
  - (i) la vente, la demande en forclusion ou, dans la province de Québec, la demande en délaissement,
  - (ii) la compensation, ou l'affectation de son produit ou de sa valeur.
- (9) Aucune ordonnance rendue au titre de la présente loi ne peut avoir pour effet de suspendre ou de restreindre le droit d'effectuer les opérations visées au paragraphe (8).

Restriction

(10) Si, aux termes du contrat financier admissible visé au paragraphe (8), des sommes sont dues par la compagnie à une autre partie au contrat au titre de valeurs nettes dues à la date de résiliation, cette autre partie est réputée être un créancier de la compagnie relativement à ces sommes.

Valeurs nettes dues à la date de résiliation

(11) Il ne peut être rendu, au titre de la présente loi, aucune ordonnance dont l'effet serait d'assigner un rang inférieur à toute garantie financière.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 29, art. 109, ch. 36, art. 77 et 112; 2012, ch. 31, art. 421.

OBLIGATIONS ET INTERDICTION

**35.** (1) La compagnie débitrice est tenue d'aider le contrôleur à remplir adéquatement ses fonctions.

Assistance

Rang

(2) Elle est également tenue de satisfaire aux obligations visées à l'article 158 de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité* selon ce qui est indiqué et applicable dans les circonstances.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

Obligations visées à l'article 158 de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*  Restriction on disposition of business assets **36.** (1) A debtor company in respect of which an order has been made under this Act may not sell or otherwise dispose of assets outside the ordinary course of business unless authorized to do so by a court. Despite any requirement for shareholder approval, including one under federal or provincial law, the court may authorize the sale or disposition even if shareholder approval was not obtained.

Restriction à la disposition d'actifs

Notice to creditors

considered

(2) A company that applies to the court for an authorization is to give notice of the application to the secured creditors who are likely to be affected by the proposed sale or disposition.

Factors to be

- (3) In deciding whether to grant the authorization, the court is to consider, among other things,
  - (a) whether the process leading to the proposed sale or disposition was reasonable in the circumstances:
  - (b) whether the monitor approved the process leading to the proposed sale or disposition;
  - (c) whether the monitor filed with the court a report stating that in their opinion the sale or disposition would be more beneficial to the creditors than a sale or disposition under a bankruptcy;
  - (d) the extent to which the creditors were consulted:
  - (e) the effects of the proposed sale or disposition on the creditors and other interested parties; and
  - (f) whether the consideration to be received for the assets is reasonable and fair, taking into account their market value.

Additional factors — related persons

- (4) If the proposed sale or disposition is to a person who is related to the company, the court may, after considering the factors referred to in subsection (3), grant the authorization only if it is satisfied that
  - (a) good faith efforts were made to sell or otherwise dispose of the assets to persons who are not related to the company; and
  - (b) the consideration to be received is superior to the consideration that would be received under any other offer made in accor-

**36.** (1) Il est interdit à la compagnie débitrice à l'égard de laquelle une ordonnance a été rendue sous le régime de la présente loi de disposer, notamment par vente, d'actifs hors du cours ordinaire de ses affaires sans l'autorisation du tribunal. Le tribunal peut accorder l'autorisation sans qu'il soit nécessaire d'obtenir l'acquiescement des actionnaires, et ce malgré toute exigence à cet effet, notamment en vertu d'une règle de droit fédérale ou provinciale.

(2) La compagnie qui demande l'autorisation au tribunal en avise les créanciers garantis qui peuvent vraisemblablement être touchés par le projet de disposition. Avis aux créanciers

Facteurs à

prendre en

considération

(3) Pour décider s'il accorde l'autorisation, le tribunal prend en considération, entre autres, les facteurs suivants :

mené au projet de disposition;

- a) la justification des circonstances ayant
- b) l'acquiescement du contrôleur au processus ayant mené au projet de disposition, le cas échéant;
- c) le dépôt par celui-ci d'un rapport précisant que, à son avis, la disposition sera plus avantageuse pour les créanciers que si elle était faite dans le cadre de la faillite;
- *d*) la suffisance des consultations menées auprès des créanciers;
- e) les effets du projet de disposition sur les droits de tout intéressé, notamment les créanciers:
- f) le caractère juste et raisonnable de la contrepartie reçue pour les actifs compte tenu de leur valeur marchande.
- (4) Si la compagnie projette de disposer d'actifs en faveur d'une personne à laquelle elle est liée, le tribunal, après avoir pris ces facteurs en considération, ne peut accorder l'autorisation que s'il est convaincu :

Autres facteurs

- a) d'une part, que les efforts voulus ont été faits pour disposer des actifs en faveur d'une personne qui n'est pas liée à la compagnie;
- b) d'autre part, que la contrepartie offerte pour les actifs est plus avantageuse que celle qui découlerait de toute autre offre reçue dans le cadre du projet de disposition.

dance with the process leading to the proposed sale or disposition.

Related persons

- (5) For the purpose of subsection (4), a person who is related to the company includes
  - (a) a director or officer of the company;
  - (b) a person who has or has had, directly or indirectly, control in fact of the company; and
  - (c) a person who is related to a person described in paragraph (a) or (b).

Assets may be disposed of free and clear

(6) The court may authorize a sale or disposition free and clear of any security, charge or other restriction and, if it does, it shall also order that other assets of the company or the proceeds of the sale or disposition be subject to a security, charge or other restriction in favour of the creditor whose security, charge or other restriction is to be affected by the order.

Restriction — employers

(7) The court may grant the authorization only if the court is satisfied that the company can and will make the payments that would have been required under paragraphs 6(4)(a) and (5)(a) if the court had sanctioned the compromise or arrangement.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 78.

Preferences and Transfers at Undervalue

Application of sections 38 and 95 to 101 of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act **36.1** (1) Sections 38 and 95 to 101 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* apply, with any modifications that the circumstances require, in respect of a compromise or arrangement unless the compromise or arrangement provides otherwise.

Interpretation

- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), a reference in sections 38 and 95 to 101 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* 
  - (a) to "date of the bankruptcy" is to be read as a reference to "day on which proceedings commence under this Act";
  - (b) to "trustee" is to be read as a reference to "monitor"; and
  - (c) to "bankrupt", "insolvent person" or "debtor" is to be read as a reference to "debtor company".

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 78.

- (5) Pour l'application du paragraphe (4), les personnes ci-après sont considérées comme liées à la compagnie :
  - a) le dirigeant ou l'administrateur de celleci;
  - b) la personne qui, directement ou indirectement, en a ou en a eu le contrôle de fait;
  - c) la personne liée à toute personne visée aux alinéas a) ou b).
- (6) Le tribunal peut autoriser la disposition d'actifs de la compagnie, purgés de toute charge, sûreté ou autre restriction, et, le cas échéant, est tenu d'assujettir le produit de la disposition ou d'autres de ses actifs à une charge, sûreté ou autre restriction en faveur des créanciers touchés par la purge.

Autorisation de disposer des actifs en les libérant de restrictions

Personnes liées

(7) Il ne peut autoriser la disposition que s'il est convaincu que la compagnie est en mesure d'effectuer et effectuera les paiements qui auraient été exigés en vertu des alinéas 6(4)a) et (5)a) s'il avait homologué la transaction ou l'arrangement.

Restriction à l'égard des employeurs

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 78.

## Traitements préférentiels et opérations sousévaluées

**36.1** (1) Les articles 38 et 95 à 101 de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité* s'appliquent, avec les adaptations nécessaires, à la transaction ou à l'arrangement sauf disposition contraire de ceux-ci.

Application des articles 38 et 95 à 101 de la *Loi* sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité

(2) Pour l'application du paragraphe (1), la mention, aux articles 38 et 95 à 101 de la *Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité*, de la date de la faillite vaut mention de la date à laquelle une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi, celle du syndic vaut mention du contrôleur et celle du failli, de la personne insolvable ou du débiteur vaut mention de la compagnie débitrice.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 78.

Interprétation

#### HER MAJESTY

Deemed trusts

**37.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), despite any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as being held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.

Exceptions

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan* or subsection 86(2) or (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act* (each of which is in this subsection referred to as a "federal provision"), nor does it apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under any law of a province that creates a deemed trust the sole purpose of which is to ensure remittance to Her Majesty in right of the province of amounts deducted or withheld under a law of the province
  - (a) that law of the province imposes a tax similar in nature to the tax imposed under the *Income Tax Act* and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as the amounts referred to in subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (b) the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the Canada Pension Plan, that law of the province establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as amounts referred to in subsection 23(3) or (4) of the Canada Pension Plan,

and for the purpose of this subsection, any provision of a law of a province that creates a deemed trust is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as the corresponding federal provision.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### Sa Majesté

**37.** (1) Sous réserve du paragraphe (2) et par dérogation à toute disposition législative fédérale ou provinciale ayant pour effet d'assimiler certains biens à des biens détenus en fiducie pour Sa Majesté, aucun des biens de la compagnie débitrice ne peut être considéré comme tel par le seul effet d'une telle disposition.

Fiducies présumées

Exceptions

- (2) Le paragraphe (1) ne s'applique pas à l'égard des sommes réputées détenues en fiducie aux termes des paragraphes 227(4) ou (4.1) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu, des paragraphes 23(3) ou (4) du Régime de pensions du Canada ou des paragraphes 86(2) ou (2.1) de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi (chacun étant appelé « disposition fédérale » au présent paragraphe) ou à l'égard des sommes réputées détenues en fiducie aux termes de toute loi d'une province créant une fiducie présumée dans le seul but d'assurer à Sa Maiesté du chef de cette province la remise de sommes déduites ou retenues aux termes d'une loi de cette province, si, dans ce dernier cas, se réalise l'une des conditions suivantes:
  - a) la loi de cette province prévoit un impôt semblable, de par sa nature, à celui prévu par la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*, et les sommes déduites ou retenues au titre de cette loi provinciale sont de même nature que celles visées aux paragraphes 227(4) ou (4.1) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*;
  - b) cette province est une province instituant un régime général de pensions au sens du paragraphe 3(1) du *Régime de pensions du Canada*, la loi de cette province institue un régime provincial de pensions au sens de ce paragraphe, et les sommes déduites ou retenues au titre de cette loi provinciale sont de même nature que celles visées aux paragraphes 23(3) ou (4) du *Régime de pensions du Canada*.

Pour l'application du présent paragraphe, toute disposition de la loi provinciale qui crée une fiducie présumée est réputée avoir, à l'encontre de tout créancier de la compagnie et malgré tout texte législatif fédéral ou provincial et toute règle de droit, la même portée et le même effet que la disposition fédérale correspon-

Status of Crown claims

**38.** (1) In relation to a proceeding under this Act, all claims, including secured claims, of Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province or any body under an enactment respecting workers' compensation, in this section and in section 39 called a "workers' compensation body", rank as unsecured claims.

Exceptions

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply
- (a) in respect of claims that are secured by a security or charge of a kind that can be obtained by persons other than Her Majesty or a workers' compensation body
  - (i) pursuant to any law, or
  - (ii) pursuant to provisions of federal or provincial legislation if those provisions do not have as their sole or principal purpose the establishment of a means of securing claims of Her Majesty or a workers' compensation body; and
- (b) to the extent provided in subsection 39(2), to claims that are secured by a security referred to in subsection 39(1), if the security is registered in accordance with subsection 39(1).

Operation of similar legislation

- (3) Subsection (1) does not affect the operation of
  - (a) subsections 224(1.2) and (1.3) of the *Income Tax Act*,
  - (b) any provision of the Canada Pension Plan or of the Employment Insurance Act that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the Income Tax Act and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the Canada Pension Plan, an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the Employment Insurance Act, or a premium under Part VII.1 of that Act, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
  - (c) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts if the sum

dante, quelle que soit la garantie dont bénéficie le créancier.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**38.** (1) Dans le cadre de toute procédure intentée sous le régime de la présente loi, les réclamations de Sa Majesté du chef du Canada ou d'une province ou d'un organisme compétent au titre d'une loi sur les accidents du travail, y compris les réclamations garanties, prennent rang comme réclamations non garanties.

Réclamations de la Couronne

(2) Sont soustraites à l'application du paragraphe (1) :

Exceptions

- a) les réclamations garanties par un type de charge ou de sûreté dont toute personne, et non seulement Sa Majesté ou l'organisme, peut se prévaloir au titre de dispositions législatives fédérales ou provinciales n'ayant pas pour seul ou principal objet l'établissement de mécanismes garantissant les réclamations de Sa Majesté ou de l'organisme, ou au titre de toute autre règle de droit;
- b) les réclamations garanties et enregistrées aux termes du paragraphe 39(1), dans la mesure prévue au paragraphe 39(2).
- (3) Le paragraphe (1) n'a pas pour effet de porter atteinte à l'application des dispositions suivantes :

Effet

- *a*) les paragraphes 224(1.2) et (1.3) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*;
- b) toute disposition du Régime de pensions du Canada ou de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi qui renvoie au paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu et qui prévoit la perception d'une cotisation, au sens du Régime de pensions du Canada, d'une cotisation ouvrière ou d'une cotisation patronale, au sens de la Loi sur l'assurance-emploi, ou d'une cotisation prévue par la partie VII.1 de cette loi ainsi que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents;
- c) toute disposition législative provinciale dont l'objet est semblable à celui du paragraphe 224(1.2) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu*, ou qui renvoie à ce paragraphe, et qui prévoit la perception d'une somme, ainsi

- (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
- (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

and, for the purpose of paragraph (c), the provision of provincial legislation is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c) (i), or as subsection 23(2) of the *Canada Pension Plan* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c) (ii), and in respect of any related interest, penalties or other amounts.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2009, c. 33, s. 29.

Statutory Crown securities

**39.** (1) In relation to proceedings under this Act in respect of a debtor company, a security provided for in federal or provincial legislation for the sole or principal purpose of securing a claim of Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province or a workers' compensation body is valid in relation to claims against the company only if, before the day on which proceedings commence, the security is registered under a system of registration of securities that is available not only to Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province or a workers' compensation body, but also to any other creditor who holds a security, and that is open to the public for information or the making of searches.

que des intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents, laquelle :

- (i) soit a été retenue par une personne sur un paiement effectué à une autre personne, ou déduite d'un tel paiement, et se rapporte à un impôt semblable, de par sa nature, à l'impôt sur le revenu auquel les particuliers sont assujettis en vertu de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu,
- (ii) soit est de même nature qu'une cotisation prévue par le *Régime de pensions du Canada*, si la province est une province instituant un régime général de pensions au sens du paragraphe 3(1) de cette loi et si la loi provinciale institue un régime provincial de pensions au sens de ce paragraphe.

Pour l'application de l'alinéa c), la disposition législative provinciale en question est réputée avoir, à l'encontre de tout créancier et malgré tout texte législatif fédéral ou provincial et toute autre règle de droit, la même portée et le même effet que le paragraphe 224(1.2) de la Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu quant à la somme visée au sous-alinéa c)(i), ou que le paragraphe 23(2) du Régime de pensions du Canada quant à la somme visée au sous-alinéa c)(ii), et quant aux intérêts, pénalités et autres charges afférents, quelle que soit la garantie dont bénéficie le créancier.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2009, ch. 33, art. 29.

39. (1) Dans le cadre de toute procédure intentée à l'égard d'une compagnie débitrice sous le régime de la présente loi, les garanties créées aux termes d'une loi fédérale ou provinciale dans le seul but — ou principalement dans le but — de protéger des réclamations de Sa Majesté du chef du Canada ou d'une province ou d'un organisme compétent au titre d'une loi sur les accidents du travail ne sont valides que si elles ont été enregistrées avant la date d'introduction de la procédure et selon un système d'enregistrement des garanties qui est accessible non seulement à Sa Majesté du chef du Canada ou de la province ou à l'organisme, mais aussi aux autres créanciers détenant des garanties, et qui est accessible au public à des fins de consultation ou de recherche.

Garanties créées par législation Effect of security

- (2) A security referred to in subsection (1) that is registered in accordance with that subsection
  - (a) is subordinate to securities in respect of which all steps necessary to setting them up against other creditors were taken before that registration; and
  - (b) is valid only in respect of amounts owing to Her Majesty or a workers' compensation body at the time of that registration, plus any interest subsequently accruing on those amounts.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 79.

Act binding on Her Majesty **40.** This Act is binding on Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Certain sections of Winding-up and Restructuring Act do not apply **41.** Sections 65 and 66 of the *Winding-up* and *Restructuring Act* do not apply to any compromise or arrangement to which this Act applies.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Act to be applied conjointly with other Acts **42.** The provisions of this Act may be applied together with the provisions of any Act of Parliament, or of the legislature of any province, that authorizes or makes provision for the sanction of compromises or arrangements between a company and its shareholders or any class of them.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Claims in foreign currency

**43.** If a compromise or an arrangement is proposed in respect of a debtor company, a claim for a debt that is payable in a currency other than Canadian currency is to be converted to Canadian currency as of the date of the initial application in respect of the company unless otherwise provided in the proposed compromise or arrangement.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### PART IV

## **CROSS-BORDER INSOLVENCIES**

#### PURPOSE

Purpose

**44.** The purpose of this Part is to provide mechanisms for dealing with cases of crossborder insolvencies and to promote

(2) Les garanties enregistrées conformément au paragraphe (1) :

a) prennent rang après toute autre garantie à l'égard de laquelle les mesures requises pour la rendre opposable aux autres créanciers ont toutes été prises avant l'enregistrement;

b) ne sont valides que pour les sommes dues à Sa Majesté ou à l'organisme lors de l'enregistrement et les intérêts échus depuis sur celles-ci.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 79.

**40.** La présente loi lie Sa Majesté du chef du Canada ou d'une province.

Obligation de Sa Maiesté

Rang

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### DISPOSITIONS DIVERSES

**41.** Les articles 65 et 66 de la *Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations* ne s'appliquent à aucune transaction ni à aucun arrangement auxquels la présente loi est applicable. 2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

Inapplicabilité de certains articles de la *Loi* sur les liquidations et les restructurations

**42.** Les dispositions de la présente loi peuvent être appliquées conjointement avec celles de toute loi fédérale ou provinciale, autorisant ou prévoyant l'homologation de transactions ou arrangements entre une compagnie et ses actionnaires ou une catégorie de ces derniers.

Application concurrente d'autres lois

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

43. Dans le cas où une transaction ou un arrangement est proposé à l'égard d'une compagnie débitrice, la réclamation visant une créance en devises étrangères doit être convertie en monnaie canadienne au taux en vigueur à la date de la demande initiale, sauf disposition contraire de la transaction ou de l'arrangement. 2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

Créances en monnaies étrangères

#### PARTIE IV

## INSOLVABILITÉ EN CONTEXTE INTERNATIONAL

#### **OBJET**

**44.** La présente partie a pour objet d'offrir des moyens pour traiter des cas d'insolvabilité en contexte international et de promouvoir les objectifs suivants :

Objet

- (a) cooperation between the courts and other competent authorities in Canada with those of foreign jurisdictions in cases of cross-border insolvencies:
- (b) greater legal certainty for trade and investment;
- (c) the fair and efficient administration of cross-border insolvencies that protects the interests of creditors and other interested persons, and those of debtor companies;
- (d) the protection and the maximization of the value of debtor company's property; and
- (e) the rescue of financially troubled businesses to protect investment and preserve employment.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### INTERPRETATION

Definitions

**45.** (1) The following definitions apply in this Part.

"foreign court" «tribunal étranger» "foreign court" means a judicial or other authority competent to control or supervise a foreign proceeding.

"foreign main proceeding" «principale» "foreign main proceeding" means a foreign proceeding in a jurisdiction where the debtor company has the centre of its main interests.

"foreign nonmain proceeding" «secondaire» "foreign non-main proceeding" means a foreign proceeding, other than a foreign main proceeding.

"foreign proceeding" «instance étrangère» "foreign proceeding" means a judicial or an administrative proceeding, including an interim proceeding, in a jurisdiction outside Canada dealing with creditors' collective interests generally under any law relating to bankruptcy or insolvency in which a debtor company's business and financial affairs are subject to control or supervision by a foreign court for the purpose of reorganization.

"foreign representative' «représentant étranger»

- "foreign representative" means a person or body, including one appointed on an interim basis, who is authorized, in a foreign proceeding respect of a debtor company, to
  - (a) monitor the debtor company's business and financial affairs for the purpose of reorganization; or

- a) assurer la coopération entre les tribunaux et les autres autorités compétentes du Canada et ceux des ressorts étrangers intervenant dans de tels cas;
- b) garantir une plus grande certitude juridique dans le commerce et les investissements;
- c) administrer équitablement et efficacement les affaires d'insolvabilité en contexte international, de manière à protéger les intérêts des créanciers et des autres parties intéressées, y compris les compagnies débitrices;
- d) protéger les biens des compagnies débitrices et en optimiser la valeur;
- *e*) faciliter le redressement des entreprises en difficulté, de manière à protéger les investissements et préserver les emplois.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### DÉFINITIONS

**45.** (1) Les définitions qui suivent s'appliquent à la présente partie.

Définitions

« instance étrangère »

"foreign

proceeding"

«instance étrangère» Procédure judiciaire ou administrative, y compris la procédure provisoire, régie par une loi étrangère relative à la faillite ou à l'insolvabilité qui touche les droits de l'ensemble des créanciers et dans le cadre de laquelle les affaires financières et autres de la compagnie débitrice sont placées sous la responsabilité ou la surveillance d'un tribunal étranger aux fins de réorganisation.

«principale» Qualifie l'instance étrangère qui a lieu dans le ressort où la compagnie débitrice a ses principales affaires.

«principale» "foreign main proceeding"

«représentant étranger» Personne ou organe qui, même à titre provisoire, est autorisé dans le cadre d'une instance étrangère à surveiller les affaires financières ou autres de la compagnie débitrice aux fins de réorganisation, ou à agir en tant que représentant.

«représentant étranger» "foreign representative"

«secondaire» Qualifie l'instance étrangère autre que l'instance étrangère principale.

«secondaire» "foreign nonmain proceeding"

«tribunal étranger» Autorité, judiciaire ou autre, compétente pour contrôler ou surveiller des instances étrangères.

«tribunal étranger» "foreign court" (b) act as a representative in respect of the foreign proceeding.

Centre of debtor company's main interests (2) For the purposes of this Part, in the absence of proof to the contrary, a debtor company's registered office is deemed to be the centre of its main interests.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN PROCEEDING

Application for recognition of a foreign proceeding **46.** (1) A foreign representative may apply to the court for recognition of the foreign proceeding in respect of which he or she is a foreign representative.

Documents that must accompany application

- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the application must be accompanied by
  - (a) a certified copy of the instrument, however designated, that commenced the foreign proceeding or a certificate from the foreign court affirming the existence of the foreign proceeding;
  - (b) a certified copy of the instrument, however designated, authorizing the foreign representative to act in that capacity or a certificate from the foreign court affirming the foreign representative's authority to act in that capacity; and
  - (c) a statement identifying all foreign proceedings in respect of the debtor company that are known to the foreign representative.

Documents may be considered as proof (3) The court may, without further proof, accept the documents referred to in paragraphs (2)(a) and (b) as evidence that the proceeding to which they relate is a foreign proceeding and that the applicant is a foreign representative in respect of the foreign proceeding.

Other evidence

(4) In the absence of the documents referred to in paragraphs (2)(a) and (b), the court may accept any other evidence of the existence of the foreign proceeding and of the foreign representative's authority that it considers appropriate.

Translation

(5) The court may require a translation of any document accompanying the application. 2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Order recognizing foreign proceeding **47.** (1) If the court is satisfied that the application for the recognition of a foreign proceeding relates to a foreign proceeding and that the

(2) Pour l'application de la présente partie, sauf preuve contraire, le siège social de la compagnie débitrice est présumé être le lieu où elle a ses principales affaires.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

RECONNAISSANCE DES INSTANCES ÉTRANGÈRES

**46.** (1) Le représentant étranger peut demander au tribunal de reconnaître l'instance étrangère dans le cadre de laquelle il a qualité.

Demande de reconnaissance de l'instance étrangère

Lieu des

affaires

principales

(2) La demande de reconnaissance est accompagnée des documents suivants :

Documents accompagnant la demande de reconnaissance

- a) une copie certifiée conforme de l'acte quelle qu'en soit la désignation introductif de l'instance étrangère ou le certificat délivré par le tribunal étranger attestant l'introduction de celle-ci;
- b) une copie certifiée conforme de l'acte quelle qu'en soit la désignation autorisant le représentant étranger à agir à ce titre ou le certificat délivré par le tribunal étranger attestant la qualité de celui-ci;
- c) une déclaration faisant état de toutes les instances étrangères visant la compagnie débitrice qui sont connues du représentant étranger.
- (3) Le tribunal peut, sans preuve supplémentaire, accepter les documents visés aux alinéas (2)a) et b) comme preuve du fait qu'il s'agit d'une instance étrangère et que le demandeur est le représentant étranger dans le cadre de celle-ci.

Documents acceptés comme preuve

(4) En l'absence des documents visés aux alinéas (2)a) et b), il peut accepter toute autre preuve — qu'il estime indiquée — de l'introduction de l'instance étrangère et de la qualité du représentant étranger.

Autre preuve

(5) Il peut exiger la traduction des documents accompagnant la demande de reconnaissance.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**47.** (1) S'il est convaincu que la demande de reconnaissance vise une instance étrangère et que le demandeur est un représentant étran-

Ordonnance de reconnaissance

52

Traduction

applicant is a foreign representative in respect of that foreign proceeding, the court shall make an order recognizing the foreign proceeding.

Nature of foreign proceeding to be specified

(2) The court shall specify in the order whether the foreign proceeding is a foreign main proceeding or a foreign non-main proceeding.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Order relating to recognition of a foreign main proceeding

- **48.** (1) Subject to subsections (2) to (4), on the making of an order recognizing a foreign proceeding that is specified to be a foreign main proceeding, the court shall make an order, subject to any terms and conditions it considers appropriate,
  - (a) staying, until otherwise ordered by the court, for any period that the court considers necessary, all proceedings taken or that might be taken against the debtor company under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act or the Winding-up and Restructuring Act;
  - (b) restraining, until otherwise ordered by the court, further proceedings in any action, suit or proceeding against the debtor company;
  - (c) prohibiting, until otherwise ordered by the court, the commencement of any action, suit or proceeding against the debtor company; and
  - (d) prohibiting the debtor company from selling or otherwise disposing of, outside the ordinary course of its business, any of the debtor company's property in Canada that relates to the business and prohibiting the debtor company from selling or otherwise disposing of any of its other property in Canada.

Scope of order

(2) The order made under subsection (1) must be consistent with any order that may be made under this Act.

When subsection (1) does not apply

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply if any proceedings under this Act have been commenced in respect of the debtor company at the time the order recognizing the foreign proceeding is

Application of this and other Acts

(4) Nothing in subsection (1) precludes the debtor company from commencing or continuing proceedings under this Act, the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act or the Winding-up and Reger dans le cadre de celle-ci, le tribunal reconnaît, par ordonnance, l'instance étrangère en cause.

(2) Il précise dans l'ordonnance s'il s'agit d'une instance étrangère principale ou secon-

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**48.** (1) Sous réserve des paragraphes (2) à (4), si l'ordonnance de reconnaissance précise qu'il s'agit d'une instance étrangère principale, le tribunal, par ordonnance, selon les modalités qu'il estime indiquées :

Effets de la reconnaissance d'une instance étrangère principale

Nature de

l'instance

- a) suspend, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, toute procédure qui est ou pourrait être intentée contre la compagnie sous le régime de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité ou de la Loi sur les *liquidations et les restructurations*;
- b) surseoit, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, à la continuation de toute action, poursuite ou autre procédure contre la compagnie;
- c) interdit, jusqu'à nouvel ordre, l'introduction de toute action, poursuite ou autre procédure contre la compagnie;
- d) interdit à la compagnie de disposer, notamment par vente, des biens de son entreprise situés au Canada hors du cours ordinaire des affaires ou de ses autres biens situés au Canada.

(2) L'ordonnance visée au paragraphe (1) doit être compatible avec les autres ordonnances rendues sous le régime de la présente Compatibilité

(3) Le paragraphe (1) ne s'applique pas si au moment où l'ordonnance de reconnaissance est rendue une procédure a déjà été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi contre la compagnie débitrice.

(4) Le paragraphe (1) n'a pas pour effet d'empêcher la compagnie débitrice d'intenter ou de continuer une procédure sous le régime de la présente loi, de la Loi sur la faillite et l'in-

Non-application

du paragraphe

Application de la présente loi et d'autres lois

structuring Act in respect of the debtor company.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Other orders

- **49.** (1) If an order recognizing a foreign proceeding is made, the court may, on application by the foreign representative who applied for the order, if the court is satisfied that it is necessary for the protection of the debtor company's property or the interests of a creditor or creditors, make any order that it considers appropriate, including an order
  - (a) if the foreign proceeding is a foreign non-main proceeding, referred to in subsection 48(1);
  - (b) respecting the examination of witnesses, the taking of evidence or the delivery of information concerning the debtor company's property, business and financial affairs, debts, liabilities and obligations; and
  - (c) authorizing the foreign representative to monitor the debtor company's business and financial affairs in Canada for the purpose of reorganization.

Restriction

(2) If any proceedings under this Act have been commenced in respect of the debtor company at the time an order recognizing the foreign proceeding is made, an order made under subsection (1) must be consistent with any order that may be made in any proceedings under this Act.

Application of this and other Acts

(3) The making of an order under paragraph (1)(a) does not preclude the commencement or the continuation of proceedings under this Act, the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act* in respect of the debtor company.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Terms and conditions of orders

**50.** An order under this Part may be made on any terms and conditions that the court considers appropriate in the circumstances.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Commencement or continuation of proceedings

**51.** If an order is made recognizing a foreign proceeding, the foreign representative may commence and continue proceedings under this Act in respect of a debtor company as if the foreign representative were a creditor of the

solvabilité ou de la Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

- **49.** (1) Une fois l'ordonnance de reconnaissance rendue, le tribunal, sur demande présentée par le représentant étranger demandeur, peut, s'il est convaincu que la mesure est nécessaire pour protéger les biens de la compagnie débitrice ou les intérêts d'un ou plusieurs créanciers, rendre toute ordonnance qu'il estime indiquée, notamment pour :
  - *a*) s'il s'agit d'une instance étrangère secondaire, imposer les interdictions visées au paragraphe 48(1);
  - b) régir l'interrogatoire des témoins et la manière de recueillir des preuves ou fournir des renseignements concernant les biens, affaires financières et autres, dettes, obligations et engagements de la compagnie débitrice;
  - c) autoriser le représentant étranger à surveiller les affaires financières et autres de la compagnie débitrice qui se rapportent à ses opérations au Canada.
- (2) Si, au moment où l'ordonnance de reconnaissance est rendue, une procédure a déjà été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi contre la compagnie débitrice, l'ordonnance prévue au paragraphe (1) doit être compatible avec toute ordonnance qui peut être rendue dans le cadre de cette procédure.
- (3) L'ordonnance rendue au titre de l'alinéa (1)a) n'a pas pour effet d'empêcher que soit intentée ou continuée, contre la compagnie débitrice, une procédure sous le régime de la présente loi, de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité ou de la Loi sur les liquidations et les restructurations.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**50.** Le tribunal peut assortir les ordonnances qu'il rend au titre de la présente partie des conditions qu'il estime indiquées dans les circonstances.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**51.** Une fois l'ordonnance de reconnaissance rendue, le représentant étranger en cause peut intenter ou continuer la procédure visée par la présente loi comme s'il était créancier de la

Autre ordonnance

Restriction

Application de la présente loi et d'autres lois

Conditions

Début et continuation de la procédure debtor company, or the debtor company, as the case may be.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

#### **OBLIGATIONS**

Cooperation — court

**52.** (1) If an order recognizing a foreign proceeding is made, the court shall cooperate, to the maximum extent possible, with the foreign representative and the foreign court involved in the foreign proceeding.

Cooperation — other authorities in Canada

(2) If any proceedings under this Act have been commenced in respect of a debtor company and an order recognizing a foreign proceeding is made in respect of the debtor company, every person who exercises powers or performs duties and functions under the proceedings under this Act shall cooperate, to the maximum extent possible, with the foreign representative and the foreign court involved in the foreign proceeding.

Forms of cooperation

- (3) For the purpose of this section, cooperation may be provided by any appropriate means, including
  - (a) the appointment of a person to act at the direction of the court;
  - (b) the communication of information by any means considered appropriate by the court;
  - (c) the coordination of the administration and supervision of the debtor company's assets and affairs;
  - (d) the approval or implementation by courts of agreements concerning the coordination of proceedings; and
  - (e) the coordination of concurrent proceedings regarding the same debtor company.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 80.

Obligations of foreign representative

- **53.** If an order recognizing a foreign proceeding is made, the foreign representative who applied for the order shall
  - (a) without delay, inform the court of
    - (i) any substantial change in the status of the recognized foreign proceeding,
    - (ii) any substantial change in the status of the foreign representative's authority to act in that capacity, and

compagnie débitrice ou la compagnie débitrice elle-même, selon le cas.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### **OBLIGATIONS**

**52.** (1) Une fois l'ordonnance de reconnaissance rendue, le tribunal collabore dans toute la mesure possible avec le représentant étranger et le tribunal étranger en cause dans le cadre de l'instance étrangère reconnue.

Collaboration —

(2) Si une procédure a été intentée sous le régime de la présente loi contre une compagnie débitrice et qu'une ordonnance a été rendue reconnaissant une instance étrangère visant cette compagnie, toute personne exerçant des attributions dans le cadre de cette procédure collabore dans toute la mesure possible avec le représentant étranger et le tribunal étranger en cause.

Collaboration — autres autorités compétentes

(3) Pour l'application du présent article, la collaboration peut être assurée par tout moyen approprié, notamment :

Moyens d'assurer la collaboration

- a) la nomination d'une personne chargée d'agir suivant les instructions du tribunal;
- b) la communication de renseignements par tout moyen jugé approprié par celui-ci;
- c) la coordination de l'administration et de la surveillance des biens et des affaires de la compagnie débitrice;
- d) l'approbation ou l'application par les tribunaux des accords concernant la coordination des procédures;
- e) la coordination de procédures concurrentes concernant la même compagnie débitrice.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 80.

**53.** Si l'ordonnance de reconnaissance est rendue, il incombe au représentant étranger demandeur :

Obligations du représentant étranger

- a) d'informer sans délai le tribunal :
  - (i) de toute modification sensible du statut de l'instance étrangère reconnue,
  - (ii) de toute modification sensible de sa qualité,

- (iii) any other foreign proceeding in respect of the same debtor company that becomes known to the foreign representative; and
- (b) publish, without delay after the order is made, once a week for two consecutive weeks, or as otherwise directed by the court, in one or more newspapers in Canada specified by the court, a notice containing the prescribed information.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

## MULTIPLE PROCEEDINGS

Concurrent proceedings

**54.** If any proceedings under this Act in respect of a debtor company are commenced at any time after an order recognizing the foreign proceeding is made, the court shall review any order made under section 49 and, if it determines that the order is inconsistent with any orders made in the proceedings under this Act, the court shall amend or revoke the order.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Multiple foreign proceedings 55. (1) If, at any time after an order is made in respect of a foreign non-main proceeding in respect of a debtor company, an order recognizing a foreign main proceeding is made in respect of the debtor company, the court shall review any order made under section 49 in respect of the foreign non-main proceeding and, if it determines that the order is inconsistent with any orders made under that section in respect of the foreign main proceedings, the court shall amend or revoke the order.

Multiple foreign proceedings (2) If, at any time after an order is made in respect of a foreign non-main proceeding in respect of the debtor company, an order recognizing another foreign non-main proceeding is made in respect of the debtor company, the court shall, for the purpose of facilitating the coordination of the foreign non-main proceedings, review any order made under section 49 in respect of the first recognized proceeding and amend or revoke the order if it considers it appropriate.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

- (iii) de toute autre procédure étrangère visant la compagnie débitrice qui a été portée à sa connaissance;
- b) de publier, sans délai après le prononcé de l'ordonnance, une fois par semaine pendant deux semaines consécutives, ou selon les modalités qui y sont prévues, dans le journal ou les journaux au Canada qui y sont précisés, un avis contenant les renseignements réglementaires.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### INSTANCES MULTIPLES

54. Si, après qu'a été rendue une ordonnance de reconnaissance à l'égard d'une instance étrangère visant une compagnie débitrice, une procédure est intentée sous le régime de la présente loi contre cette compagnie, le tribunal examine toute ordonnance rendue au titre de l'article 49 et, s'il conclut qu'elle n'est pas compatible avec toute ordonnance rendue dans le cadre des procédures intentées sous le régime de la présente loi, il la modifie ou la révoque.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

55. (1) Si, après qu'a été rendue une ordonnance de reconnaissance à l'égard d'une instance étrangère secondaire visant une compagnie débitrice, une ordonnance de reconnaissance est rendue à l'égard d'une instance étrangère principale visant la même compagnie, toute ordonnance rendue au titre de l'article 49 dans le cadre de l'instance étrangère secondaire doit être compatible avec toute ordonnance qui peut être rendue au titre de cet article dans le cadre de l'instance étrangère principale.

(2) Si, après qu'a été rendue une ordonnance de reconnaissance à l'égard d'une instance étrangère secondaire visant une compagnie débitrice, une autre ordonnance de reconnaissance est rendue à l'égard d'une instance étrangère secondaire visant la même compagnie, le tribunal examine, en vue de coordonner les instances étrangères secondaires, toute ordonnance rendue au titre de l'article 49 dans le cadre de la première procédure reconnue et la modifie ou la révoque s'il l'estime indiqué.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

Instances concomitantes

Plusieurs instances étrangères

Plusieurs instances étrangères

#### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Authorization to act as representative of proceeding under this Act **56.** The court may authorize any person or body to act as a representative in respect of any proceeding under this Act for the purpose of having them recognized in a jurisdiction outside Canada.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Foreign representative status 57. An application by a foreign representative for any order under this Part does not submit the foreign representative to the jurisdiction of the court for any other purpose except with regard to the costs of the proceedings, but the court may make any order under this Part conditional on the compliance by the foreign representative with any other order of the court.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Foreign proceeding appeal **58.** A foreign representative is not prevented from making an application to the court under this Part by reason only that proceedings by way of appeal or review have been taken in a foreign proceeding, and the court may, on an application if such proceedings have been taken, grant relief as if the proceedings had not been taken.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Presumption of insolvency

**59.** For the purposes of this Part, if an insolvency or a reorganization or a similar order has been made in respect of a debtor company in a foreign proceeding, a certified copy of the order is, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, proof that the debtor company is insolvent and proof of the appointment of the foreign representative made by the order.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Credit for recovery in other jurisdictions

- **60.** (1) In making a compromise or an arrangement of a debtor company, the following shall be taken into account in the distribution of dividends to the company's creditors in Canada as if they were a part of that distribution:
  - (a) the amount that a creditor receives or is entitled to receive outside Canada by way of a dividend in a foreign proceeding in respect of the company; and
  - (b) the value of any property of the company that the creditor acquires outside Canada on account of a provable claim of the creditor or that the creditor acquires outside Canada by way of a transfer that, if it were subject to

#### DISPOSITIONS DIVERSES

**56.** Le tribunal peut autoriser toute personne ou tout organe à agir à titre de représentant dans le cadre de toute procédure intentée sous le régime de la présente loi en vue d'obtenir la reconnaissance de celle-ci dans un ressort étranger.

Autorisation d'agir à titre de représentant dans toute procédure intentée sous le régime de la présente loi

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

57. Le représentant étranger n'est pas soumis à la juridiction du tribunal pour le motif qu'il a présenté une demande au titre de la présente partie, sauf en ce qui touche les frais de justice; le tribunal peut toutefois subordonner toute ordonnance visée à la présente partie à l'observation par le représentant étranger de toute autre ordonnance rendue par lui.

étranger

représentant

Statut du

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**58.** Le fait qu'une instance étrangère fait l'objet d'un appel ou d'une révision n'a pas pour effet d'empêcher le représentant étranger de présenter toute demande au tribunal au titre de la présente partie; malgré ce fait, le tribunal peut, sur demande, accorder des redressements. 2005. ch. 47. art. 131.

Instance étrangère : appel

**59.** Pour l'application de la présente partie, une copie certifiée conforme de l'ordonnance d'insolvabilité ou de réorganisation ou de toute ordonnance semblable, rendue contre une compagnie débitrice dans le cadre d'une instance

pagnie débitrice dans le cadre d'une instance étrangère, fait foi, sauf preuve contraire, de

l'insolvabilité de celle-ci et de la nomination du représentant étranger au titre de l'ordonnance.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

**60.** (1) Lorsqu'une transaction ou un arrangement visant la compagnie débitrice est proposé, les éléments énumérés ci-après doivent être pris en considération dans la distribution des dividendes aux créanciers d'un débiteur au Canada comme s'ils faisaient partie de la distribution :

Sommes reçues à l'étranger

Présomption

d'insolvabilité

- a) les sommes qu'un créancier a reçues ou auxquelles il a droit à l'étranger, à titre de dividende, dans le cadre d'une instance étrangère le visant;
- b) la valeur de tout bien de la compagnie que le créancier a acquis à l'étranger au titre d'une créance prouvable ou par suite d'un

this Act, would be a preference over other creditors or a transfer at undervalue.

Restriction

(2) Despite subsection (1), the creditor is not entitled to receive a dividend from the distribution in Canada until every other creditor who has a claim of equal rank in the order of priority established under this Act has received a dividend whose amount is the same percentage of that other creditor's claim as the aggregate of the amount referred to in paragraph (1)(a) and the value referred to in paragraph (1)(b) is of that creditor's claim.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

Court not prevented from applying certain rules **61.** (1) Nothing in this Part prevents the court, on the application of a foreign representative or any other interested person, from applying any legal or equitable rules governing the recognition of foreign insolvency orders and assistance to foreign representatives that are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

Public policy exception

(2) Nothing in this Part prevents the court from refusing to do something that would be contrary to public policy.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 81.

#### PART V

## ADMINISTRATION

Regulations

- **62.** The Governor in Council may make regulations for carrying out the purposes and provisions of this Act, including regulations
  - (a) specifying documents for the purpose of paragraph 23(1)(f); and
  - (b) prescribing anything that by this Act is to be prescribed.

2005, c. 47, s. 131; 2007, c. 36, s. 82.

Review of Act

**63.** (1) Within five years after the coming into force of this section, the Minister shall cause to be laid before both Houses of Parliament a report on the provisions and operation of this Act, including any recommendations for amendments to those provisions.

Reference to parliamentary committee

(2) The report stands referred to the committee of the Senate, the House of Commons or both Houses of Parliament that is designated or established for that purpose, which shall transfert qui, si la présente loi lui était applicable, procurerait à un créancier une préférence sur d'autres créanciers ou constituerait une opération sous-évaluée.

(2) Le créancier n'a toutefois pas le droit de recevoir un dividende dans le cadre de la distribution faite au Canada tant que les titulaires des créances venant au même rang que la sienne dans l'ordre de collocation prévu par la présente loi n'ont pas reçu un dividende dont le pourcentage d'acquittement est égal au pourcentage d'acquittement des éléments visés aux alinéas (1)a) et b).

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

- **61.** (1) La présente partie n'a pas pour effet d'empêcher le tribunal d'appliquer, sur demande faite par le représentant étranger ou tout autre intéressé, toute règle de droit ou d'equity relative à la reconnaissance des ordonnances étrangères en matière d'insolvabilité et à l'assistance à prêter au représentant étranger, dans la mesure où elle n'est pas incompatible avec les dispositions de la présente loi.
- (2) La présente partie n'a pas pour effet d'empêcher le tribunal de refuser de prendre une mesure contraire à l'ordre public.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 81.

#### PARTIE V

## ADMINISTRATION

**62.** Le gouverneur en conseil peut, par règlement, prendre toute mesure d'application de la présente loi, notamment :

a) préciser les documents pour l'application de l'alinéa 23(1)f);

b) prendre toute mesure d'ordre réglementaire prévue par la présente loi.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131; 2007, ch. 36, art. 82.

- **63.** (1) Dans les cinq ans suivant l'entrée en vigueur du présent article, le ministre présente au Sénat et à la Chambre des communes un rapport sur les dispositions de la présente loi et son application dans lequel il fait état des modifications qu'il juge souhaitables.
- (2) Le comité du Sénat, de la Chambre des communes, ou mixte, constitué ou désigné à cette fin, est saisi d'office du rapport et procède dans les meilleurs délais à l'étude de celui-ci et,

Restriction

Application de règles étrangères

Exception relative à l'ordre public

Règlements

Rapport

Examen parlementaire

- (a) as soon as possible after the laying of the report, review the report; and
- (b) report to the Senate, the House of Commons or both Houses of Parliament, as the case may be, within one year after the laying of the report of the Minister, or any further time authorized by the Senate, the House of Commons or both Houses of Parliament.

2005, c. 47, s. 131.

dans l'année qui suit le dépôt du rapport ou le délai supérieur accordé par le Sénat, la Chambre des communes ou les deux chambres, selon le cas, leur présente son rapport.

2005, ch. 47, art. 131.

#### RELATED PROVISIONS

#### - R.S., 1985, c. 27 (2nd Supp.), s. 11

Transitional: proceedings

- 11. Proceedings to which any of the provisions amended by the schedule apply that were commenced before the coming into force of section 10 shall be continued in accordance with those amended provisions without any further formality.
- 1990, c. 17, s. 45(1)

Transitional: proceedings

- **45.** (1) Every proceeding commenced before the coming into force of this subsection and in respect of which any provision amended by this Act applies shall be taken up and continued under and in conformity with that amended provision without any further formality.
- 1997, c. 12, s. 127

Application

- **127.** Section 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125 or 126 applies to proceedings commenced under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* after that section comes into force.
- 1998, c. 30, s. 10

Transitional — proceedings

- **10.** Every proceeding commenced before the coming into force of this section and in respect of which any provision amended by sections 12 to 16 applies shall be taken up and continued under and in conformity with that amended provision without any further formality.
- 2000, c. 30, s. 156(2)
- (2) Subsection (1) applies to proceedings commenced under the Act after September 29, 1997.
- 2000, c. 30, s. 157(2)
- (2) Subsection (1) applies to proceedings commenced under the Act after September 29, 1997.
- 2000, c. 30, s. 158(2)
- (2) Subsection (1) applies to proceedings commenced under the Act after September 29, 1997.
- 2001, c. 34, s. 33(2)
- (2) Subsection (1) applies to proceedings commenced under the Act after September 29, 1997.
- 2005, c. 47, s. 134, as amended by 2007, c. 36, s. 107

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act **134.** An amendment to the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* that is enacted by any of sections 124 to 131 of this Act applies only to a debtor company in respect of whom proceedings commence un-

#### **DISPOSITIONS CONNEXES**

- L.R. (1985), ch. 27 (2<sup>e</sup> suppl.), art. 11
- 11. Les procédures intentées en vertu des dispositions modifiées en annexe avant l'entrée en vigueur de l'article 10 se poursuivent en conformité avec les nouvelles dispositions sans autres formalités.

Disposition transitoire : procédure

- 1990, ch. 17, par. 45(1)
- **45.** (1) Les procédures intentées avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent paragraphe et auxquelles s'appliquent des dispositions visées par la présente loi se poursuivent sans autres formalités en conformité avec ces dispositions dans leur forme modifiée.

Disposition transitoire : procédures

- 1997, ch. 12, art. 127

**127.** Les articles 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125 ou 126 s'appliquent aux procédures intentées sous le régime de la *Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies* après l'entrée en vigueur de l'article en cause.

Application

- 1998, ch. 30, art. 10

10. Les procédures intentées avant l'entrée en vigueur du présent article et auxquelles s'appliquent des dispositions visées par les articles 12 à 16 se poursuivent sans autres formalités en conformité avec ces dispositions dans leur forme modifiée.

Procédures

- 2000, ch. 30, par. 156(2)
- (2) Le paragraphe (1) s'applique aux procédures intentées en vertu de la même loi après le 29 septembre 1997.
- 2000, ch. 30, par. 157(2)
- (2) Le paragraphe (1) s'applique aux procédures intentées en vertu de la même loi après le 29 septembre 1997.
- 2000, ch. 30, par. 158(2)
- (2) Le paragraphe (1) s'applique aux procédures intentées en vertu de la même loi après le 29 septembre 1997.
- 2001, ch. 34, par. 33(2)
- (2) Le paragraphe (1) s'applique aux procédures intentées en vertu de la même loi après le 29 septembre 1997.
- 2005, ch. 47, art. 134, modifié par 2007, ch. 36, art. 107
- 134. Toute modification à la Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies édictée par l'un des articles 124 à 131 de la présente loi ne s'applique qu'aux compagnies débitrices à l'égard desquelles une procédure est intentée sous le régime

Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies der that Act on or after the day on which the amendment comes into force.

- 2007, c. 29, s. 119

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act 119. An amendment to the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* made by section 104 or 106 of this Act applies only to a debtor company in respect of which proceedings under that Act are commenced on or after the day on which the amendment comes into force.

— 2007, c. 36, s. 111

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act 111. The amendment to the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* that is enacted by section 67 of this Act applies only to a debtor company in respect of whom proceedings commence under that Act on or after the day on which the amendment comes into force.

de la *Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers* des compagnies à la date d'entrée en vigueur de la modification ou par la suite.

- 2007, ch. 29, art. 119

119. La modification apportée à la *Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies* par les articles 104 ou 106 de la présente loi ne s'applique qu'aux compagnies débitrices à l'égard desquelles une procédure est intentée sous le régime de cette loi à la date d'entrée en vigueur de la modification ou par la suite.

Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies

- 2007, ch. 36, art. 111

111. La modification à la Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies édictée par l'article 67 de la présente loi ne s'applique qu'aux compagnies débitrices à l'égard desquelles une procédure est intentée sous le régime de la Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies à la date d'entrée en vigueur de la modification ou par la suite.

Loi sur les arrangements avec les créanciers des compagnies

# **TAB 4**

## 2010 SCC 60 Supreme Court of Canada

Ted Leroy Trucking [Century Services] Ltd., Re

2010 CarswellBC 3419, 2010 CarswellBC 3420, 2010 SCC 60, [2010] 3 S.C.R. 379, [2010] G.S.T.C. 186, [2011] 2 W.W.R. 383, [2011] B.C.W.L.D. 533, [2011] B.C.W.L.D. 534, 12 B.C.L.R. (5th) 1, 196 A.C.W.S. (3d) 27, 2011 D.T.C. 5006 (Eng.), 2011 G.T.C. 2006 (Eng.), 296 B.C.A.C. 1, 326 D.L.R. (4th) 577, 409 N.R. 201, 503 W.A.C. 1, 72 C.B.R. (5th) 170, J.E. 2011-5

# Century Services Inc. (Appellant) and Attorney General of Canada on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Canada (Respondent)

Deschamps J., McLachlin C.J.C., Binnie, LeBel, Fish, Abella, Charron, Rothstein, Cromwell JJ.

Heard: May 11, 2010 Judgment: December 16, 2010 Docket: 33239

Proceedings: reversing *Ted Leroy Trucking Ltd.*, *Re* (2009), 2009 CarswellBC 1195, 2009 G.T.C. 2020 (Eng.), 2009 BCCA 205, 270 B.C.A.C. 167, 454 W.A.C. 167, [2009] 12 W.W.R. 684, 98 B.C.L.R. (4th) 242, [2009] G.S.T.C. 79 (B.C. C.A.); reversing *Ted Leroy Trucking Ltd.*, *Re* (2008), 2008 CarswellBC 2895, 2008 BCSC 1805, [2008] G.S.T.C. 221, 2009 G.T.C. 2011 (Eng.) (B.C. S.C. [In Chambers])

Counsel: Mary I.A. Buttery, Owen J. James, Matthew J.G. Curtis for Appellant Gordon Bourgard, David Jacyk, Michael J. Lema for Respondent

Subject: Estates and Trusts; Goods and Services Tax (GST); Tax — Miscellaneous; Insolvency

#### **Table of Authorities**

#### Cases considered by *Deschamps J.*:

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Alternative granite & marbre inc., Re (2009), (sub nom. Dep. Min. Rev. Quebec v. Caisse populaire Desjardins de Montmagny) 2009 G.T.C. 2036 (Eng.), (sub nom. Quebec (Revenue) v. Caisse populaire Desjardins de Montmagny) [2009] 3 S.C.R. 286, 312 D.L.R. (4th) 577, [2009] G.S.T.C. 154, (sub nom. 9083-4185 Québec Inc. (Bankrupt), Re) 394 N.R. 368, 60 C.B.R. (5th) 1, 2009 SCC 49, 2009 CarswellQue 10706, 2009 CarswellQue 10707 (S.C.C.) — referred to

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Canadian Airlines Corp., Re (2000), [2000] 10 W.W.R. 269, 20 C.B.R. (4th) 1, 84 Alta. L.R. (3d) 9, 9 B.L.R. (3d) 41, 2000 CarswellAlta 662, 2000 ABQB 442, 265 A.R. 201 (Alta. Q.B.) — referred to

2010 SCC 60, 2010 CarswellBC 3419, 2010 CarswellBC 3420, [2010] 3 S.C.R. 379...

Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadienne de la Croix Rouge, Re (2000), 2000 CarswellOnt 3269, 19 C.B.R. (4th) 158 (Ont. S.C.J.) — referred to

Doré c. Verdun (Municipalité) (1997), (sub nom. Doré v. Verdun (City)) [1997] 2 S.C.R. 862, (sub nom. Doré v. Verdun (Ville)) 215 N.R. 81, (sub nom. Doré v. Verdun (City)) 150 D.L.R. (4th) 385, 1997 CarswellQue 159, 1997 CarswellQue 850 (S.C.C.) — distinguished

Dylex Ltd., Re (1995), 31 C.B.R. (3d) 106, 1995 CarswellOnt 54 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]) — considered

First Vancouver Finance v. Minister of National Revenue (2002), [2002] 3 C.T.C. 285, (sub nom. Minister of National Revenue v. First Vancouver Finance) 2002 D.T.C. 6998 (Eng.), (sub nom. Minister of National Revenue v. First Vancouver Finance) 2002 D.T.C. 7007 (Fr.), 288 N.R. 347, 212 D.L.R. (4th) 615, [2002] G.S.T.C. 23, [2003] 1 W.W.R. 1, 45 C.B.R. (4th) 213, 2002 SCC 49, 2002 CarswellSask 317, 2002 CarswellSask 318, [2002] 2 S.C.R. 720 (S.C.C.) — considered

Gauntlet Energy Corp., Re (2003), 30 Alta. L.R. (4th) 192, 2003 ABQB 894, 2003 CarswellAlta 1735, [2003] G.S.T.C. 193, 49 C.B.R. (4th) 213, [2004] 10 W.W.R. 180, 352 A.R. 28 (Alta. Q.B.) — referred to

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*Ivaco Inc.*, *Re* (2006), 2006 C.E.B. & P.G.R. 8218, 25 C.B.R. (5th) 176, 83 O.R. (3d) 108, 275 D.L.R. (4th) 132, 2006 CarswellOnt 6292, 56 C.C.P.B. 1, 26 B.L.R. (4th) 43 (Ont. C.A.) — referred to

Komunik Corp., Re (2010), 2010 CarswellQue 686, 2010 QCCA 183 (C.A. Que.) — referred to

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*Ottawa Senators Hockey Club Corp., Re* (2005), 2005 G.T.C. 1327 (Eng.), 6 C.B.R. (5th) 293, 2005 D.T.C. 5233 (Eng.), 2005 CarswellOnt 8, [2005] G.S.T.C. 1, 193 O.A.C. 95, 73 O.R. (3d) 737 (Ont. C.A.) — not followed

Pacific National Lease Holding Corp., Re (1992), 72 B.C.L.R. (2d) 368, 19 B.C.A.C. 134, 34 W.A.C. 134, 15 C.B.R. (3d) 265, 1992 CarswellBC 524 (B.C. C.A. [In Chambers]) — referred to

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Quebec (Deputy Minister of Revenue) c. Rainville (1979), (sub nom. Bourgeault, Re) 33 C.B.R. (N.S.) 301, (sub nom. Bourgeault's Estate v. Quebec (Deputy Minister of Revenue)) 30 N.R. 24, (sub nom. Bourgault, Re) 105 D.L.R. (3d) 270, 1979 CarswellQue 165, 1979 CarswellQue 266, (sub nom. Quebec (Deputy Minister of Revenue) v. Bourgeault (Trustee of)) [1980] 1 S.C.R. 35 (S.C.C.) — referred to

Reference re Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (Canada) (1934), [1934] 4 D.L.R. 75, 1934 CarswellNat 1, 16 C.B.R. 1, [1934] S.C.R. 659 (S.C.C.) — referred to

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*Stelco Inc.*, *Re* (2005), 253 D.L.R. (4th) 109, 75 O.R. (3d) 5, 2 B.L.R. (4th) 238, 9 C.B.R. (5th) 135, 2005 CarswellOnt 1188, 196 O.A.C. 142 (Ont. C.A.) — referred to

United Used Auto & Truck Parts Ltd., Re (1999), 12 C.B.R. (4th) 144, 1999 CarswellBC 2673 (B.C. S.C. [In Chambers]) — referred to

*United Used Auto & Truck Parts Ltd., Re* (2000), 2000 BCCA 146, 135 B.C.A.C. 96, 221 W.A.C. 96, 2000 CarswellBC 414, 73 B.C.L.R. (3d) 236, 16 C.B.R. (4th) 141, [2000] 5 W.W.R. 178 (B.C. C.A.) — referred to

# Cases considered by Fish J.:

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## Cases considered by Abella J. (dissenting):

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Ottawa Senators Hockey Club Corp., Re (2005), 2005 G.T.C. 1327 (Eng.), 6 C.B.R. (5th) 293, 2005 D.T.C. 5233 (Eng.), 2005 CarswellOnt 8, [2005] G.S.T.C. 1, 193 O.A.C. 95, 73 O.R. (3d) 737 (Ont. C.A.) — considered

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## Statutes considered by *Deschamps J.*:

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Bank Act, S.C. 1991, c. 46
Generally — referred to
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Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3

Generally — referred to

- s. 67(2) referred to
- s. 67(3) referred to
- s. 81.1 [en. 1992, c. 27, s. 38(1)] considered
- s. 81.2 [en. 1992, c. 27, s. 38(1)] considered
- s. 86(1) considered
- s. 86(3) referred to

Bankruptcy Act and to amend the Income Tax Act in consequence thereof, Act to amend the, S.C. 1992, c. 27

Generally — referred to

s. 39 — referred to

Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act and the Income Tax Act, Act to amend the, S.C. 1997, c. 12

- s. 73 referred to
- s. 125 referred to
- s. 126 referred to

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Generally — referred to

- s. 23(3) referred to
- s. 23(4) referred to

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en général — referred to

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en général — referred to

art. 2930 - referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, Act to Amend, S.C. 1952-53, c. 3

Generally — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, 1933, S.C. 1932-33, c. 36 Generally — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36

Generally — referred to

- s. 11 considered
- s. 11(1) considered
- s. 11(3) referred to
- s. 11(4) referred to
- s. 11(6) referred to
- s. 11.02 [en. 2005, c. 47, s. 128] referred to
- s. 11.09 [en. 2005, c. 47, s. 128] considered
- s. 11.4 [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] referred to
- s. 18.3 [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 125] considered
- s. 18.3(1) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 125] considered
- s. 18.3(2) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 125] considered
- s. 18.4 [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 125] referred to
- s. 18.4(1) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 125] considered
- s. 18.4(3) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 125] considered
- s. 20 considered
- s. 21 considered
- s. 37 considered
- s. 37(1) referred to

Employment Insurance Act, S.C. 1996, c. 23

Generally — referred to

- s. 86(2) referred to
- s. 86(2.1) [en. 1998, c. 19, s. 266(1)] referred to

Excise Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15

Generally — referred to

- s. 222(1) [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] referred to
- s. 222(3) [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] considered

s. 227(4) — referred to

#### Statutes considered Fish J.:

# Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36

Employment Insurance Act, S.C. 1996, c. 23

Generally — referred to

- s. 86(2) referred to
- s. 86(2.1) [en. 1998, c. 19, s. 266(1)] referred to

Excise Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15

Generally — referred to

- s. 222 [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] considered
- s. 222(1) [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] considered
- s. 222(3) [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] considered
- s. 222(3)(a) [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] considered

Income Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.)

Generally — referred to

- s. 227(4) considered
- s. 227(4.1) [en. 1998, c. 19, s. 226(1)] considered
- s. 227(4.1)(a) [en. 1998, c. 19, s. 226(1)] considered

### Statutes considered Abella J. (dissenting):

Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3

Generally — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36

Generally — referred to

- s. 11 considered
- s. 11(1) considered
- s. 11(3) considered
- s. 18.3(1) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 125] considered
- s. 37(1) considered

Excise Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15

Generally — referred to

- s. 222 [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] considered
- s. 222(3) [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] considered

Interpretation Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. I-21

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s. 2(1)"enactment" — considered
s. 44(f) — considered

Winding-up and Restructuring Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. W-11
Generally — referred to
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APPEAL by creditor from judgment reported at 2009 CarswellBC 1195, 2009 BCCA 205, [2009] G.S.T.C. 79, 98 B.C.L.R. (4th) 242, [2009] 12 W.W.R. 684, 270 B.C.A.C. 167, 454 W.A.C. 167, 2009 G.T.C. 2020 (Eng.) (B.C. C.A.), allowing Crown's appeal from dismissal of application for immediate payment of tax debt.

#### Deschamps J.:

For the first time this Court is called upon to directly interpret the provisions of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("*CCAA*"). In that respect, two questions are raised. The first requires reconciliation of provisions of the *CCAA* and the *Excise Tax Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15 ("*ETA*"), which lower courts have held to be in conflict with one another. The second concerns the scope of a court's discretion when supervising reorganization. The relevant statutory provisions are reproduced in the Appendix. On the first question, having considered the evolution of Crown priorities in the context of insolvency and the wording of the various statutes creating Crown priorities, I conclude that it is the *CCAA* and not the *ETA* that provides the rule. On the second question, I conclude that the broad discretionary jurisdiction conferred on the supervising judge must be interpreted having regard to the remedial nature of the *CCAA* and insolvency legislation generally. Consequently, the court had the discretion to partially lift a stay of proceedings to allow the debtor to make an assignment under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 ("*BIA*"). I would allow the appeal.

#### 1. Facts and Decisions of the Courts Below

- 2 Ted LeRoy Trucking Ltd. ("LeRoy Trucking") commenced proceedings under the *CCAA* in the Supreme Court of British Columbia on December 13, 2007, obtaining a stay of proceedings with a view to reorganizing its financial affairs. LeRoy Trucking sold certain redundant assets as authorized by the order.
- Amongst the debts owed by LeRoy Trucking was an amount for Goods and Services Tax ("GST") collected but unremitted to the Crown. The *ETA* creates a deemed trust in favour of the Crown for amounts collected in respect of GST. The deemed trust extends to any property or proceeds held by the person collecting GST and any property of that person held by a secured creditor, requiring that property to be paid to the Crown in priority to all security interests. The *ETA* provides that the deemed trust operates despite any other enactment of Canada except the *BIA*. However, the *CCAA* also provides that subject to certain exceptions, none of which mentions GST, deemed trusts in favour of the Crown do not operate under the *CCAA*. Accordingly, under the *CCAA* the Crown ranks as an unsecured creditor in respect of GST. Nonetheless, at the time LeRoy Trucking commenced *CCAA* proceedings the leading line of jurisprudence held that the *ETA* took precedence over the *CCAA* such that the Crown enjoyed priority for GST claims under the *CCAA*, even though it would have lost that same priority under the *BIA*. The *CCAA* underwent substantial amendments in 2005 in which some of the provisions at issue in this appeal were renumbered and reformulated (S.C. 2005, c. 47). However, these amendments only came into force on September 18, 2009. I will refer to the amended provisions only where relevant.
- 4 On April 29, 2008, Brenner C.J.S.C., in the context of the *CCAA* proceedings, approved a payment not exceeding \$5 million, the proceeds of redundant asset sales, to Century Services, the debtor's major secured creditor. LeRoy Trucking proposed to hold back an amount equal to the GST monies collected but unremitted to the Crown and place it in the Monitor's trust account until the outcome of the reorganization was known. In order to maintain the *status quo* while the success of the reorganization was uncertain, Brenner C.J.S.C. agreed to the proposal and ordered that an amount of \$305,202.30 be held by the Monitor in its trust account.

- On September 3, 2008, having concluded that reorganization was not possible, LeRoy Trucking sought leave to make an assignment in bankruptcy under the *BIA*. The Crown sought an order that the GST monies held by the Monitor be paid to the Receiver General of Canada. Brenner C.J.S.C. dismissed the latter application. Reasoning that the purpose of segregating the funds with the Monitor was "to facilitate an ultimate payment of the GST monies which were owed pre-filing, but only if a viable plan emerged", the failure of such a reorganization, followed by an assignment in bankruptcy, meant the Crown would lose priority under the *BIA* (2008 BCSC 1805, [2008] G.S.T.C. 221 (B.C. S.C. [In Chambers])).
- The Crown's appeal was allowed by the British Columbia Court of Appeal (2009 BCCA 205, [2009] G.S.T.C. 79, 270 B.C.A.C. 167 (B.C. C.A.)). Tysoe J.A. for a unanimous court found two independent bases for allowing the Crown's appeal.
- First, the court's authority under s. 11 of the *CCAA* was held not to extend to staying the Crown's application for immediate payment of the GST funds subject to the deemed trust after it was clear that reorganization efforts had failed and that bankruptcy was inevitable. As restructuring was no longer a possibility, staying the Crown's claim to the GST funds no longer served a purpose under the *CCAA* and the court was bound under the priority scheme provided by the *ETA* to allow payment to the Crown. In so holding, Tysoe J.A. adopted the reasoning in *Ottawa Senators Hockey Club Corp. (Re)*, [2005] G.S.T.C. 1, 73 O.R. (3d) 737 (Ont. C.A.), which found that the *ETA* deemed trust for GST established Crown priority over secured creditors under the *CCAA*.
- 8 Second, Tysoe J.A. concluded that by ordering the GST funds segregated in the Monitor's trust account on April 29, 2008, the judge had created an express trust in favour of the Crown from which the monies in question could not be diverted for any other purposes. The Court of Appeal therefore ordered that the money held by the Monitor in trust be paid to the Receiver General.

#### 2. Issues

- 9 This appeal raises three broad issues which are addressed in turn:
  - (1) Did s. 222(3) of the ETA displace s. 18.3(1) of the CCAA and give priority to the Crown's ETA deemed trust during CCAA proceedings as held in Ottawa Senators?
  - (2) Did the court exceed its CCAA authority by lifting the stay to allow the debtor to make an assignment in bankruptcy?
  - (3) Did the court's order of April 29, 2008 requiring segregation of the Crown's GST claim in the Monitor's trust account create an express trust in favour of the Crown in respect of those funds?

#### 3. Analysis

- 10 The first issue concerns Crown priorities in the context of insolvency. As will be seen, the *ETA* provides for a deemed trust in favour of the Crown in respect of GST owed by a debtor "[d]espite ... any other enactment of Canada (except the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*)" (s. 222(3)), while the *CCAA* stated at the relevant time that "notwithstanding any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be [so] regarded" (s. 18.3(1)). It is difficult to imagine two statutory provisions more apparently in conflict. However, as is often the case, the apparent conflict can be resolved through interpretation.
- In order to properly interpret the provisions, it is necessary to examine the history of the *CCAA*, its function amidst the body of insolvency legislation enacted by Parliament, and the principles that have been recognized in the jurisprudence. It will be seen that Crown priorities in the insolvency context have been significantly pared down. The resolution of the second issue is also rooted in the context of the *CCAA*, but its purpose and the manner in which it has been interpreted in the case law are also key. After examining the first two issues in this case, I will address Tysoe J.A.'s conclusion that an express trust in favour of the Crown was created by the court's order of April 29, 2008.

# 3.1 Purpose and Scope of Insolvency Law

- Insolvency is the factual situation that arises when a debtor is unable to pay creditors (see generally, R. J. Wood, *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law* (2009), at p. 16). Certain legal proceedings become available upon insolvency, which typically allow a debtor to obtain a court order staying its creditors' enforcement actions and attempt to obtain a binding compromise with creditors to adjust the payment conditions to something more realistic. Alternatively, the debtor's assets may be liquidated and debts paid from the proceeds according to statutory priority rules. The former is usually referred to as reorganization or restructuring while the latter is termed liquidation.
- Canadian commercial insolvency law is not codified in one exhaustive statute. Instead, Parliament has enacted multiple insolvency statutes, the main one being the *BIA*. The *BIA* offers a self-contained legal regime providing for both reorganization and liquidation. Although bankruptcy legislation has a long history, the *BIA* itself is a fairly recent statute it was enacted in 1992. It is characterized by a rules-based approach to proceedings. The *BIA* is available to insolvent debtors owing \$1000 or more, regardless of whether they are natural or legal persons. It contains mechanisms for debtors to make proposals to their creditors for the adjustment of debts. If a proposal fails, the *BIA* contains a bridge to bankruptcy whereby the debtor's assets are liquidated and the proceeds paid to creditors in accordance with the statutory scheme of distribution.
- Access to the *CCAA* is more restrictive. A debtor must be a company with liabilities in excess of \$5 million. Unlike the *BIA*, the *CCAA* contains no provisions for liquidation of a debtor's assets if reorganization fails. There are three ways of exiting *CCAA* proceedings. The best outcome is achieved when the stay of proceedings provides the debtor with some breathing space during which solvency is restored and the *CCAA* process terminates without reorganization being needed. The second most desirable outcome occurs when the debtor's compromise or arrangement is accepted by its creditors and the reorganized company emerges from the *CCAA* proceedings as a going concern. Lastly, if the compromise or arrangement fails, either the company or its creditors usually seek to have the debtor's assets liquidated under the applicable provisions of the *BIA* or to place the debtor into receivership. As discussed in greater detail below, the key difference between the reorganization regimes under the *BIA* and the *CCAA* is that the latter offers a more flexible mechanism with greater judicial discretion, making it more responsive to complex reorganizations.
- As I will discuss at greater length below, the purpose of the *CCAA* Canada's first reorganization statute is to permit the debtor to continue to carry on business and, where possible, avoid the social and economic costs of liquidating its assets. Proposals to creditors under the *BIA* serve the same remedial purpose, though this is achieved through a rules-based mechanism that offers less flexibility. Where reorganization is impossible, the *BIA* may be employed to provide an orderly mechanism for the distribution of a debtor's assets to satisfy creditor claims according to predetermined priority rules.
- Prior to the enactment of the CCAA in 1933 (S.C. 1932-33, c. 36), practice under existing commercial insolvency legislation tended heavily towards the liquidation of a debtor company (J. Sarra, Creditor Rights and the Public Interest: Restructuring Insolvent Corporations (2003), at p. 12). The battering visited upon Canadian businesses by the Great Depression and the absence of an effective mechanism for reaching a compromise between debtors and creditors to avoid liquidation required a legislative response. The CCAA was innovative as it allowed the insolvent debtor to attempt reorganization under judicial supervision outside the existing insolvency legislation which, once engaged, almost invariably resulted in liquidation (Reference re Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (Canada), [1934] S.C.R. 659 (S.C.C.), at pp. 660-61; Sarra, Creditor Rights, at pp. 12-13).
- Parliament understood when adopting the *CCAA* that liquidation of an insolvent company was harmful for most of those it affected notably creditors and employees and that a workout which allowed the company to survive was optimal (Sarra, *Creditor Rights*, at pp. 13-15).
- Early commentary and jurisprudence also endorsed the *CCAA's* remedial objectives. It recognized that companies retain more value as going concerns while underscoring that intangible losses, such as the evaporation of the companies' goodwill, result from liquidation (S. E. Edwards, "Reorganizations Under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act" (1947), 25 *Can. Bar Rev.* 587, at p. 592). Reorganization serves the public interest by facilitating the survival of companies supplying goods or services crucial to the health of the economy or saving large numbers of jobs (*ibid.*, at p. 593). Insolvency could be so widely

felt as to impact stakeholders other than creditors and employees. Variants of these views resonate today, with reorganization justified in terms of rehabilitating companies that are key elements in a complex web of interdependent economic relationships in order to avoid the negative consequences of liquidation.

- The CCAA fell into disuse during the next several decades, likely because amendments to the Act in 1953 restricted its use to companies issuing bonds (S.C. 1952-53, c. 3). During the economic downturn of the early 1980s, insolvency lawyers and courts adapting to the resulting wave of insolvencies resurrected the statute and deployed it in response to new economic challenges. Participants in insolvency proceedings grew to recognize and appreciate the statute's distinguishing feature: a grant of broad and flexible authority to the supervising court to make the orders necessary to facilitate the reorganization of the debtor and achieve the CCAA's objectives. The manner in which courts have used CCAA jurisdiction in increasingly creative and flexible ways is explored in greater detail below.
- Efforts to evolve insolvency law were not restricted to the courts during this period. In 1970, a government-commissioned panel produced an extensive study recommending sweeping reform but Parliament failed to act (see *Bankruptcy and Insolvency: Report of the Study Committee on Bankruptcy and Insolvency Legislation* (1970)). Another panel of experts produced more limited recommendations in 1986 which eventually resulted in enactment of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* of 1992 (S.C. 1992, c. 27) (see *Proposed Bankruptcy Act Amendments: Report of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy and Insolvency* (1986)). Broader provisions for reorganizing insolvent debtors were then included in Canada's bankruptcy statute. Although the 1970 and 1986 reports made no specific recommendations with respect to the *CCAA*, the House of Commons committee studying the *BIA*'s predecessor bill, C-22, seemed to accept expert testimony that the *BIA*'s new reorganization scheme would shortly supplant the *CCAA*, which could then be repealed, with commercial insolvency and bankruptcy being governed by a single statute (*Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Standing Committee on Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Government Operations*, Issue No. 15, October 3, 1991, at pp. 15:15-15:16).
- In retrospect, this conclusion by the House of Commons committee was out of step with reality. It overlooked the renewed vitality the *CCAA* enjoyed in contemporary practice and the advantage that a flexible judicially supervised reorganization process presented in the face of increasingly complex reorganizations, when compared to the stricter rules-based scheme contained in the *BIA*. The "flexibility of the *CCAA* [was seen as] a great benefit, allowing for creative and effective decisions" (Industry Canada, Marketplace Framework Policy Branch, *Report on the Operation and Administration of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* (2002), at p. 41). Over the past three decades, resurrection of the *CCAA* has thus been the mainspring of a process through which, one author concludes, "the legal setting for Canadian insolvency restructuring has evolved from a rather blunt instrument to one of the most sophisticated systems in the developed world" (R. B. Jones, "The Evolution of Canadian Restructuring: Challenges for the Rule of Law", in J. P. Sarra, ed., *Annual Review of Insolvency Law 2005* (2006), 481, at p. 481).
- While insolvency proceedings may be governed by different statutory schemes, they share some commonalities. The most prominent of these is the single proceeding model. The nature and purpose of the single proceeding model are described by Professor Wood in *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law*:

They all provide a collective proceeding that supersedes the usual civil process available to creditors to enforce their claims. The creditors' remedies are collectivized in order to prevent the free-for-all that would otherwise prevail if creditors were permitted to exercise their remedies. In the absence of a collective process, each creditor is armed with the knowledge that if they do not strike hard and swift to seize the debtor's assets, they will be beat out by other creditors. [pp. 2-3]

The single proceeding model avoids the inefficiency and chaos that would attend insolvency if each creditor initiated proceedings to recover its debt. Grouping all possible actions against the debtor into a single proceeding controlled in a single forum facilitates negotiation with creditors because it places them all on an equal footing, rather than exposing them to the risk that a more aggressive creditor will realize its claims against the debtor's limited assets while the other creditors attempt a compromise. With a view to achieving that purpose, both the *CCAA* and the *BIA* allow a court to order all actions against a debtor to be stayed while a compromise is sought.

- Another point of convergence of the *CCAA* and the *BIA* relates to priorities. Because the *CCAA* is silent about what happens if reorganization fails, the *BIA* scheme of liquidation and distribution necessarily supplies the backdrop for what will happen if a *CCAA* reorganization is ultimately unsuccessful. In addition, one of the important features of legislative reform of both statutes since the enactment of the *BIA* in 1992 has been a cutback in Crown priorities (S.C. 1992, c. 27, s. 39; S.C. 1997, c. 12, ss. 73 and 125; S.C. 2000, c. 30, s. 148; S.C. 2005, c. 47, ss. 69 and 131; S.C. 2009, c. 33, ss. 25 and 29; see also *Alternative granite & marbre inc.*, *Re*, 2009 SCC 49, [2009] 3 S.C.R. 286, [2009] G.S.T.C. 154 (S.C.C.); *Quebec (Deputy Minister of Revenue) c. Rainville* (1979), [1980] 1 S.C.R. 35 (S.C.C.); *Proposed Bankruptcy Act Amendments: Report of the Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy and Insolvency* (1986)).
- With parallel *CCAA* and *BIA* restructuring schemes now an accepted feature of the insolvency law landscape, the contemporary thrust of legislative reform has been towards harmonizing aspects of insolvency law common to the two statutory schemes to the extent possible and encouraging reorganization over liquidation (see *An Act to establish the Wage Earner Protection Program Act, to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts, S.C. 2005, c. 47; Gauntlet Energy Corp., Re, 2003 ABQB 894, [2003] G.S.T.C. 193, 30 Alta. L.R. (4th) 192 (Alta. Q.B.), at para. 19).*
- 25 Mindful of the historical background of the CCAA and BIA, I now turn to the first question at issue.

#### 3.2 GST Deemed Trust Under the CCAA

- The Court of Appeal proceeded on the basis that the *ETA* precluded the court from staying the Crown's enforcement of the GST deemed trust when partially lifting the stay to allow the debtor to enter bankruptcy. In so doing, it adopted the reasoning in a line of cases culminating in *Ottawa Senators*, which held that an *ETA* deemed trust remains enforceable during *CCAA* reorganization despite language in the *CCAA* that suggests otherwise.
- The Crown relies heavily on the decision of the Ontario Court of Appeal in *Ottawa Senators* and argues that the later in time provision of the *ETA* creating the GST deemed trust trumps the provision of the *CCAA* purporting to nullify most statutory deemed trusts. The Court of Appeal in this case accepted this reasoning but not all provincial courts follow it (see, e.g., *Komunik Corp., Re,* 2009 QCCS 6332 (C.S. Que.), leave to appeal granted, 2010 QCCA 183 (C.A. Que.)). Century Services relied, in its written submissions to this Court, on the argument that the court had authority under the *CCAA* to continue the stay against the Crown's claim for unremitted GST. In oral argument, the question of whether *Ottawa Senators* was correctly decided nonetheless arose. After the hearing, the parties were asked to make further written submissions on this point. As appears evident from the reasons of my colleague Abella J., this issue has become prominent before this Court. In those circumstances, this Court needs to determine the correctness of the reasoning in *Ottawa Senators*.
- The policy backdrop to this question involves the Crown's priority as a creditor in insolvency situations which, as I mentioned above, has evolved considerably. Prior to the 1990s, Crown claims largely enjoyed priority in insolvency. This was widely seen as unsatisfactory as shown by both the 1970 and 1986 insolvency reform proposals, which recommended that Crown claims receive no preferential treatment. A closely related matter was whether the *CCAA* was binding at all upon the Crown. Amendments to the *CCAA* in 1997 confirmed that it did indeed bind the Crown (see *CCAA*, s. 21, as am. by S.C. 1997, c. 12, s. 126).
- Claims of priority by the state in insolvency situations receive different treatment across jurisdictions worldwide. For example, in Germany and Australia, the state is given no priority at all, while the state enjoys wide priority in the United States and France (see B. K. Morgan, "Should the Sovereign be Paid First? A Comparative International Analysis of the Priority for Tax Claims in Bankruptcy" (2000), 74 *Am. Bank. L.J.* 461, at p. 500). Canada adopted a middle course through legislative reform of Crown priority initiated in 1992. The Crown retained priority for source deductions of income tax, Employment Insurance ("EI") and Canada Pension Plan ("CPP") premiums, but ranks as an ordinary unsecured creditor for most other claims.

- Parliament has frequently enacted statutory mechanisms to secure Crown claims and permit their enforcement. The two most common are statutory deemed trusts and powers to garnish funds third parties owe the debtor (see F. L. Lamer, *Priority of Crown Claims in Insolvency* (loose-leaf), at § 2).
- With respect to GST collected, Parliament has enacted a deemed trust. The *ETA* states that every person who collects an amount on account of GST is deemed to hold that amount in trust for the Crown (s. 222(1)). The deemed trust extends to other property of the person collecting the tax equal in value to the amount deemed to be in trust if that amount has not been remitted in accordance with the *ETA*. The deemed trust also extends to property held by a secured creditor that, but for the security interest, would be property of the person collecting the tax (s. 222(3)).
- Parliament has created similar deemed trusts using almost identical language in respect of source deductions of income tax, EI premiums and CPP premiums (see s. 227(4) of the *Income Tax Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.) ("*ITA*"), ss. 86(2) and (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act*, S.C. 1996, c. 23, and ss. 23(3) and (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-8). I will refer to income tax, EI and CPP deductions as "source deductions".
- In *Royal Bank v. Sparrow Electric Corp.*, [1997] 1 S.C.R. 411 (S.C.C.), this Court addressed a priority dispute between a deemed trust for source deductions under the *ITA* and security interests taken under both the *Bank Act*, S.C. 1991, c. 46, and the Alberta *Personal Property Security Act*, S.A. 1988, c. P-4.05 ("*PPSA*"). As then worded, an *ITA* deemed trust over the debtor's property equivalent to the amount owing in respect of income tax became effective at the time of liquidation, receivership, or assignment in bankruptcy. *Sparrow Electric* held that the *ITA* deemed trust could not prevail over the security interests because, being fixed charges, the latter attached as soon as the debtor acquired rights in the property such that the *ITA* deemed trust had no property on which to attach when it subsequently arose. Later, in *First Vancouver Finance v. Minister of National Revenue*, 2002 SCC 49, [2002] G.S.T.C. 23, [2002] 2 S.C.R. 720 (S.C.C.), this Court observed that Parliament had legislated to strengthen the statutory deemed trust in the *ITA* by deeming it to operate from the moment the deductions were not paid to the Crown as required by the *ITA*, and by granting the Crown priority over all security interests (paras. 27-29) (the "*Sparrow Electric* amendment").
- The amended text of s. 227(4.1) of the *ITA* and concordant source deductions deemed trusts in the *Canada Pension Plan* and the *Employment Insurance Act* state that the deemed trust operates notwithstanding any other enactment of Canada, except ss. 81.1 and 81.2 of the *BIA*. The *ETA* deemed trust at issue in this case is similarly worded, but it excepts the *BIA* in its entirety. The provision reads as follows:
  - **222.** (3) Despite any other provision of this Act (except subsection (4)), any other enactment of Canada (except the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*), any enactment of a province or any other law, if at any time an amount deemed by subsection (1) to be held by a person in trust for Her Majesty is not remitted to the Receiver General or withdrawn in the manner and at the time provided under this Part, property of the person and property held by any secured creditor of the person that, but for a security interest, would be property of the person, equal in value to the amount so deemed to be held in trust, is deemed ....
- 35 The Crown submits that the *Sparrow Electric* amendment, added by Parliament to the *ETA* in 2000, was intended to preserve the Crown's priority over collected GST under the *CCAA* while subordinating the Crown to the status of an unsecured creditor in respect of GST only under the *BIA*. This is because the *ETA* provides that the GST deemed trust is effective "despite" any other enactment except the *BIA*.
- The language used in the *ETA* for the GST deemed trust creates an apparent conflict with the *CCAA*, which provides that subject to certain exceptions, property deemed by statute to be held in trust for the Crown shall not be so regarded.
- 37 Through a 1997 amendment to the *CCAA* (S.C. 1997, c. 12, s. 125), Parliament appears to have, subject to specific exceptions, nullified deemed trusts in favour of the Crown once reorganization proceedings are commenced under the Act. The relevant provision reads:

**18.3** (1) Subject to subsection (2), notwithstanding any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.

This nullification of deemed trusts was continued in further amendments to the *CCAA* (S.C. 2005, c. 47), where s. 18.3(1) was renumbered and reformulated as s. 37(1):

- **37.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), despite any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as being held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.
- An analogous provision exists in the *BIA*, which, subject to the same specific exceptions, nullifies statutory deemed trusts and makes property of the bankrupt that would otherwise be subject to a deemed trust part of the debtor's estate and available to creditors (S.C. 1992, c. 27, s. 39; S.C. 1997, c. 12, s. 73; *BIA*, s. 67(2)). It is noteworthy that in both the *CCAA* and the *BIA*, the exceptions concern source deductions (*CCAA*, s. 18.3(2); *BIA*, s. 67(3)). The relevant provision of the *CCAA* reads:
  - **18.3** (2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan* or subsection 86(2) or (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act*....

Thus, the Crown's deemed trust and corresponding priority in source deductions remain effective both in reorganization and in bankruptcy.

- Meanwhile, in both s. 18.4(1) of the *CCAA* and s. 86(1) of the *BIA*, other Crown claims are treated as unsecured. These provisions, establishing the Crown's status as an unsecured creditor, explicitly exempt statutory deemed trusts in source deductions (*CCAA*, s. 18.4(3); *BIA*, s. 86(3)). The *CCAA* provision reads as follows:
  - **18.4** (3) Subsection (1) [Crown ranking as unsecured creditor] does not affect the operation of
    - (a) subsections 224(1.2) and (1.3) of the *Income Tax Act*,
    - (b) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution ....

Therefore, not only does the *CCAA* provide that Crown claims do not enjoy priority over the claims of other creditors (s. 18.3(1)), but the exceptions to this rule (i.e., that Crown priority is maintained for source deductions) are repeatedly stated in the statute.

- The apparent conflict in this case is whether the rule in the *CCAA* first enacted as s. 18.3 in 1997, which provides that subject to certain explicit exceptions, statutory deemed trusts are ineffective under the *CCAA*, is overridden by the one in the *ETA* enacted in 2000 stating that GST deemed trusts operate despite any enactment of Canada except the *BIA*. With respect for my colleague Fish J., I do not think the apparent conflict can be resolved by denying it and creating a rule requiring both a statutory provision enacting the deemed trust, and a second statutory provision confirming it. Such a rule is unknown to the law. Courts must recognize conflicts, apparent or real, and resolve them when possible.
- A line of jurisprudence across Canada has resolved the apparent conflict in favour of the *ETA*, thereby maintaining GST deemed trusts under the *CCAA*. *Ottawa Senators*, the leading case, decided the matter by invoking the doctrine of implied repeal to hold that the later in time provision of the *ETA* should take precedence over the *CCAA* (see also *Solid Resources Ltd., Re* (2002), 40 C.B.R. (4th) 219, [2003] G.S.T.C. 21 (Alta. Q.B.); *Gauntlet*
- The Ontario Court of Appeal in *Ottawa Senators* rested its conclusion on two considerations. First, it was persuaded that by explicitly mentioning the *BIA* in *ETA* s. 222(3), but not the *CCAA*, Parliament made a deliberate choice. In the words of MacPherson J.A.:

The *BIA* and the *CCAA* are closely related federal statutes. I cannot conceive that Parliament would specifically identify the *BIA* as an exception, but accidentally fail to consider the *CCAA* as a possible second exception. In my view, the omission of the *CCAA* from s. 222(3) of the *ETA* was almost certainly a considered omission. [para. 43]

- Second, the Ontario Court of Appeal compared the conflict between the *ETA* and the *CCAA* to that before this Court in *Doré c. Verdun (Municipalité)*, [1997] 2 S.C.R. 862 (S.C.C.), and found them to be "identical" (para. 46). It therefore considered *Doré* binding (para. 49). In *Doré*, a limitations provision in the more general and recently enacted *Civil Code of Québec*, S.Q. 1991, c. 64 ("*C.C.Q.*"), was held to have repealed a more specific provision of the earlier Quebec *Cities and Towns Act*, R.S.Q., c. C-19, with which it conflicted. By analogy, the Ontario Court of Appeal held that the later in time and more general provision, s. 222(3) of the *ETA*, impliedly repealed the more specific and earlier in time provision, s. 18.3(1) of the *CCAA* (paras. 47-49).
- Viewing this issue in its entire context, several considerations lead me to conclude that neither the reasoning nor the result in *Ottawa Senators* can stand. While a conflict may exist at the level of the statutes' wording, a purposive and contextual analysis to determine Parliament's true intent yields the conclusion that Parliament could not have intended to restore the Crown's deemed trust priority in GST claims under the *CCAA* when it amended the *ETA* in 2000 with the *Sparrow Electric* amendment.
- I begin by recalling that Parliament has shown its willingness to move away from asserting priority for Crown claims in insolvency law. Section 18.3(1) of the *CCAA* (subject to the s. 18.3(2) exceptions) provides that the Crown's deemed trusts have no effect under the *CCAA*. Where Parliament has sought to protect certain Crown claims through statutory deemed trusts and intended that these deemed trusts continue in insolvency, it has legislated so explicitly and elaborately. For example, s. 18.3(2) of the *CCAA* and s. 67(3) of the *BIA* expressly provide that deemed trusts for source deductions remain effective in insolvency. Parliament has, therefore, clearly carved out exceptions from the general rule that deemed trusts are ineffective in insolvency. The *CCAA* and *BIA* are in harmony, preserving deemed trusts and asserting Crown priority only in respect of source deductions. Meanwhile, there is no express statutory basis for concluding that GST claims enjoy a preferred treatment under the *CCAA* or the *BIA*. Unlike source deductions, which are clearly and expressly dealt with under both these insolvency statutes, no such clear and express language exists in those Acts carving out an exception for GST claims.
- The internal logic of the *CCAA* also militates against upholding the *ETA* deemed trust for GST. The *CCAA* imposes limits on a suspension by the court of the Crown's rights in respect of source deductions but does not mention the *ETA* (s. 11.4). Since source deductions deemed trusts are granted explicit protection under the *CCAA*, it would be inconsistent to afford a better protection to the *ETA* deemed trust absent explicit language in the *CCAA*. Thus, the logic of the *CCAA* appears to subject the *ETA* deemed trust to the waiver by Parliament of its priority (s. 18.4).
- Moreover, a strange asymmetry would arise if the interpretation giving the *ETA* priority over the *CCAA* urged by the Crown is adopted here: the Crown would retain priority over GST claims during *CCAA* proceedings but not in bankruptcy. As courts have reflected, this can only encourage statute shopping by secured creditors in cases such as this one where the debtor's assets cannot satisfy both the secured creditors' and the Crown's claims (*Gauntlet*, at para. 21). If creditors' claims were better protected by liquidation under the *BIA*, creditors' incentives would lie overwhelmingly with avoiding proceedings under the *CCAA* and not risking a failed reorganization. Giving a key player in any insolvency such skewed incentives against reorganizing under the *CCAA* can only undermine that statute's remedial objectives and risk inviting the very social ills that it was enacted to avert.
- Arguably, the effect of *Ottawa Senators* is mitigated if restructuring is attempted under the *BIA* instead of the *CCAA*, but it is not cured. If *Ottawa Senators* were to be followed, Crown priority over GST would differ depending on whether restructuring took place under the *CCAA* or the *BIA*. The anomaly of this result is made manifest by the fact that it would deprive companies of the option to restructure under the more flexible and responsive *CCAA* regime, which has been the statute of choice for complex reorganizations.
- Evidence that Parliament intended different treatments for GST claims in reorganization and bankruptcy is scant, if it exists at all. Section 222(3) of the ETA was enacted as part of a wide-ranging budget implementation bill in 2000. The

summary accompanying that bill does not indicate that Parliament intended to elevate Crown priority over GST claims under the *CCAA* to the same or a higher level than source deductions claims. Indeed, the summary for deemed trusts states only that amendments to existing provisions are aimed at "ensuring that employment insurance premiums and Canada Pension Plan contributions that are required to be remitted by an employer are fully recoverable by the Crown in the case of the bankruptcy of the employer" (Summary to S.C. 2000, c. 30, at p. 4a). The wording of GST deemed trusts resembles that of statutory deemed trusts for source deductions and incorporates the same overriding language and reference to the *BIA*. However, as noted above, Parliament's express intent is that only source deductions deemed trusts remain operative. An exception for the *BIA* in the statutory language establishing the source deductions deemed trusts accomplishes very little, because the explicit language of the *BIA* itself (and the *CCAA*) carves out these source deductions deemed trusts and maintains their effect. It is however noteworthy that no equivalent language maintaining GST deemed trusts exists under either the *BIA* or the *CCAA*.

- It seems more likely that by adopting the same language for creating GST deemed trusts in the *ETA* as it did for deemed trusts for source deductions, and by overlooking the inclusion of an exception for the *CCAA* alongside the *BIA* in s. 222(3) of the *ETA*, Parliament may have inadvertently succumbed to a drafting anomaly. Because of a statutory lacuna in the *ETA*, the GST deemed trust could be seen as remaining effective in the *CCAA*, while ceasing to have any effect under the *BIA*, thus creating an apparent conflict with the wording of the *CCAA*. However, it should be seen for what it is: a facial conflict only, capable of resolution by looking at the broader approach taken to Crown priorities and by giving precedence to the statutory language of s. 18.3 of the *CCAA* in a manner that does not produce an anomalous outcome.
- Section 222(3) of the *ETA* evinces no explicit intention of Parliament to repeal *CCAA* s. 18.3. It merely creates an apparent conflict that must be resolved by statutory interpretation. Parliament's intent when it enacted *ETA* s. 222(3) was therefore far from unambiguous. Had it sought to give the Crown a priority for GST claims, it could have done so explicitly as it did for source deductions. Instead, one is left to infer from the language of *ETA* s. 222(3) that the GST deemed trust was intended to be effective under the *CCAA*.
- I am not persuaded that the reasoning in *Doré* requires the application of the doctrine of implied repeal in the circumstances of this case. The main issue in *Doré* concerned the impact of the adoption of the *C.C.Q.* on the administrative law rules with respect to municipalities. While Gonthier J. concluded in that case that the limitation provision in art. 2930 *C.C.Q.* had repealed by implication a limitation provision in the *Cities and Towns Act*, he did so on the basis of more than a textual analysis. The conclusion in *Doré* was reached after thorough contextual analysis of both pieces of legislation, including an extensive review of the relevant legislative history (paras. 31-41). Consequently, the circumstances before this Court in *Doré* are far from "identical" to those in the present case, in terms of text, context and legislative history. Accordingly, *Doré* cannot be said to require the automatic application of the rule of repeal by implication.
- A noteworthy indicator of Parliament's overall intent is the fact that in subsequent amendments it has not displaced the rule set out in the *CCAA*. Indeed, as indicated above, the recent amendments to the *CCAA* in 2005 resulted in the rule previously found in s. 18.3 being renumbered and reformulated as s. 37. Thus, to the extent the interpretation allowing the GST deemed trust to remain effective under the *CCAA* depends on *ETA* s. 222(3) having impliedly repealed *CCAA* s. 18.3(1) because it is later in time, we have come full circle. Parliament has renumbered and reformulated the provision of the *CCAA* stating that, subject to exceptions for source deductions, deemed trusts do not survive the *CCAA* proceedings and thus the *CCAA* is now the later in time statute. This confirms that Parliament's intent with respect to GST deemed trusts is to be found in the *CCAA*.
- Ido not agree with my colleague Abella J. that s. 44(*f*) of the *Interpretation Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. I-21, can be used to interpret the 2005 amendments as having no effect. The new statute can hardly be said to be a mere re-enactment of the former statute. Indeed, the *CCAA* underwent a substantial review in 2005. Notably, acting consistently with its goal of treating both the *BIA* and the *CCAA* as sharing the same approach to insolvency, Parliament made parallel amendments to both statutes with respect to corporate proposals. In addition, new provisions were introduced regarding the treatment of contracts, collective agreements, interim financing and governance agreements. The appointment and role of the Monitor was also clarified. Noteworthy are the limits imposed by *CCAA* s. 11.09 on the court's discretion to make an order staying the Crown's source deductions deemed trusts, which were formerly found in s. 11.4. No mention whatsoever is made of GST deemed trusts (see Summary to S.C. 2005, c. 47). The review went as far as looking at the very expression used to describe the statutory override of deemed trusts.

The comments cited by my colleague only emphasize the clear intent of Parliament to maintain its policy that only source deductions deemed trusts survive in *CCAA* proceedings.

- In the case at bar, the legislative context informs the determination of Parliament's legislative intent and supports the conclusion that *ETA* s. 222(3) was not intended to narrow the scope of the *CCAA's* override provision. Viewed in its entire context, the conflict between the *ETA* and the *CCAA* is more apparent than real. I would therefore not follow the reasoning in *Ottawa Senators* and affirm that *CCAA* s. 18.3 remained effective.
- My conclusion is reinforced by the purpose of the *CCAA* as part of Canadian remedial insolvency legislation. As this aspect is particularly relevant to the second issue, I will now discuss how courts have interpreted the scope of their discretionary powers in supervising a *CCAA* reorganization and how Parliament has largely endorsed this interpretation. Indeed, the interpretation courts have given to the *CCAA* helps in understanding how the *CCAA* grew to occupy such a prominent role in Canadian insolvency law.

## 3.3 Discretionary Power of a Court Supervising a CCAA Reorganization

- Courts frequently observe that "[t]he *CCAA* is skeletal in nature" and does not "contain a comprehensive code that lays out all that is permitted or barred" (*ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp.*, 2008 ONCA 587, 92 O.R. (3d) 513 (Ont. C.A.), at para. 44, *per* Blair J.A.). Accordingly, "[t]he history of CCAA law has been an evolution of judicial interpretation" (*Dylex Ltd., Re* (1995), 31 C.B.R. (3d) 106 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List])), at para. 10, *per* Farley J.).
- CCAA decisions are often based on discretionary grants of jurisdiction. The incremental exercise of judicial discretion in commercial courts under conditions one practitioner aptly describes as "the hothouse of real-time litigation" has been the primary method by which the CCAA has been adapted and has evolved to meet contemporary business and social needs (see Jones, at p. 484).
- Judicial discretion must of course be exercised in furtherance of the *CCAA's* purposes. The remedial purpose I referred to in the historical overview of the Act is recognized over and over again in the jurisprudence. To cite one early example:

The legislation is remedial in the purest sense in that it provides a means whereby the devastating social and economic effects of bankruptcy or creditor initiated termination of ongoing business operations can be avoided while a court-supervised attempt to reorganize the financial affairs of the debtor company is made.

(Nova Metal Products Inc. v. Comiskey (Trustee of) (1990), 41 O.A.C. 282 (Ont. C.A.), at para. 57, per Doherty J.A., dissenting)

60 Judicial decision making under the CCAA takes many forms. A court must first of all provide the conditions under which the debtor can attempt to reorganize. This can be achieved by staying enforcement actions by creditors to allow the debtor's business to continue, preserving the status quo while the debtor plans the compromise or arrangement to be presented to creditors, and supervising the process and advancing it to the point where it can be determined whether it will succeed (see, e.g., Hongkong Bank of Canada v. Chef Ready Foods Ltd. (1990), 51 B.C.L.R. (2d) 84 (B.C. C.A.), at pp. 88-89; Pacific National Lease Holding Corp., Re (1992), 19 B.C.A.C. 134 (B.C. C.A. [In Chambers]), at para. 27). In doing so, the court must often be cognizant of the various interests at stake in the reorganization, which can extend beyond those of the debtor and creditors to include employees, directors, shareholders, and even other parties doing business with the insolvent company (see, e.g., Canadian Airlines Corp., Re, 2000 ABQB 442, 84 Alta. L.R. (3d) 9 (Alta. Q.B.), at para. 144, per Paperny J. (as she then was); Air Canada, Re (2003), 42 C.B.R. (4th) 173 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), at para. 3; Air Canada, Re [2003 CarswellOnt 4967 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])], 2003 CanLII 49366, at para. 13, per Farley J.; Sarra, Creditor Rights, at pp. 181-92 and 217-26). In addition, courts must recognize that on occasion the broader public interest will be engaged by aspects of the reorganization and may be a factor against which the decision of whether to allow a particular action will be weighed (see, e.g., Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadienne de la Croix Rouge, Re (2000), 19 C.B.R. (4th) 158 (Ont. S.C.J.), at para. 2, per Blair J. (as he then was); Sarra, Creditor Rights, at pp. 195-214).

- When large companies encounter difficulty, reorganizations become increasingly complex. *CCAA* courts have been called upon to innovate accordingly in exercising their jurisdiction beyond merely staying proceedings against the debtor to allow breathing room for reorganization. They have been asked to sanction measures for which there is no explicit authority in the *CCAA*. Without exhaustively cataloguing the various measures taken under the authority of the *CCAA*, it is useful to refer briefly to a few examples to illustrate the flexibility the statute affords supervising courts.
- Perhaps the most creative use of *CCAA* authority has been the increasing willingness of courts to authorize post-filing security for debtor in possession financing or super-priority charges on the debtor's assets when necessary for the continuation of the debtor's business during the reorganization (see, e.g., *Skydome Corp.*, *Re* (1998), 16 C.B.R. (4th) 118 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]); *United Used Auto & Truck Parts Ltd.*, *Re*, 2000 BCCA 146, 135 B.C.A.C. 96 (B.C. C.A.), aff'g (1999), 12 C.B.R. (4th) 144 (B.C. S.C. [In Chambers]); and generally, J. P. Sarra, *Rescue! The Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* (2007), at pp. 93-115). The *CCAA* has also been used to release claims against third parties as part of approving a comprehensive plan of arrangement and compromise, even over the objections of some dissenting creditors (see Metcalfe & Mansfield). As well, the appointment of a Monitor to oversee the reorganization was originally a measure taken pursuant to the *CCAA's* supervisory authority; Parliament responded, making the mechanism mandatory by legislative amendment.
- Judicial innovation during *CCAA* proceedings has not been without controversy. At least two questions it raises are directly relevant to the case at bar: (1) what are the sources of a court's authority during *CCAA* proceedings? (2) what are the limits of this authority?
- The first question concerns the boundary between a court's statutory authority under the *CCAA* and a court's residual authority under its inherent and equitable jurisdiction when supervising a reorganization. In authorizing measures during *CCAA* proceedings, courts have on occasion purported to rely upon their equitable jurisdiction to advance the purposes of the Act or their inherent jurisdiction to fill gaps in the statute. Recent appellate decisions have counselled against purporting to rely on inherent jurisdiction, holding that the better view is that courts are in most cases simply construing the authority supplied by the *CCAA* itself (see, e.g., *Skeena Cellulose Inc.*, *Re*, 2003 BCCA 344, 13 B.C.L.R. (4th) 236 (B.C. C.A.), at paras. 45-47, *per* Newbury J.A.; *Stelco Inc.* (*Re*) (2005), 75 O.R. (3d) 5 (Ont. C.A.), paras. 31-33, *per* Blair J.A.).
- I agree with Justice Georgina R. Jackson and Professor Janis Sarra that the most appropriate approach is a hierarchical one in which courts rely first on an interpretation of the provisions of the *CCAA* text before turning to inherent or equitable jurisdiction to anchor measures taken in a *CCAA* proceeding (see G. R. Jackson and J. Sarra, "Selecting the Judicial Tool to get the Job Done: An Examination of Statutory Interpretation, Discretionary Power and Inherent Jurisdiction in Insolvency Matters", in J. P. Sarra, ed., *Annual Review of Insolvency Law 2007* (2008), 41, at p. 42). The authors conclude that when given an appropriately purposive and liberal interpretation, the *CCAA* will be sufficient in most instances to ground measures necessary to achieve its objectives (p. 94).
- Having examined the pertinent parts of the *CCAA* and the recent history of the legislation, I accept that in most instances the issuance of an order during *CCAA* proceedings should be considered an exercise in statutory interpretation. Particularly noteworthy in this regard is the expansive interpretation the language of the statute at issue is capable of supporting.
- The initial grant of authority under the *CCAA* empowered a court "where an application is made under this Act in respect of a company ... on the application of any person interested in the matter ..., subject to this Act, [to] make an order under this section" (*CCAA*, s. 11(1)). The plain language of the statute was very broad.
- In this regard, though not strictly applicable to the case at bar, I note that Parliament has in recent amendments changed the wording contained in s. 11(1), making explicit the discretionary authority of the court under the *CCAA*. Thus in s. 11 of the *CCAA* as currently enacted, a court may, "subject to the restrictions set out in this Act, ... make any order that it considers appropriate in the circumstances" (S.C. 2005, c. 47, s. 128). Parliament appears to have endorsed the broad reading of *CCAA* authority developed by the jurisprudence.

- The *CCAA* also explicitly provides for certain orders. Both an order made on an initial application and an order on subsequent applications may stay, restrain, or prohibit existing or new proceedings against the debtor. The burden is on the applicant to satisfy the court that the order is appropriate in the circumstances and that the applicant has been acting in good faith and with due diligence (*CCAA*, ss. 11(3), (4) and (6)).
- The general language of the *CCAA* should not be read as being restricted by the availability of more specific orders. However, the requirements of appropriateness, good faith, and due diligence are baseline considerations that a court should always bear in mind when exercising *CCAA* authority. Appropriateness under the *CCAA* is assessed by inquiring whether the order sought advances the policy objectives underlying the *CCAA*. The question is whether the order will usefully further efforts to achieve the remedial purpose of the *CCAA* avoiding the social and economic losses resulting from liquidation of an insolvent company. I would add that appropriateness extends not only to the purpose of the order, but also to the means it employs. Courts should be mindful that chances for successful reorganizations are enhanced where participants achieve common ground and all stakeholders are treated as advantageously and fairly as the circumstances permit.
- It is well-established that efforts to reorganize under the *CCAA* can be terminated and the stay of proceedings against the debtor lifted if the reorganization is "doomed to failure" (see *Chef Ready*, at p. 88; *Philip's Manufacturing Ltd.*, *Re* (1992), 9 C.B.R. (3d) 25 (B.C. C.A.), at paras. 6-7). However, when an order is sought that does realistically advance the *CCAA's* purposes, the ability to make it is within the discretion of a *CCAA* court.
- The preceding discussion assists in determining whether the court had authority under the *CCAA* to continue the stay of proceedings against the Crown once it was apparent that reorganization would fail and bankruptcy was the inevitable next step.
- In the Court of Appeal, Tysoe J.A. held that no authority existed under the *CCAA* to continue staying the Crown's enforcement of the GST deemed trust once efforts at reorganization had come to an end. The appellant submits that in so holding, Tysoe J.A. failed to consider the underlying purpose of the *CCAA* and give the statute an appropriately purposive and liberal interpretation under which the order was permissible. The Crown submits that Tysoe J.A. correctly held that the mandatory language of the *ETA* gave the court no option but to permit enforcement of the GST deemed trust when lifting the *CCAA* stay to permit the debtor to make an assignment under the *BIA*. Whether the *ETA* has a mandatory effect in the context of a *CCAA* proceeding has already been discussed. I will now address the question of whether the order was authorized by the *CCAA*.
- 74 It is beyond dispute that the *CCAA* imposes no explicit temporal limitations upon proceedings commenced under the Act that would prohibit ordering a continuation of the stay of the Crown's GST claims while lifting the general stay of proceedings temporarily to allow the debtor to make an assignment in bankruptcy.
- The question remains whether the order advanced the underlying purpose of the *CCAA*. The Court of Appeal held that it did not because the reorganization efforts had come to an end and the *CCAA* was accordingly spent. I disagree.
- There is no doubt that had reorganization been commenced under the *BIA* instead of the *CCAA*, the Crown's deemed trust priority for the GST funds would have been lost. Similarly, the Crown does not dispute that under the scheme of distribution in bankruptcy under the *BIA*, the deemed trust for GST ceases to have effect. Thus, after reorganization under the *CCAA* failed, creditors would have had a strong incentive to seek immediate bankruptcy and distribution of the debtor's assets under the *BIA*. In order to conclude that the discretion does not extend to partially lifting the stay in order to allow for an assignment in bankruptcy, one would have to assume a gap between the *CCAA* and the *BIA* proceedings. Brenner C.J.S.C.'s order staying Crown enforcement of the GST claim ensured that creditors would not be disadvantaged by the attempted reorganization under the *CCAA*. The effect of his order was to blunt any impulse of creditors to interfere in an orderly liquidation. His order was thus in furtherance of the *CCAA* is objectives to the extent that it allowed a bridge between the *CCAA* and *BIA* proceedings. This interpretation of the tribunal's discretionary power is buttressed by s. 20 of the *CCAA*. That section provides that the *CCAA* "may be applied together with the provisions of any Act of Parliament... that authorizes or makes provision for the sanction of compromises or arrangements between a company and its shareholders or any class of them", such as the *BIA*. Section 20 clearly indicates the intention of Parliament for the *CCAA* to operate *in tandem* with other insolvency legislation, such as the *BIA*.

- The CCAA creates conditions for preserving the status quo while attempts are made to find common ground amongst stakeholders for a reorganization that is fair to all. Because the alternative to reorganization is often bankruptcy, participants will measure the impact of a reorganization against the position they would enjoy in liquidation. In the case at bar, the order fostered a harmonious transition between reorganization and liquidation while meeting the objective of a single collective proceeding that is common to both statutes.
- Tysoe J.A. therefore erred in my view by treating the *CCAA* and the *BIA* as distinct regimes subject to a temporal gap between the two, rather than as forming part of an integrated body of insolvency law. Parliament's decision to maintain two statutory schemes for reorganization, the *BIA* and the *CCAA*, reflects the reality that reorganizations of differing complexity require different legal mechanisms. By contrast, only one statutory scheme has been found to be needed to liquidate a bankrupt debtor's estate. The transition from the *CCAA* to the *BIA* may require the partial lifting of a stay of proceedings under the *CCAA* to allow commencement of the *BIA* proceedings. However, as Laskin J.A. for the Ontario Court of Appeal noted in a similar competition between secured creditors and the Ontario Superintendent of Financial Services seeking to enforce a deemed trust, "[t]he two statutes are related" and no "gap" exists between the two statutes which would allow the enforcement of property interests at the conclusion of *CCAA* proceedings that would be lost in bankruptcy *Ivaco Inc.* (*Re*) (2006), 83 O.R. (3d) 108 (Ont. C.A.), at paras. 62-63).
- The Crown's priority in claims pursuant to source deductions deemed trusts does not undermine this conclusion. Source deductions deemed trusts survive under both the *CCAA* and the *BIA*. Accordingly, creditors' incentives to prefer one Act over another will not be affected. While a court has a broad discretion to stay source deductions deemed trusts in the *CCAA* context, this discretion is nevertheless subject to specific limitations applicable only to source deductions deemed trusts (*CCAA*, s. 11.4). Thus, if *CCAA* reorganization fails (e.g., either the creditors or the court refuse a proposed reorganization), the Crown can immediately assert its claim in unremitted source deductions. But this should not be understood to affect a seamless transition into bankruptcy or create any "gap" between the *CCAA* and the *BIA* for the simple reason that, regardless of what statute the reorganization had been commenced under, creditors' claims in both instances would have been subject to the priority of the Crown's source deductions deemed trust.
- Source deductions deemed trusts aside, the comprehensive and exhaustive mechanism under the *BIA* must control the distribution of the debtor's assets once liquidation is inevitable. Indeed, an orderly transition to liquidation is mandatory under the *BIA* where a proposal is rejected by creditors. The *CCAA* is silent on the transition into liquidation but the breadth of the court's discretion under the Act is sufficient to construct a bridge to liquidation under the *BIA*. The court must do so in a manner that does not subvert the scheme of distribution under the *BIA*. Transition to liquidation requires partially lifting the *CCAA* stay to commence proceedings under the *BIA*. This necessary partial lifting of the stay should not trigger a race to the courthouse in an effort to obtain priority unavailable under the *BIA*.
- 81 I therefore conclude that Brenner C.J.S.C. had the authority under the CCAA to lift the stay to allow entry into liquidation.

#### 3.4 Express Trust

- The last issue in this case is whether Brenner C.J.S.C. created an express trust in favour of the Crown when he ordered on April 29, 2008, that proceeds from the sale of LeRoy Trucking's assets equal to the amount of unremitted GST be held back in the Monitor's trust account until the results of the reorganization were known. Tysoe J.A. in the Court of Appeal concluded as an alternative ground for allowing the Crown's appeal that it was the beneficiary of an express trust. I disagree.
- Creation of an express trust requires the presence of three certainties: intention, subject matter, and object. Express or "true trusts" arise from the acts and intentions of the settlor and are distinguishable from other trusts arising by operation of law (see D. W. M. Waters, M. R. Gillen and L. D. Smith, eds., *Waters' Law of Trusts in Canada* (3rd ed. 2005), at pp. 28-29 especially fn. 42).
- Here, there is no certainty to the object (i.e. the beneficiary) inferrable from the court's order of April 29, 2008, sufficient to support an express trust.

- At the time of the order, there was a dispute between Century Services and the Crown over part of the proceeds from the sale of the debtor's assets. The court's solution was to accept LeRoy Trucking's proposal to segregate those monies until that dispute could be resolved. Thus there was no certainty that the Crown would actually be the beneficiary, or object, of the trust.
- The fact that the location chosen to segregate those monies was the Monitor's trust account has no independent effect such that it would overcome the lack of a clear beneficiary. In any event, under the interpretation of *CCAA* s. 18.3(1) established above, no such priority dispute would even arise because the Crown's deemed trust priority over GST claims would be lost under the *CCAA* and the Crown would rank as an unsecured creditor for this amount. However, Brenner C.J.S.C. may well have been proceeding on the basis that, in accordance with *Ottawa Senators*, the Crown's GST claim would remain effective if reorganization was successful, which would not be the case if transition to the liquidation process of the *BIA* was allowed. An amount equivalent to that claim would accordingly be set aside pending the outcome of reorganization.
- Thus, uncertainty surrounding the outcome of the *CCAA* restructuring eliminates the existence of any certainty to permanently vest in the Crown a beneficial interest in the funds. That much is clear from the oral reasons of Brenner C.J.S.C. on April 29, 2008, when he said: "Given the fact that [*CCAA* proceedings] are known to fail and filings in bankruptcy result, it seems to me that maintaining the status quo in the case at bar supports the proposal to have the monitor hold these funds in trust." Exactly who might take the money in the final result was therefore evidently in doubt. Brenner C.J.S.C.'s subsequent order of September 3, 2008, denying the Crown's application to enforce the trust once it was clear that bankruptcy was inevitable, confirms the absence of a clear beneficiary required to ground an express trust.

#### 4. Conclusion

- I conclude that Brenner C.J.S.C. had the discretion under the *CCAA* to continue the stay of the Crown's claim for enforcement of the GST deemed trust while otherwise lifting it to permit LeRoy Trucking to make an assignment in bankruptcy. My conclusion that s. 18.3(1) of the *CCAA* nullified the GST deemed trust while proceedings under that Act were pending confirms that the discretionary jurisdiction under s. 11 utilized by the court was not limited by the Crown's asserted GST priority, because there is no such priority under the *CCAA*.
- For these reasons, I would allow the appeal and declare that the \$305,202.30 collected by LeRoy Trucking in respect of GST but not yet remitted to the Receiver General of Canada is not subject to deemed trust or priority in favour of the Crown. Nor is this amount subject to an express trust. Costs are awarded for this appeal and the appeal in the court below.

### Fish J. (concurring):

Ι

- 90 I am in general agreement with the reasons of Justice Deschamps and would dispose of the appeal as she suggests.
- More particularly, I share my colleague's interpretation of the scope of the judge's discretion under s. 11 of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("*CCAA*"). And I share my colleague's conclusion that Brenner C.J.S.C. did not create an express trust in favour of the Crown when he segregated GST funds into the Monitor's trust account (2008 BCSC 1805, [2008] G.S.T.C. 221 (B.C. S.C. [In Chambers])).
- I nonetheless feel bound to add brief reasons of my own regarding the interaction between the *CCAA* and the *Excise Tax Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15 ("*ETA*").
- In upholding deemed trusts created by the *ETA* notwithstanding insolvency proceedings, *Ottawa Senators Hockey Club Corp.* (*Re*) (2005), 73 O.R. (3d) 737, [2005] G.S.T.C. 1 (Ont. C.A.), and its progeny have been unduly protective of Crown interests which Parliament itself has chosen to subordinate to competing prioritized claims. In my respectful view, a clearly marked departure from that jurisprudential approach is warranted in this case.

- Justice Deschamps develops important historical and policy reasons in support of this position and I have nothing to add in that regard. I do wish, however, to explain why a comparative analysis of related statutory provisions adds support to our shared conclusion.
- Parliament has in recent years given detailed consideration to the Canadian insolvency scheme. It has declined to amend the provisions at issue in this case. Ours is not to wonder why, but rather to treat Parliament's preservation of the relevant provisions as a deliberate exercise of the legislative discretion that is Parliament's alone. With respect, I reject any suggestion that we should instead characterize the apparent conflict between s. 18.3(1) (now s. 37(1)) of the *CCAA* and s. 222 of the *ETA* as a drafting anomaly or statutory lacuna properly subject to judicial correction or repair.

#### II

- In the context of the Canadian insolvency regime, a deemed trust will be found to exist only where two complementary elements co-exist: first, a statutory provision *creating* the trust; and second, a *CCAA* or *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 ("*BIA*") provision *confirming* or explicitly preserving its effective operation.
- 97 This interpretation is reflected in three federal statutes. Each contains a deemed trust provision framed in terms strikingly similar to the wording of s. 222 of the *ETA*.
- 98 The first is the *Income Tax Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.) ("ITA") where s. 227(4) creates a deemed trust:
  - 227 (4) Trust for moneys deducted Every person who deducts or withholds an amount under this Act is deemed, notwithstanding any security interest (as defined in subsection 224(1.3)) in the amount so deducted or withheld, to hold the amount separate and apart from the property of the person and from property held by any secured creditor (as defined in subsection 224(1.3)) of that person that but for the security interest would be property of the person, in trust for Her Majesty and for payment to Her Majesty in the manner and at the time provided under this Act. [Here and below, the emphasis is of course my own.]
- 99 In the next subsection, Parliament has taken care to make clear that this trust is unaffected by federal or provincial legislation to the contrary:
  - (4.1) Extension of trust Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act (except sections 81.1 and 81.2 of that Act), any other enactment of Canada, any enactment of a province or any other law, where at any time an amount deemed by subsection 227(4) to be held by a person in trust for Her Majesty is not paid to Her Majesty in the manner and at the time provided under this Act, property of the person ... equal in value to the amount so deemed to be held in trust is deemed
    - (a) to be held, from the time the amount was deducted or withheld by the person, separate and apart from the property of the person, in trust for Her Majesty whether or not the property is subject to such a security interest, ...

•••

- ... and the proceeds of such property shall be paid to the Receiver General in priority to all such security interests.
- 100 The continued operation of this deemed trust is expressly *confirmed* in s. 18.3 of the *CCAA*:
  - **18.3** (1) <u>Subject to subsection (2)</u>, notwithstanding any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as being held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan* or subsection 86(2) or (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act*....
- The operation of the *ITA* deemed trust is also confirmed in s. 67 of the *BIA*:
  - **67** (2) <u>Subject to subsection (3)</u>, notwithstanding any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a bankrupt shall not be regarded as held in trust for Her Majesty for the purpose of paragraph (1)(*a*) unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.
  - (3) Subsection (2) does not apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan* or subsection 86(2) or (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act*....
- Thus, Parliament has first *created* and then *confirmed the continued operation of* the Crown's *ITA* deemed trust under *both* the *CCAA* and the *BIA* regimes.
- The second federal statute for which this scheme holds true is the *Canada Pension Plan*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-8 ("*CPP*"). At s. 23, Parliament creates a deemed trust in favour of the Crown and specifies that it exists despite all contrary provisions in any other Canadian statute. Finally, and in almost identical terms, the *Employment Insurance Act*, S.C. 1996, c. 23 ("*EIA*"), creates a deemed trust in favour of the Crown: see ss. 86(2) and (2.1).
- As we have seen, the survival of the deemed trusts created under these provisions of the *ITA*, the *CPP* and the *EIA* is confirmed in s. 18.3(2) the *CCAA* and in s. 67(3) the *BIA*. In all three cases, Parliament's intent to enforce the Crown's deemed trust through insolvency proceedings is expressed in clear and unmistakable terms.
- The same is not true with regard to the deemed trust created under the *ETA*. Although Parliament creates a deemed trust in favour of the Crown to hold unremitted GST monies, and although it purports to maintain this trust notwithstanding any contrary federal or provincial legislation, it does not *confirm* the trust or expressly provide for its continued operation in either the *BIA* or the *CCAA*. The second of the two mandatory elements I have mentioned is thus absent reflecting Parliament's intention to allow the deemed trust to lapse with the commencement of insolvency proceedings.
- The language of the relevant ETA provisions is identical in substance to that of the ITA, CPP, and EIA provisions:
  - **222.** (1) [Deemed] Trust for amounts collected Subject to subsection (1.1), every person who collects an amount as or on account of tax under Division II is deemed, for all purposes and despite any security interest in the amount, to hold the amount in trust for Her Majesty in right of Canada, separate and apart from the property of the person and from property held by any secured creditor of the person that, but for a security interest, would be property of the person, until the amount is remitted to the Receiver General or withdrawn under subsection (2).

•••

- (3) Extension of trust Despite any other provision of this Act (except subsection (4)), any other enactment of Canada (except the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*), any enactment of a province or any other law, if at any time an amount deemed by subsection (1) to be held by a person in trust for Her Majesty is not remitted to the Receiver General or withdrawn in the manner and at the time provided under this Part, property of the person and property held by any secured creditor of the person that, but for a security interest, would be property of the person, equal in value to the amount so deemed to be held in trust, is deemed
  - (a) to be held, from the time the amount was collected by the person, in trust for Her Majesty, separate and apart from the property of the person, whether or not the property is subject to a security interest, ...

...

- ... and the proceeds of the property shall be paid to the Receiver General in priority to all security interests.
- 107 Yet no provision of the CCAA provides for the continuation of this deemed trust after the CCAA is brought into play.
- In short, Parliament has imposed *two* explicit conditions, or "building blocks", for survival under the *CCAA* of deemed trusts created by the *ITA*, *CPP*, and *EIA*. Had Parliament intended to likewise preserve under the *CCAA* deemed trusts created by the *ETA*, it would have included in the *CCAA* the sort of confirmatory provision that explicitly preserves other deemed trusts.
- With respect, unlike Tysoe J.A., I do not find it "inconceivable that Parliament would specifically identify the *BIA* as an exception when enacting the current version of s. 222(3) of the *ETA* without considering the *CCAA* as a possible second exception" (2009 BCCA 205, 98 B.C.L.R. (4th) 242, [2009] G.S.T.C. 79 (B.C. C.A.), at para. 37). *All* of the deemed trust provisions excerpted above make explicit reference to the *BIA*. Section 222 of the *ETA* does not break the pattern. Given the near-identical wording of the four deemed trust provisions, it would have been surprising indeed had Parliament not addressed the *BIA* at all in the *ETA*.
- Parliament's evident intent was to render GST deemed trusts inoperative upon the institution of insolvency proceedings. Accordingly, s. 222 mentions the *BIA* so as to *exclude* it from its ambit rather than to *include* it, as do the *ITA*, the *CPP*, and the *EIA*.
- 111 Conversely, I note that *none* of these statutes mentions the *CCAA* expressly. Their specific reference to the *BIA* has no bearing on their interaction with the *CCAA*. Again, it is the confirmatory provisions *in the insolvency statutes* that determine whether a given deemed trust will subsist during insolvency proceedings.
- Finally, I believe that chambers judges should not segregate GST monies into the Monitor's trust account during *CCAA* proceedings, as was done in this case. The result of Justice Deschamps's reasoning is that GST claims become unsecured under the *CCAA*. Parliament has deliberately chosen to nullify certain Crown super-priorities during insolvency; this is one such instance.

#### Ш

For these reasons, like Justice Deschamps, I would allow the appeal with costs in this Court and in the courts below and order that the \$305,202.30 collected by LeRoy Trucking in respect of GST but not yet remitted to the Receiver General of Canada be subject to no deemed trust or priority in favour of the Crown.

# Abella J. (dissenting):

- The central issue in this appeal is whether s. 222 of the *Excise Tax Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15 ("*EIA*"), and specifically s. 222(3), gives priority during *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("*CCAA*"), proceedings to the Crown's deemed trust in unremitted GST. I agree with Tysoe J.A. that it does. It follows, in my respectful view, that a court's discretion under s. 11 of the *CCAA* is circumscribed accordingly.
- 115 Section 11 <sup>1</sup> of the *CCAA* stated:
  - **11**. (1) Notwithstanding anything in the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or the *Winding-up Act*, where an application is made under this Act in respect of a company, the court, on the application of any person interested in the matter, may, subject to this Act, on notice to any other person or without notice as it may see fit, make an order under this section.

To decide the scope of the court's discretion under s. 11, it is necessary to first determine the priority issue. Section 222(3), the provision of the *ETA* at issue in this case, states:

- 222 (3) Extension of trust Despite any other provision of this Act (except subsection (4)), any other enactment of Canada (except the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*), any enactment of a province or any other law, if at any time an amount deemed by subsection (1) to be held by a person in trust for Her Majesty is not remitted to the Receiver General or withdrawn in the manner and at the time provided under this Part, property of the person and property held by any secured creditor of the person that, but for a security interest, would be property of the person, equal in value to the amount so deemed to be held in trust, is deemed
  - (a) to be held, from the time the amount was collected by the person, in trust for Her Majesty, separate and apart from the property of the person, whether or not the property is subject to a security interest, and
  - (b) to form no part of the estate or property of the person from the time the amount was collected, whether or not the property has in fact been kept separate and apart from the estate or property of the person and whether or not the property is subject to a security interest

and is property beneficially owned by Her Majesty in right of Canada despite any security interest in the property or in the proceeds thereof and the proceeds of the property shall be paid to the Receiver General in priority to all security interests.

- 116 Century Services argued that the *CCAA's* general override provision, s. 18.3(1), prevailed, and that the deeming provisions in s. 222 of the *ETA* were, accordingly, inapplicable during *CCAA* proceedings. Section 18.3(1) states:
  - **18.3** (1) ... [N]otwithstanding any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.
- As MacPherson J.A. correctly observed in *Ottawa Senators Hockey Club Corp.* (*Re*) (2005), 73 O.R. (3d) 737, [2005] G.S.T.C. 1 (Ont. C.A.), s. 222(3) of the *ETA* is in "clear conflict" with s. 18.3(1) of the *CCAA* (para. 31). Resolving the conflict between the two provisions is, essentially, what seems to me to be a relatively uncomplicated exercise in statutory interpretation: does the language reflect a clear legislative intention? In my view it does. The deemed trust provision, s. 222(3) of the *ETA*, has unambiguous language stating that it operates notwithstanding any law except the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 ("*BIA*").
- By expressly excluding only one statute from its legislative grasp, and by unequivocally stating that it applies despite any other law anywhere in Canada *except* the *BIA*, s. 222(3) has defined its boundaries in the clearest possible terms. I am in complete agreement with the following comments of MacPherson J.A. in *Ottawa Senators*:

The legislative intent of s. 222(3) of the ETA is clear. If there is a conflict with "any other enactment of Canada (except the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act)", s. 222(3) prevails. In these words Parliament did two things: it decided that s. 222(3) should trump all other federal laws and, importantly, it addressed the topic of exceptions to its trumping decision and identified a single exception, the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act .... The BIA and the CCAA are closely related federal statutes. I cannot conceive that Parliament would specifically identify the BIA as an exception, but accidentally fail to consider the CCAA as a possible second exception. In my view, the omission of the CCAA from s. 222(3) of the ETA was almost certainly a considered omission. [para. 43]

- MacPherson J.A.'s view that the failure to exempt the *CCAA* from the operation of the *ETA* is a reflection of a clear legislative intention, is borne out by how the *CCAA* was subsequently changed after s. 18.3(1) was enacted in 1997. In 2000, when s. 222(3) of the *ETA* came into force, amendments were also introduced to the *CCAA*. Section 18.3(1) was not amended.
- The failure to amend s. 18.3(1) is notable because its effect was to protect the legislative *status quo*, notwithstanding repeated requests from various constituencies that s. 18.3(1) be amended to make the priorities in the *CCAA* consistent with those in the *BIA*. In 2002, for example, when Industry Canada conducted a review of the *BIA* and the *CCAA*, the Insolvency Institute of Canada and the Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals recommended that the priority regime

under the *BIA* be extended to the *CCAA* (Joint Task Force on Business Insolvency Law Reform, *Report* (March 15, 2002), Sch. B, proposal 71, at pp. 37-38). The same recommendations were made by the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce in its 2003 report, *Debtors and Creditors Sharing the Burden: A Review of the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act and the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*; by the Legislative Review Task Force (Commercial) of the Insolvency Institute of Canada and the Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals in its 2005 *Report on the Commercial Provisions of Bill C-55*; and in 2007 by the Insolvency Institute of Canada in a submission to the Standing Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce commenting on reforms then under consideration.

Yet the *BIA* remains the only exempted statute under s. 222(3) of the *ETA*. Even after the 2005 decision in *Ottawa Senators* which confirmed that the *ETA* took precedence over the *CCAA*, there was no responsive legislative revision. I see this lack of response as relevant in this case, as it was in *R. v. Tele-Mobile Co.*, 2008 SCC 12, [2008] 1 S.C.R. 305 (S.C.C.), where this Court stated:

While it cannot be said that legislative silence is necessarily determinative of legislative intention, in this case the silence is Parliament's answer to the consistent urging of Telus and other affected businesses and organizations that there be express language in the legislation to ensure that businesses can be reimbursed for the reasonable costs of complying with evidence-gathering orders. I see the legislative history as reflecting Parliament's intention that compensation not be paid for compliance with production orders. [para. 42]

- All this leads to a clear inference of a deliberate legislative choice to protect the deemed trust in s. 222(3) from the reach of s. 18.3(1) of the *CCAA*.
- Nor do I see any "policy" justification for interfering, through interpretation, with this clarity of legislative intention. I can do no better by way of explaining why I think the policy argument cannot succeed in this case, than to repeat the words of Tysoe J.A. who said:

I do not dispute that there are valid policy reasons for encouraging insolvent companies to attempt to restructure their affairs so that their business can continue with as little disruption to employees and other stakeholders as possible. It is appropriate for the courts to take such policy considerations into account, but only if it is in connection with a matter that has not been considered by Parliament. Here, Parliament must be taken to have weighed policy considerations when it enacted the amendments to the *CCAA* and *ETA* described above. As Mr. Justice MacPherson observed at para. 43 of *Ottawa Senators*, it is inconceivable that Parliament would specifically identify the *BIA* as an exception when enacting the current version of s. 222(3) of the *ETA* without considering the *CCAA* as a possible second exception. I also make the observation that the 1992 set of amendments to the *BIA* enabled proposals to be binding on secured creditors and, while there is more flexibility under the *CCAA*, it is possible for an insolvent company to attempt to restructure under the auspices of the *BIA*. [para. 37]

- Despite my view that the clarity of the language in s. 222(3) is dispositive, it is also my view that even the application of other principles of interpretation reinforces this conclusion. In their submissions, the parties raised the following as being particularly relevant: the Crown relied on the principle that the statute which is "later in time" prevails; and Century Services based its argument on the principle that the general provision gives way to the specific (*generalia specialibus non derogani*).
- The "later in time" principle gives priority to a more recent statute, based on the theory that the legislature is presumed to be aware of the content of existing legislation. If a new enactment is inconsistent with a prior one, therefore, the legislature is presumed to have intended to derogate from the earlier provisions (Ruth Sullivan, *Sullivan on the Construction of Statutes* (5th ed. 2008), at pp. 346-47; Pierre-André Côté, *The Interpretation of Legislation in Canada* (3rd ed. 2000), at p. 358).
- The exception to this presumptive displacement of pre-existing inconsistent legislation, is the *generalia specialibus non derogant* principle that "[a] more recent, general provision will not be construed as affecting an earlier, special provision" (Côté, at p. 359). Like a Russian Doll, there is also an exception within this exception, namely, that an earlier, specific provision may

in fact be "overruled" by a subsequent general statute if the legislature indicates, through its language, an intention that the general provision prevails (*Doré c. Verdun (Municipalité*), [1997] 2 S.C.R. 862 (S.C.C.)).

The primary purpose of these interpretive principles is to assist in the performance of the task of determining the intention of the legislature. This was confirmed by MacPherson J.A. in *Ottawa Senators*, at para. 42:

[T]he overarching rule of statutory interpretation is that statutory provisions should be interpreted to give effect to the intention of the legislature in enacting the law. This primary rule takes precedence over all maxims or canons or aids relating to statutory interpretation, including the maxim that the specific prevails over the general (*generalia specialibus non derogant*). As expressed by Hudson J. in *Canada v. Williams*, [1944] S.C.R. 226, ... at p. 239 ...:

The maxim *generalia specialibus non derogant* is relied on as a rule which should dispose of the question, but the maxim is not a rule of law but a rule of construction and bows to the intention of the legislature, if such intention can reasonably be gathered from all of the relevant legislation.

(See also Côté, at p. 358, and Pierre-Andre Côté, with the collaboration of S. Beaulac and M. Devinat, *Interprétation des lois* (4th ed. 2009), at para. 1335.)

- I accept the Crown's argument that the "later in time" principle is conclusive in this case. Since s. 222(3) of the *ETA* was enacted in 2000 and s. 18.3(1) of the *CCAA* was introduced in 1997, s. 222(3) is, on its face, the later provision. This chronological victory can be displaced, as Century Services argues, if it is shown that the more recent provision, s. 222(3) of the *ETA*, is a general one, in which case the earlier, specific provision, s. 18.3(1), prevails (*generalia specialibus non derogant*). But, as previously explained, the prior specific provision does not take precedence if the subsequent general provision appears to "overrule" it. This, it seems to me, is precisely what s. 222(3) achieves through the use of language stating that it prevails despite any law of Canada, of a province, or "any other law" *other than the BIA*. Section 18.3(1) of the *CCAA*, is thereby rendered inoperative for purposes of s. 222(3).
- It is true that when the *CCAA* was amended in 2005, <sup>2</sup> s. 18.3(1) was re-enacted as s. 37(1) (S.C. 2005, c. 47, s. 131). Deschamps J. suggests that this makes s. 37(1) the new, "later in time" provision. With respect, her observation is refuted by the operation of s. 44(f) of the *Interpretation Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. I-21, which expressly deals with the (non) effect of re-enacting, without significant substantive changes, a repealed provision (see *Canada (Attorney General) v. Canada (Public Service Staff Relations Board*), [1977] 2 F.C. 663 (Fed. C.A.), dealing with the predecessor provision to s. 44(f)). It directs that new enactments not be construed as "new law" unless they differ in substance from the repealed provision:
  - **44.** Where an enactment, in this section called the "former enactment", is repealed and another enactment, in this section called the "new enactment", is substituted therefor,

...

(f) except to the extent that the provisions of the new enactment are not in substance the same as those of the former enactment, the new enactment shall not be held to operate as new law, but shall be construed and have effect as a consolidation and as declaratory of the law as contained in the former enactment;

Section 2 of the Interpretation Act defines an enactment as "an Act or regulation or any portion of an Act or regulation".

- Section 37(1) of the current *CCAA* is almost identical to s. 18.3(1). These provisions are set out for ease of comparison, with the differences between them underlined:
  - **37.**(1) Subject to subsection (2), <u>despite</u> any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as <u>being</u> held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.

- **18.3** (1) Subject to subsection (2), <u>notwithstanding</u> any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.
- 131 The application of s. 44(*f*) of the *Interpretation Act* simply confirms the government's clearly expressed intent, found in Industry Canada's clause-by-clause review of Bill C-55, where s. 37(1) was identified as "a technical amendment to reorder the provisions of this Act". During second reading, the Hon. Bill Rompkey, then the Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate, confirmed that s. 37(1) represented only a technical change:

On a technical note relating to the treatment of deemed trusts for taxes, the bill [sic] makes no changes to the underlying policy intent, despite the fact that in the case of a restructuring under the CCAA, sections of the act [sic] were repealed and substituted with renumbered versions due to the extensive reworking of the CCAA.

(Debates of the Senate, vol. 142, 1st Sess., 38th Parl., November 23, 2005, at p. 2147)

- Had the substance of s. 18.3(1) altered in any material way when it was replaced by s. 37(1), I would share Deschamps J.'s view that it should be considered a new provision. But since s. 18.3(1) and s. 37(1) are the same in substance, the transformation of s. 18.3(1) into s. 37(1) has no effect on the interpretive queue, and s. 222(3) of the *ETA* remains the "later in time" provision (Sullivan, at p. 347).
- This means that the deemed trust provision in s. 222(3) of the *ETA* takes precedence over s. 18.3(1) during *CCAA* proceedings. The question then is how that priority affects the discretion of a court under s. 11 of the *CCAA*.
- While s. 11 gives a court discretion to make orders notwithstanding the *BIA* and the *Winding-up Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. W-11, that discretion is not liberated from the operation of any other federal statute. Any exercise of discretion is therefore circumscribed by whatever limits are imposed by statutes *other* than the *BIA* and the *Winding-up Act*. That includes the *ETA*. The chambers judge in this case was, therefore, required to respect the priority regime set out in s. 222(3) of the *ETA*. Neither s. 18.3(1) nor s. 11 of the *CCAA* gave him the authority to ignore it. He could not, as a result, deny the Crown's request for payment of the GST funds during the *CCAA* proceedings.
- 135 Given this conclusion, it is unnecessary to consider whether there was an express trust.
- 136 I would dismiss the appeal.

Appeal allowed.

Pourvoi accueilli.

#### **Appendix**

### Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 (as at December 13, 2007)

**11. (1) Powers of court** — Notwithstanding anything in the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or the *Winding-up Act*, where an application is made under this Act in respect of a company, the court, on the application of any person interested in the matter, may, subject to this Act, on notice to any other person or without notice as it may see fit, make an order under this section.

...

- (3) **Initial application court orders** A court may, on an initial application in respect of a company, make an order on such terms as it may impose, effective for such period as the court deems necessary not exceeding thirty days,
  - (a) staying, until otherwise ordered by the court, all proceedings taken or that might be taken in respect of the company under an Act referred to in subsection (i);

- (b) restraining, until otherwise ordered by the court, further proceedings in any action, suit or proceeding against the company; and
- (c) prohibiting, until otherwise ordered by the court, the commencement of or proceeding with any other action, suit or proceeding against the company.
- (4) Other than initial application court orders A court may, on an application in respect of a company other than an initial application, make an order on such terms as it may impose,
  - (a) staying, until otherwise ordered by the court, for such period as the court deems necessary, all proceedings taken or that might be taken in respect of the company under an Act referred to in subsection (1);
  - (b) restraining, until otherwise ordered by the court, further proceedings in any action, suit or proceeding against the company; and
  - (c) prohibiting, until otherwise ordered by the court, the commencement of or proceeding with any other action, suit or proceeding against the company.

...

- (6) Burden of proof on application The court shall not make an order under subsection (3) or (4) unless
  - (a) the applicant satisfies the court that circumstances exist that make such an order appropriate; and
  - (b) in the case of an order under subsection (4), the applicant also satisfies the court that the applicant has acted, and is acting, in good faith and with due diligence.

## 11.4 (1) Her Majesty affected — An order made under section 11 may provide that

- (a) Her Majesty in right of Canada may not exercise rights under subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* or any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, in respect of the company if the company is a tax debtor under that subsection or provision, for such period as the court considers appropriate but ending not later than
  - (i) the expiration of the order,
  - (ii) the refusal of a proposed compromise by the creditors or the court,
  - (iii) six months following the court sanction of a compromise or arrangement,
  - (iv) the default by the company on any term of a compromise or arrangement, or
  - (v) the performance of a compromise or arrangement in respect of the company; and\
- (b) Her Majesty in right of a province may not exercise rights under any provision of provincial legislation in respect of the company where the company is a debtor under that legislation and the provision has a similar purpose to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, where the sum
  - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or

(ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

for such period as the court considers appropriate but ending not later than the occurrence or time referred to in whichever of subparagraphs (a)(i) to (v) may apply.

- (2) When order ceases to be in effect An order referred to in subsection (1) ceases to be in effect if
  - (a) the company defaults on payment of any amount that becomes due to Her Majesty after the order is made and could be subject to a demand under
    - (i) subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*,
    - (ii) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
    - (iii) under any provision of provincial legislation that has a similar purpose to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, where the sum
      - (A) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
      - (B) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection; or
  - (b) any other creditor is or becomes entitled to realize a security on any property that could be claimed by Her Majesty in exercising rights under
    - (i) subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*,
    - (ii) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
    - (iii) any provision of provincial legislation that has a similar purpose to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, where the sum
      - (A) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
      - (B) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection.
- (3) **Operation of similar legislation** An order made under section 11, other than an order referred to in subsection (1) of this section, does not affect the operation of

- (a) subsections 224(1.2) and (1.3) of the *Income Tax Act*,
- (b) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
- (c) any provision of provincial legislation that has a similar purpose to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, where the sum
  - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

and for the purpose of paragraph (c), the provision of provincial legislation is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), or as subsection 23(2) of the *Canada Pension Plan* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), and in respect of any related interest, penalties or other amounts.

- **18.3 (1) Deemed trusts** Subject to subsection (2), notwithstanding any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.
- (2) Exceptions Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan* or subsection 86(2) or (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act* (each of which is in this subsection referred to as a "federal provision") nor in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under any law of a province that creates a deemed trust the sole purpose of which is to ensure remittance to Her Majesty in right of the province of amounts deducted or withheld under a law of the province where
  - (a) that law of the province imposes a tax similar in nature to the tax imposed under the *Income Tax Act* and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as the amounts referred to in subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (b) the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan*, that law of the province establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as amounts referred to in subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan*,

and for the purpose of this subsection, any provision of a law of a province that creates a deemed trust is, notwithstanding any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as the corresponding federal provision.

**18.4** (1) **Status of Crown claims** — In relation to a proceeding under this Act, all claims, including secured claims, of Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province or any body under an enactment respecting workers' compensation, in this section and in section 18.5 called a "workers' compensation body", rank as unsecured claims.

•••

- (3) Operation of similar legislation Subsection (1) does not affect the operation of
  - (a) subsections 224(1.2) and (1.3) of the Income Tax Act,
  - (b) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
  - (c) any provision of provincial legislation that has a similar purpose to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, where the sum
    - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
    - (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

and for the purpose of paragraph (c), the provision of provincial legislation is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), or as subsection 23(2) of the *Canada Pension Plan* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), and in respect of any related interest, penalties or other amounts.

...

**20.** [Act to be applied conjointly with other Acts] — The provisions of this Act may be applied together with the provisions of any Act of Parliament or of the legislature of any province, that authorizes or makes provision for the sanction of compromises or arrangements between a company and its shareholders or any class of them.

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 (as at September 18, 2009)

11. General power of court — Despite anything in the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act*, if an application is made under this Act in respect of a debtor company, the court, on the application of any person interested in the matter, may, subject to the restrictions set out in this Act, on notice to any other person or without notice as it may see fit, make any order that it considers appropriate in the circumstances.

...

- 11.02 (1) Stays, etc. initial application A court may, on an initial application in respect of a debtor company, make an order on any terms that it may impose, effective for the period that the court considers necessary, which period may not be more than 30 days,
  - (a) staying, until otherwise ordered by the court, all proceedings taken or that might be taken in respect of the company under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act*;
  - (b) restraining, until otherwise ordered by the court, further proceedings in any action, suit or proceeding against the company; and
  - (c) prohibiting, until otherwise ordered by the court, the commencement of any action, suit or proceeding against the company.

- (2) Stays, etc. other than initial application A court may, on an application in respect of a debtor company other than an initial application, make an order, on any terms that it may impose,
  - (a) staying, until otherwise ordered by the court, for any period that the court considers necessary, all proceedings taken or that might be taken in respect of the company under an Act referred to in paragraph (1)(a);
  - (b) restraining, until otherwise ordered by the court, further proceedings in any action, suit or proceeding against the company; and
  - (c) prohibiting, until otherwise ordered by the court, the commencement of any action, suit or proceeding against the company.
- (3) Burden of proof on application The court shall not make the order unless
  - (a) the applicant satisfies the court that circumstances exist that make the order appropriate; and
  - (b) in the case of an order under subsection (2), the applicant also satisfies the court that the applicant has acted, and is acting, in good faith and with due diligence.

•••

### 11.09 (1) Stay — Her Majesty — An order made under section 11.02 may provide that

- (a) Her Majesty in right of Canada may not exercise rights under subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* or any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, in respect of the company if the company is a tax debtor under that subsection or provision, for the period that the court considers appropriate but ending not later than
  - (i) the expiry of the order,
  - (ii) the refusal of a proposed compromise by the creditors or the court,
  - (iii) six months following the court sanction of a compromise or an arrangement,
  - (iv) the default by the company on any term of a compromise or an arrangement, or
  - (v) the performance of a compromise or an arrangement in respect of the company; and
- (b) Her Majesty in right of a province may not exercise rights under any provision of provincial legislation in respect of the company if the company is a debtor under that legislation and the provision has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
  - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

for the period that the court considers appropriate but ending not later than the occurrence or time referred to in whichever of subparagraphs (a)(i) to (v) that may apply.

- (2) When order ceases to be in effect The portions of an order made under section 11.02 that affect the exercise of rights of Her Majesty referred to in paragraph (1)(a) or (b) cease to be in effect if
  - (a) the company defaults on the payment of any amount that becomes due to Her Majesty after the order is made and could be subject to a demand under
    - (i) subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*,
    - (ii) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
    - (iii) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
      - (A) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
      - (B) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection; or
  - (b) any other creditor is or becomes entitled to realize a security on any property that could be claimed by Her Majesty in exercising rights under
    - (i) subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*,
    - (ii) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
    - (iii) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
      - (A) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
      - (B) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection.
- (3) Operation of similar legislation An order made under section 11.02, other than the portions of that order that affect the exercise of rights of Her Majesty referred to in paragraph (1)(a) or (b), does not affect the operation of
  - (a) subsections 224(1.2) and (1.3) of the *Income Tax Act*,

- (b) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, or
- (c) any provision of provincial legislation that has a purpose similar to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, and the sum
  - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

and for the purpose of paragraph (c), the provision of provincial legislation is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), or as subsection 23(2) of the *Canada Pension Plan* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), and in respect of any related interest, penalties or other amounts.

- **37.** (1) **Deemed trusts** Subject to subsection (2), despite any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a debtor company shall not be regarded as being held in trust for Her Majesty unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.
- (2) Exceptions Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan* or subsection 86(2) or (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act* (each of which is in this subsection referred to as a "federal provision"), nor does it apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under any law of a province that creates a deemed trust the sole purpose of which is to ensure remittance to Her Majesty in right of the province of amounts deducted or withheld under a law of the province if
  - (a) that law of the province imposes a tax similar in nature to the tax imposed under the *Income Tax Act* and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as the amounts referred to in subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, or
  - (b) the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan*, that law of the province establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as amounts referred to in subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan*,

and for the purpose of this subsection, any provision of a law of a province that creates a deemed trust is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as the corresponding federal provision.

#### Excise Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15 (as at December 13, 2007)

**222.** (1) [Deemed] Trust for amounts collected — Subject to subsection (1.1), every person who collects an amount as or on account of tax under Division II is deemed, for all purposes and despite any security interest in the amount, to hold the amount in trust for Her Majesty in right of Canada, separate and apart from the property of the person and from property held by any secured creditor of the person that, but for a security interest, would be property of the person, until the amount is remitted to the Receiver General or withdrawn under subsection (2).

(1.1) Amounts collected before bankruptcy — Subsection (1) does not apply, at or after the time a person becomes a bankrupt (within the meaning of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*), to any amounts that, before that time, were collected or became collectible by the person as or on account of tax under Division II.

...

- (3) Extension of trust Despite any other provision of this Act (except subsection (4)), any other enactment of Canada (except the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*), any enactment of a province or any other law, if at any time an amount deemed by subsection (1) to be held by a person in trust for Her Majesty is not remitted to the Receiver General or withdrawn in the manner and at the time provided under this Part, property of the person and property held by any secured creditor of the person that, but for a security interest, would be property of the person, equal in value to the amount so deemed to be held in trust, is deemed
  - (a) to be held, from the time the amount was collected by the person, in trust for Her Majesty, separate and apart from the property of the person, whether or not the property is subject to a security interest, and
  - (b) to form no part of the estate or property of the person from the time the amount was collected, whether or not the property has in fact been kept separate and apart from the estate or property of the person and whether or not the property is subject to a security interest

and is property beneficially owned by Her Majesty in right of Canada despite any security interest in the property or in the proceeds thereof and the proceeds of the property shall be paid to the Receiver General in priority to all security interests.

### Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 (as at December 13, 2007)

- **67.** (1) **Property of bankrupt** The property of a bankrupt divisible among his creditors shall not comprise
  - (a) property held by the bankrupt in trust for any other person,
  - (b) any property that as against the bankrupt is exempt from execution or seizure under any laws applicable in the province within which the property is situated and within which the bankrupt resides, or
  - (b.1) such goods and services tax credit payments and prescribed payments relating to the essential needs of an individual as are made in prescribed circumstances and are not property referred to in paragraph (a) or (b),

### but it shall comprise

- (c) all property wherever situated of the bankrupt at the date of his bankruptcy or that may be acquired by or devolve on him before his discharge, and
- (d) such powers in or over or in respect of the property as might have been exercised by the bankrupt for his own benefit.
- (2) **Deemed trusts** Subject to subsection (3), notwithstanding any provision in federal or provincial legislation that has the effect of deeming property to be held in trust for Her Majesty, property of a bankrupt shall not be regarded as held in trust for Her Majesty for the purpose of paragraph (1)(a) unless it would be so regarded in the absence of that statutory provision.
- (3) Exceptions Subsection (2) does not apply in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan* or subsection 86(2) or (2.1) of the *Employment Insurance Act* (each of which is in this subsection referred to as a "federal provision") nor in respect of amounts deemed to be held in trust under any law of a province that creates a deemed trust the sole purpose of which is to ensure remittance to Her Majesty in right of the province of amounts deducted or withheld under a law of the province where

- (a) that law of the province imposes a tax similar in nature to the tax imposed under the *Income Tax Act* and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as the amounts referred to in subsection 227(4) or (4.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, or
- (b) the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan*, that law of the province establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection and the amounts deducted or withheld under that law of the province are of the same nature as amounts referred to in subsection 23(3) or (4) of the *Canada Pension Plan*,

and for the purpose of this subsection, any provision of a law of a province that creates a deemed trust is, notwithstanding any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as the corresponding federal provision.

**86.** (1) **Status of Crown claims** — In relation to a bankruptcy or proposal, all provable claims, including secured claims, of Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province or of any body under an Act respecting workers' compensation, in this section and in section 87 called a "workers' compensation body", rank as unsecured claims.

...

- (3) Exceptions Subsection (1) does not affect the operation of
  - (a) subsections 224(1.2) and (1.3) of the *Income Tax Act*;
  - (b) any provision of the *Canada Pension Plan* or of the *Employment Insurance Act* that refers to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* and provides for the collection of a contribution, as defined in the *Canada Pension Plan*, or an employee's premium, or employer's premium, as defined in the *Employment Insurance Act*, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts; or
  - (c) any provision of provincial legislation that has a similar purpose to subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act*, or that refers to that subsection, to the extent that it provides for the collection of a sum, and of any related interest, penalties or other amounts, where the sum
    - (i) has been withheld or deducted by a person from a payment to another person and is in respect of a tax similar in nature to the income tax imposed on individuals under the *Income Tax Act*, or
    - (ii) is of the same nature as a contribution under the *Canada Pension Plan* if the province is a "province providing a comprehensive pension plan" as defined in subsection 3(1) of the *Canada Pension Plan* and the provincial legislation establishes a "provincial pension plan" as defined in that subsection,

and for the purpose of paragraph (c), the provision of provincial legislation is, despite any Act of Canada or of a province or any other law, deemed to have the same effect and scope against any creditor, however secured, as subsection 224(1.2) of the *Income Tax Act* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), or as subsection 23(2) of the *Canada Pension Plan* in respect of a sum referred to in subparagraph (c)(i), and in respect of any related interest, penalties or other amounts.

### Footnotes

- Section 11 was amended, effective September 18, 2009, and now states:
  - 11. Despite anything in the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act*, if an application is made under this Act in respect of a debtor company, the court, on the application of any person interested in the matter, may, subject to the restrictions set out in this Act, on notice to any other person or without notice as it may see fit, make any order that it considers appropriate in the circumstances.

# Ted Leroy Trucking [Century Services] Ltd., Re, 2010 SCC 60, 2010 CarswellBC 3419

2010 SCC 60, 2010 CarswellBC 3419, 2010 CarswellBC 3420, [2010] 3 S.C.R. 379...

The amendments did not come into force until September 18, 2009.

**End of Document** 

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## **TAB 5**

## 2011 ONSC 5017 Ontario Superior Court of Justice [Commercial List]

Allen-Vanguard Corp., Re

2011 CarswellOnt 8984, 2011 ONSC 5017, 207 A.C.W.S. (3d) 15, 81 C.B.R. (5th) 270

# IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF ARRANGEMENT AND REORGANIZATION OF ALLEN-VANGUARD CORPORATION UNDER THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED AND SECTION 186 OF THE ONTARIO BUSINESS CORPORATIONS ACT., R.S.O. 1990, c.B.16, AS AMENDED (Applicants)

C. Campbell J.

Heard: November 16, 2010 Judgment: August 25, 2011 Docket: CV-09-00008502-00CL

Counsel: Ronald G. Slaght, Q.C., Eli S. Lederman, for Directors and Officers of Allen-Vanguard Corporation C. Scott Ritchie, Michael G. Robb, Daniel E.H. Bach, for Class Action Plaintiffs Alan L.W. D'Silva, Daniel S. Murdoch, for Underwriters

Subject: Insolvency; Civil Practice and Procedure

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2011 ONSC 5017, 2011 CarswellOnt 8984, 207 A.C.W.S. (3d) 15, 81 C.B.R. (5th) 270

*Canadian Airlines Corp.*, *Re* (2001), 2001 CarswellAlta 888, 2001 CarswellAlta 889, 275 N.R. 386 (note), 293 A.R. 351 (note), 257 W.A.C. 351 (note) (S.C.C.) — referred to

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2011 ONSC 5017, 2011 CarswellOnt 8984, 207 A.C.W.S. (3d) 15, 81 C.B.R. (5th) 270

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Business Corporations Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. B.16
s. 131(1) — considered
s. 246(1) — considered

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36
Generally — referred to
s. 5.1 [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 122] — referred to
s. 5.1(1) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 122] — considered
s. 5.1(2) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 122] — considered
s. 5.1(3) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 122] — considered

Excise Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-15
Pt. IX [en. 1990, c. 45, s. 12(1)] — referred to

Securities Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. S.5
s. 130 — referred to
s. 138.3 [en. 2002, c. 22. s. 185] — referred to
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MOTION by defendant directors of insolvent company to enforce sanction order; MOTION by defendant underwriters of insolvent company to dismiss or stay proposed class action; CROSS-MOTION by plaintiff shareholders for variation of terms in sanction order to allow class actions to proceed.

## C. Campbell J.:

#### **Reasons for Decision**

- Two motions were heard together: the first by former directors and officers of Allen-Vanguard to enforce the terms of a Sanction Order, which the directors and officers say release them as well as Allen-Vanguard from all claims except those specifically provided for in section 5.1 (2) of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as amended (the "CCAA.") In addition, the former directors assert that the claims of the Plaintiffs in two proposed Class Actions are not sustainable against them in law under s. 5.1 (2) of the CCAA.
- The second motion by the Underwriters of Allen-Vanguard seeks to dismiss or stay the action brought against the Underwriters by shareholders in a proposed Class Action.
- 3 A cross-motion brought by Plaintiffs in the two proposed Class Actions seeks, if required, variation of the terms contained in the Sanction Order granted December 16, 2009, to permit the Class Actions to proceed.
- 4 By way of an endorsement dated February 9, 2011, the Court sought further information from the parties with respect to the factual circumstances that surrounded the agreement that was embodied in the terms of the Sanction Order. That information has been provided and will be referred to later in these Reasons.
- 5 The claims that the directors who are the moving parties seek to effectively enjoin are those brought in two Class Actions (hereinafter the "Laneville action" and the "Love action"), wherein former shareholders seek damages against directors, officers and Underwriters based on alleged misrepresentation to shareholders by the Defendants about the effect on Allen-Vanguard of its purchase of another company in 2007.

#### Background

- 6 As of December 2009, Allen-Vanguard was insolvent. An Application was made on December 9 for an Initial Order under the CCAA, appointment of a Monitor and a Plan Filing and Meeting Order. The effect of the Initial Order among other matters stayed the existing Class proceeding.
- The circumstances that surrounded the Plan Filing/Meeting Order, the Court was advised, were necessary to avoid a bankruptcy. The subsequent vote on December 9, 2010 was approved in favour of the Plan by 100% of affected creditors.
- 8 The circumstances that surrounded the December 9, 2010 Application and Order were a variation on a CCAA process that has come to be known as a "pre-packaged" Application. The secured creditors agreed to a restructuring of their secured debt in circumstances involving a going concern sale of assets where, had a bankruptcy ensued, there would have been no recovery for creditors or shareholders beyond very incomplete recovery for those secured creditors.
- 9 The First Report of the then proposed Monitor, Deloiite and Touche, in support of the Initial Order, outlined the transaction that had been proposed to all creditors as early as September 2009, posted on SEDAR and to which (apart from the question of releases) no party was opposed on December 9.
- The Plan provided for the Secured Lenders foregoing a portion of their existing debt and fees, converting the remainder of the existing debt into a multi-year restructured term loan with terms more favourable to the Company and a new revolving credit facility.
- 11 The Court accepted the opinion of Deloitte & Touche that without the proposed transaction, the Company would likely not be able to meet its financial obligations as they became due and would likely be unable to carry on the business beyond the very short-term, which would then necessitate liquidation.
- The conclusion by Deloitte & Touche, accepted by the Court, was that the restructuring process in the Plan maximized the value of the Company for the benefit of all stakeholders and represented the best offer from that process.
- 13 The alternative faced by the Company was that of a forced liquidation, which as estimated by the Monitor would result in a shortfall to secured lenders in excess of \$100 million.

#### The Laneville Action

- 14 The proposed Class Action Plaintiff in the Laneville action issued on October 9, 2009 a Statement of Claim dated November 26, 2009, which sought appointment on behalf of a Representative Plaintiff and for a class of Allen-Vanguard shareholders who allege that Allen-Vanguard Corporation and its directors and officers are liable for various misrepresentations, negligence and oppression.
- 15 The Statement of Claim detailed a transaction that occurred in 2007 for which the Class Plaintiffs claim the directors and officers failed to properly value and account for in the financial statements of Allen-Vanguard, when Allen-Vanguard purchased all of the shares of a private corporation called Mid-Eng Systems Inc.
- In addition, the Class Plaintiff claims damages for negligent misrepresentation not only under the common law but as well under s. 138.3 of the *Ontario Securities Act* in connection with the same transaction.
- 17 The only creditor objection to the Plan taken at the time of the Initial Order was from counsel for the Proposed Class Plaintiff in the Laneville action, who sought an adjournment of the vote based on the wording of the proposed release terms.
- 18 The adjournment of the vote was not granted given the financial fragility of Allen-Vanguard, and the sanction hearing, which was to deal with the wording of the proposed release terms, was set for December 16, 2009.

- 19 The Second Report of the Monitor, dated December 10, 2010, advised the Court of the terms of the release and injunctions that had been negotiated, the terms of which were put forward for approval on an unopposed basis. No objection was taken at the sanction hearing by counsel for the Class Plaintiff and no amendment to the Release portion of the Sanction Order sought. Whatever had been negotiated between the parties came before the Court on an unopposed basis. Counsel for the Class Action Plaintiffs and for the Defendant directors had input into and agreed to the wording.
- The Court has been advised that by agreement of counsel, the wording of the Release was negotiated by the parties with the recognition that there would likely remain an issue on which the Court would have to rule. That issue is now the subject of the first motion and the cross motion. I have been advised as a result of the inquiry of February 9, 2011 and what is now obvious as a result of the recent correspondence (including an affidavit sworn June 30, 2011 and objected to) is that Plaintiffs' counsel in the Laneville action and counsel for the directors had quite different views in respect of the kinds of claims that could be included in s. 5.1(2).
- As I now understand it, counsel for the Allen-Vanguard Corporation made no representation or agreement that the claims in the Laneville action were within those permitted by s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA.
- Counsel for the Plaintiff in the Laneville action believe that the language in the Sanction Order preserves the claims in both the Laneville action and the Love action, including the claims against the Underwriters. It is submitted by the Plaintiff that the jurisprudence in respect of s. 5.1(2) permits not only claims against directors but as well officers to the extent there is insurance coverage, and that the Plaintiffs' position is consistent with the jurisprudence under s. 5.1(2).
- Counsel for the Directors and for Underwriters submit that counsel for the Plaintiff knew or ought to have known at the time they agreed to the language of the Plan of Arrangement and the draft Sanction Order that the claims asserted against the Directors and Officers of Allen-Vanguard might nevertheless fail to meet one of the exceptions set out in s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA.
- 24 In the result, the issue of what was or was not agreed to as part of the Sanction Order comes down to the question of whether or not the wording of s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA, read in context of statutory interpretation, is sufficient to permit continuance of claims in the Laneville and Love actions.
- As reported by the Monitor in the First Report, the Plan contemplated two releases: a General Release and an Equity Claims Release, both of which had been contemplated in the proposed Plan. Neither the Equity Claims Release nor the General Release was intended to release or deal with or affect in any respect claims under ss. 5.1(1), (2) and (3) of the CCAA, which read:
  - 5.1(1) a compromise or arrangement made in respect of a debtor company may include in its terms provision for the compromise of claims against directors of the company that arose before the commencement of proceedings under this Act and that relate to the obligations of the company where the directors are by law liable in their capacity as directors for the payment of such obligations.
  - 5.1 (2) A provision for the compromise of claims against directors may not include claims that
    - (a) relate to contractual rights of one or more creditors; or
    - (b) are based on allegations of misrepresentations made by directors to creditors or of wrongful or oppressed conduct of directors.
  - 5.1 (3) the court may declare that a claim against directors shall not be compromised if it is satisfied that the compromise would not be fair and reasonable in the circumstances.
- 26 The Monitor in its Second Report remarked as follows:
  - 28. The injunctions provided in the Plan are limited by section 5.1 (2) of the CCAA. The injunctions barring any person from commencing, continuing or pursuing any proceeding on or after the Effective Time for a claim that such

person may have against the Company or any current or former officer of the Company of the type referred to in subsection 5.1 (2) of the CCAA... but permit any such subsection 5.1 (2) claim to proceed against a current or former director of the company except that any such claim against a current or former director of the company is permitted recourse, and sole recourse, to the Company's insurance policies in respect of its current and former directors. The estimated value of any coverage under such insurance is \$30 million as per the Luxton Affidavit.

- 29. The Monitor is aware of at least one group of stakeholders affected and by the Supplemental Injunction, being a group of current and former shareholders of the Company that have served a Notice of Action and Statement of Claim on the Company seeking approximately \$80 million in damages from the Company and its directors and officers, as further described in the monitors First Report. As stated above the terms of the Supplemental Injunction would permit this claim to survive against the current and former directors of the Company with recourse limited to the Companies insurance as referenced above.
- The Releases and Sanctions are contained in the language of the Sanction Order. A summary of the provisions with paragraph references to the Sanction Order is as follows:
  - 22. Releases are essential to the Plan
  - 23. All Persons give full release to each of the Released Parties including contribution and indemnity but directors not released in respect of any claim of the kind referred to in section 5 . 1 (2) of the CCAA.
  - 24. Release of Applicant and current and former directors provided that nothing therein releases a director or current or former officer in respect of any claim of the kind referred to in section 5 .1 (2) of the CCAA.
  - 25. All Persons enjoined and estopped from commencing or continuing actions with the exception of any claim against the directors of the kind referred to in section 5 .1 (2) of the CCAA...
  - 26. Injunction and bar with respect to section 5 .1 (2) against the applicant... and that the sole recourse for any claims against a current or former director or officer of the Applicant Limited to any recoveries from the Applicants insurance policies in respect of current or former directors and officers
  - 27. Laneville Action dismissed as against the Applicant without prejudice to discovery rights against representative of the Applicant.

#### The Love Action

- On February 8, 2010, after the Sanction Order had been made, another Proposed Representative Plaintiff, Gordon Love, commenced a second action and is represented by the same counsel as in the Laneville action. The Statement of Claim, dated March 10, 2010 against the directors and officers of Allen-Vanguard Corporation, includes claims against Cannacord Financial Ltd (and others collectively referred to as "Underwriters.")
- An Amended Statement of Claim dated August 10, 2010 asserts in the Love action claims for negligence against directors, officers and Underwriters, all arising out of the transaction and alleged failure to properly disclose the transaction in the financial statements and transaction referred to in paragraph 15 above in respect of a 2007 acquisition.

#### Issues

- 1. Do the Laneville action and the Love action and their proposed class claims fall within those claims non-exempt under s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA?
- 2. Does the language of the Release contained in the Sanction Order apart from s. 5.1(2) permit either the Laneville or Love actions, including that against Underwriters, to continue?

- 3. Is there any basis on which the Court could or should vary the terms of the Release section of the Sanction Order?
- Having reviewed the language of the Releases contained in the Sanction Order, I am satisfied that the only basis that the release language permits claims as against the directors is if they are those contemplated in s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA not to be released.
- The object of the CCAA is to facilitate the restructuring of an insolvent corporation. In order to effect restructuring, a compromise of creditors' claims is almost inevitably an essential ingredient of a Plan under the CCAA.
- 32 The Plan, to be effective and to obtain Court approval, requires consensus and agreement by various classes of creditors. Many of the issues that arise before a Plan is approved by the Court involve a contestation between creditor groups as to how they should be classified and what extent of what group approval should be appropriately required. No motion was brought to seek to lift the stay in respect of actions provided for in the Initial Order.
- In this case, no creditor came forward to oppose approval of the Plan, including the terms of the release language as set out in the Sanction Order. The effect of a Sanction Order is to create a contract between creditors. (See *Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadienne de la Croix-Rouge, Re* (2002), 35 C.B.R. (4th) 43 (Ont. S.C.J.).
- The most significant feature of the CCAA Applications that have come before the Court in the last two or three years is that the negotiation has taken place to achieve consensus among creditors often before the Initial Order under the statute.
- 35 One can rightly understand the reluctance on the part of a provider of interim financing to continue to do so on an indefinite basis, when the approval process may be dragged out for days, weeks or months.
- All secured creditors whose security continues to deteriorate during the period of negotiation will seek an early determination of the consensus necessary for approval of a Plan; otherwise, liquidation may be preferable.
- 37 Such consensus requires agreement among many stakeholders, including not just creditors but as well current and former directors and officers, many of whose continued cooperation is necessary and integral to a Plan's success.
- To avoid the inequity that would result from creditor claims that were outstanding as against directors at the time of a CCAA application, s. 5.1(2) was amended in 1997 to its present form. As Hart J. noted in *Liberty Oil & Gas Ltd.*, *Re*, 2002 ABQB 949 (Alta. Q.B.) at paragraph 4, before the enactment of this section, the legislation provided for compromises of claims only against the petitioning company. The new section extends relief against directors of the petitioning company subject to exceptions.
- It is appropriate to approach statutory interpretation with the assumption that meaning is to be accorded to each of the words used in the provision within the overall purpose of the CCAA. The absence of other words can also be purposeful.
- 40 The CCAA has been said to be a skeletal statute designed to give flexibility and expediency in the ability of the company, with the concurrence of its creditors, to accomplish a restructuring of its debt in the avoidance of liquidation or bankruptcy, and does not contain a comprehensive code that lays out all that is permitted or barred. (See *ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp.*, 2008 ONCA 587 (Ont. C.A.) per Blair J.A para. 44.)
- Since the hearing in this matter, the Supreme Court of Canada has rendered a decision in *Ted Leroy Trucking Ltd., Re*, 2010 SCC 60 (S.C.C.), which endorses the broad principles of the CCAA and the discretion granted to the Court to effect a restructuring if possible or an orderly liquidation.
- The case involved a contest between the deemed trust provisions of the *Excise Tax Act* and the CCAA. Madam Justice Deschamps, speaking for the majority, noted the need for clarity of the underlying purpose with respect to the CCAA.
- 43 Paragraphs 12 to 14, 17, 58-59 and 63 of that decision read as follows:

- 12. Insolvency is the factual situation that arises when a debtor is unable to pay creditors (see generally, R. J. Wood, *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law* (2009), at p. 16). Certain legal proceedings become available upon insolvency, which typically allow a debtor to obtain a court order staying its creditors' enforcement actions and attempt to obtain a binding compromise with creditors to adjust the payment conditions to something more realistic. Alternatively, the debtor's assets may be liquidated and debts paid from the proceeds according to statutory priority rules. The former is usually referred to as reorganization or restructuring while the latter is termed liquidation.
- 13. Canadian commercial insolvency law is not codified in one exhaustive statute. Instead, Parliament has enacted multiple insolvency statutes, the main one being the *BIA*. The *BIA* offers a self-contained legal regime providing for both reorganization and liquidation. Although bankruptcy legislation has a long history, the *BIA* itself is a fairly recent statute it was enacted in 1992. It is characterized by a rules-based approach to proceedings. The *BIA* is available to insolvent debtors owing \$1000 or more, regardless of whether they are natural or legal persons. It contains mechanisms for debtors to make proposals to their creditors for the adjustment of debts. If a proposal fails, the *BIA* contains a bridge to bankruptcy whereby the debtor's assets are liquidated and the proceeds paid to creditors in accordance with the statutory scheme of distribution.
- 14. Access to the *CCAA* is more restrictive. A debtor must be a company with liabilities in excess of \$5 million. Unlike the *BIA*, the *CCAA* contains no provisions for liquidation of a debtor's assets if reorganization fails. There are three ways of exiting *CCAA* proceedings. The best outcome is achieved when the stay of proceedings provides the debtor with some breathing space during which solvency is restored and the *CCAA* process terminates without reorganization being needed. The second most desirable outcome occurs when the debtor's compromise or arrangement is accepted by its creditors and the reorganized company emerges from the *CCAA* proceedings as a going concern. Lastly, if the compromise or arrangement fails, either the company or its creditors usually seek to have the debtor's assets liquidated under the applicable provisions of the *BIA* or to place the debtor into receivership. As discussed in greater detail below, the key difference between the reorganization regimes under the *BIA* and the *CCAA* is that the latter offers a more flexible mechanism with greater judicial discretion, making it more responsive to complex reorganizations.

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17. Parliament understood when adopting the *CCAA* that liquidation of an insolvent company was harmful for most of those it affected — notably creditors and employees — and that a workout which allowed the company to survive was optimal (Sarra, *Creditor Rights*, at pp. 13-15).

. . . .

- 58. CCAA decisions are often based on discretionary grants of jurisdiction. The incremental exercise of judicial discretion in commercial courts under conditions one practitioner aptly describes as "the hothouse of real-time litigation" has been the primary method by which the CCAA has been adapted and has evolved to meet contemporary business and social needs (see Jones, at p. 484).
- 59. Judicial discretion must of course be exercised in furtherance of the *CCAA*'s purposes. The remedial purpose I referred to in the historical overview of the Act is recognized over and over again in the jurisprudence. To cite one early example:

The legislation is remedial in the purest sense in that it provides a means whereby the devastating social and economic effects of bankruptcy or creditor initiated termination of ongoing business operations can be avoided while a court-supervised attempt to reorganize the financial affairs of the debtor company is made.

Elan Corp. v. Comiskeyreflex, (1990), 41 O.A.C. 282, at para. 57, per Doherty J.A., dissenting.)

. . . .

- 63. Judicial innovation during *CCAA* proceedings has not been without controversy. At least two questions it raises are directly relevant to the case at bar: (1) what are the sources of a court's authority during *CCAA* proceedings? (2) what are the limits of this authority?
- I have quoted from the above decision at length to stress the nature of the discretion that is inherent in the CCAA statute to allow the Court to fashion a structure or process to best benefit stakeholders. Consistent with that purpose and as a matter of statutory interpretation, it is appropriate to look at the interpretation of s. 5.1(1) and (2) of the CCAA. Section 5.1 (1) deals with "obligations of the company where the directors are by law liable in their capacity as directors for the payment of such obligations."
- A Plan can therefore provide for the compromise of claims against directors where a director may in law be liable for the payment of a company's obligation with the exceptions set out in s. 5.1(2).
- 46 In my view, the best that can be said of s. 5 is that it is not as clearly drafted as it might have been.
- It is noteworthy that in the first line of s. 5.1(2), the only claims that may not be excluded in a compromise are those against "directors." Claims that can be excluded in a compromise include those against "officers" and the "company" itself. Why is this the case? One reason undoubtedly is the personal liability that directors face under both Federal and Provincial legislation, or the personal undertaking of a director to a creditor such as a personal guarantee. (See *CIT Financial Ltd. v. Lambert*, 2005 BCSC 1779 (B.C. S.C.).)
- By way of example, s. 131 (1) of the OBCA provides that directors are made personally liable for unpaid wages of the corporation's employees to a maximum of six months. Reading through s. 5.1 (1) and (2), there is nothing in the wording that would prevent the compromise of such claims against officers or the company itself, but not as against directors. The CCAA does not contain a definition of the word "creditor" but does of the terms "secured creditor," "unsecured creditor" and "shareholder." It would seem that for the purposes of the CCAA and in particular s. 5.1 (2), a creditor would include both a secured creditor and an unsecured creditor, but would not include a shareholder.
- 49 Section 5.1(2) refers only to creditors and not shareholders as prospective claimants, whether in contract, tort or statutory oppression.
- In this case, the claims by the Class Action Plaintiffs are on behalf of shareholders against directors, since the effect of the CCAA stayed the action against the company Allen-Vanguard. The claims arise with respect to a 2007 transaction and the pre-filing financial statements, but the claims do not involve officers or the company, only directors.
- While framed in negligence, the claims in these actions seek to involve the remedy of oppression under the OBCA to enlist the broad scope of remedy possible under that statute. However, it is only in respect of unpaid obligations of the company and other contract-type claims where the law imposes liability on the Defendant directors that invokes the exception in s. 5.1 (2). It is noteworthy that the word "negligence" does not appear in the section at all.
- 52 In their essence, the claims in the two actions allege a failure on the part of the directors in 2007 and the company to enter into a provident transaction and the transaction represented a misrepresentation to shareholders of the value of the transaction causing a reduction in shareholder value. Such claims are not of the same kind as those contemplated in section 5.1 (1). They do not relate to "obligations of the company where the directors are by law liable."
- The claims relate to transactions that were well in advance of the Initial CCAA Order. In *Canadian Airlines Corp.*, *Re*, 2000 ABQB 442 (Alta. Q.B.) (leave refused to ABCA [2000 CarswellAlta 919 (Alta. C.A. [In Chambers])] and to SCC [2001 CarswellAlta 888 (S.C.C.)]), it was held that claims against the directors should only be released if they arose prior to the date of the CCAA proceeding.
- I agree that the oppression remedy is expansive in scope and empowers the Court to make determinations and orders that can have a direct and even a radical impact on the internal management and status of a corporation, including even an order

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winding up the corporation. (See 820099 Ontario Inc. v. Harold E. Ballard Ltd. (1991), 3 B.L.R. (2d) 113 (Ont. Div. Ct.) and Incorporated Broadcasters Ltd. v. Canwest Global Communications Corp. [2001 CarswellOnt 4387 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])], 2001 CanLII 28395 at paragraphs 101-105.) Oppression as it occurs within s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA must be read within the context of the section itself.

- The claims in the Love and Laneville actions are in negligence and no other remedy is sought apart from a claim for damages and access to whatever insurance may be available to respond to claims against directors and officers. There is nothing before the Court to suggest that the insurers, assuming there is a valid policy, are aware of the restriction on remedy.
- I see no basis from the pleadings in this action for which it would be appropriate to consider the scope of relief that might otherwise apply under the oppression remedy section of the OBCA. Counsel for the Plaintiffs in the Proposed Class Actions cannot bolster their position by limiting recovery to the applicable Directors and Officers Insurance, when there is no basis for the claim at all, either under the language of the Release or the meaning to be accorded to s. 5.1 (2).
- 57 In *BCE Inc.*, *Re*, [2008] 3 S.C.R. 560 (S.C.C.), the Supreme Court of Canada commented on the expectations of stakeholders including but not limited to shareholders, in considering a Plan of Arrangement in the context of an oppression claim. Part of the test for "oppression" referred to in that decision is an expectation on the part of the claimant to be "treated in a certain way and that failure to meet the expectation involved unfair conduct."
- I fail to understand how the expectation of one or more shareholder groups can be any different with respect to the impugned transaction than those of creditors or indeed the company itself vis-à-vis the directors, particularly since neither the officers nor the company itself is pursued.
- The Sanction Order in this case by its terms provided release of the claims now sought to be pursued. By the terms of the Sanction Order, the only reasonable expectation of stakeholders would be that unless specifically authorized by the Order, any claim against directors would be barred. Potential claims against directors were not assigned to class plaintiffs nor was direction sought by any party about the effect of s. 5.1 prior to the issuance of the Order. Given the issue now before the Court and the disagreement of the parties, perhaps the better practice would have been to advise the Court of the issue and "carve" it out of the Plan.
- The Court is put in a difficult position when asked in a very constrained timeframe to approve the restructuring with releases. It should certainly not be the expectation that in every instance, releases of the type here should be granted as a matter of course. Those with unpaid obligations of the company may assert that directors are liable if they fail to fulfill the company's obligation when they are legally bound to do so.
- I am of the view that third-party releases in particular should be the exception rather than the rule. There may very well be instances in which the releases are not integral or necessary to the restructuring and should not be approved. That was not suggested in the approval process here. There was no evidence presented at the time of the granting of the Sanction Order to suggest that directors were not important to the restructuring. Indeed, the only evidence before the Court was to the contrary: that the directors were integral to the Plan's success.
- In this case, the putative Plaintiffs did not oppose the granting of the Sanction Order and in effect took their chances that the Order might after the fact permit the limited claim referred to in the Monitor's Report.
- All of the other stakeholders, including the secured creditors, directors, officers and the Applicant Company, approved the form of Order.
- It is certainly speculative at this time to consider, had the form of Order proposed been objected to, to what extent the Court would have any jurisdiction to grant the language now sought by the Plaintiffs, without rejecting the Plan entirely.

- The duty of directors is first and foremost to the company itself. The oppression remedy does not in my view permit one group (shareholders) to claim oppression when other stakeholders, for example employees or creditors or indeed the company itself, have allegedly suffered a loss that results in insolvency and are unable to seek redress and still preserve restructuring.
- To vary or amend the Sanction Order now to permit the claims to continue might at the very least require the presence and concurrence of all of those who supported the form of Order in the first place.
- Counsel for the proposed Plaintiffs refer to several decisions, which they urged support the proposition that shareholder actions for oppression against directors are permitted under s. 5.1 (2) of the CCCA.
- Each of those decisions, while fact-specific, in my view is consistent with a narrow range of actions warranted for a shareholder against the director under the exception to s. 5.1 (2).
- 69 In *Liberty Oil & Gas Ltd., Re*, 2002 ABQB 949 (Alta. Q.B.), where the action did proceed, the allegation involved a personal representation, indeed a fraudulent one, by the defendant director to two individuals who happened to be shareholders. The complained acts were not those of the company (as here), but rather personal and direct as between the director and shareholder. In other words, there was the proximity that one would expect in a tort situation.
- 70 In *Cheng v. Worldwide Pork Co.*, 2009 SKQB 414 (Sask. Q.B.), the action was not permitted to proceed. At paragraphs 14 and 15 Justice Dawson said:

It must be remembered that the oppression remedy is not designed to settle every dispute of a corporation but only those that involve and abuse of the corporate system and for which a common-law remedy does not exist.

As well, the plaintiffs have pled that their claim is for damages, for loss of profits and loss of pay out dividends. There must be a causal connection between the alleged oppresive conduct and the loss claimed to be suffered by the plaintiffs. That is, there must be a causal nexus between the alleged conduct and the loss suffered by the plaintiffs. There is no pleading which sets out how the alleged loss of profit or dividends resulted from the conduct alleged to be oppressive. But in any event the losses claimed are losses as a result of Worldwide Pork not being profitable, that is, being unable to provide a return to shareholders for their investment. Such a loss cannot support an action for oppression since it comes with in the exception contained in section 5.1 (2) (b.) of the CCAA.

In *BlueStar Battery Systems International Corp.*, *Re* (2000), 10 B.L.R. (3d) 221 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), Farley J. of this Court dealt with a claim very much like that considered by the Supreme Court of Canada in *Century Services*, *supra*, as it involved G.S.T. At paragraph 12, he said

Thus it appears to me that RevCan, not having put itself into position where it could (and did) perfect its derivative claims as set out in section 323 (2) (a) of the *Excise Tax Act* never had a claim against the directors which could survive the sanction of the Plan vis-à-vis the Applicants. Nothing that this Court could do at the present time (that is, at the time when considering the CCAA sanctioned motion) could crystallize a RevCan claim against the directors. RevCan would have to take additional multiple steps over some period of time to establish a claim against the directors.

- Farley J. went on to discuss the hypothetical of a claim in oppression against the directors as provided for in s. 5.1(2) in the context where the creditor had put the directors on notice of the promise of the company to pay the tax.
- 73 The argument of the Proposed Plaintiffs here is that "oppressive conduct" is not to be carved out, but that wrongful conduct that involves directors, even though the action as against the company cannot continue, it can continue against the directors.
- What in my view is consistent with the decisions in the three cases mentioned and in the Québec case *Papiers Gaspésia inc.*, *Re*, 2006 QCCS 1460 (Que. Bktcy.) (CanLII) and with the interpretation of s. 5.1(2) is that the actions of the directors toward persons who may be regarded as creditors, and may in this context include a shareholder, are based on a direct relationship when a director takes on an obligation to make a payment that would otherwise be the obligation of the company and promises

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to do so or is obliged to do so by legislation. In most cases this will be a post-filing obligation. In other words, a promise by a director directly to a creditor stakeholder that is made following a CCAA Initial Order may attract liability to the director and should not be released.

- It would be inconsistent with the scheme of the CCAA to allow all claims in which shareholders claim oppression to proceed against directors for acts or omissions that they did in the name of the company prior to the Initial Order. There would be little if any incentive to directors to pursue restructuring if they were going to be so exposed. On the other hand, personal undertakings or obligations of directors made during the CCAA process should not easily be released.
- To permit the kind of claims as the Proposed Plaintiffs would see them would create a priority to that class of unsecured creditors that properly should belong to the creditors as a group. No leave to continue the Class action was sought before the Sanction Order was granted and even on this motion no submission was put forward for the exercise of discretion under section 5.1 (3).
- None of the cases referred to in argument dealing with s. 5.1(2) squarely deals with the issue raised here that the section was intended to related to post-filing claims or personal undertakings of directors to creditors in connection with the proposed plan prior to filing.
- The final argument on behalf of Class Plaintiffs is that to deny the claim of shareholders as against directors would only benefit their insurers, since the Class Plaintiffs have agreed to limit any recovery to the amount of the insurance. I fail to see how this advances the position of the Proposed Plaintiffs. No information was put before the Court about the particulars of the insurance. The Court has no information to know whether or not the insurers even know of this issue.
- 79 If the claim does not lie as against the directors in the first place under s. 5.1(2), the limitation of the claim as against the potentially available insurance does not advance the case of the class of Plaintiffs.
- 80 There would be little meaning left to s. 5.1 if all claims of negligence and wrongful conduct against directors for pre-filing activity could not be released and no need for the discretion provided for in s. 5.1 (3) for Court to override this compromise as not being fair or reasonable. As noted above in the passages from the *Century Services* case, the purpose of the CCAA and the discretion granted to the Court are to permit restructuring to work, not create new causes of action.
- 81 The concern of the Court, which necessitated the further inquiry, was that the language of the Sanction Order might imply on the part of the Applicant and directors who had knowledge of the particulars of the claim that the facts could give rise to a s. 5.1(2) claim. I am satisfied based on the further information provided that no such admission is to be implied.
- 82 The relief sought by the directors is therefore granted.

#### **Underwriters**

- Underwriters acted on share and warrant offerings of Allen-Vanguard in September 2007 and certified a related prospectus. The Love Class Action was commenced in February 2010 and the proposed Representative Plaintiff claims damages against Underwriters under s. 130 of the *Securities Act (Ontario)* and also makes claims on the basis of negligence, unjust enrichment and waiver of tort.
- 84 Underwriters rely on the provisions of the releases granted by the Sanction Order and in particular the claims against the Applicant Company Allen- Vanguard. As well, Underwriters rely on the definition of "Equity Claims" in the Sanction Order and submit that because the provisions of the Order in paragraph 26 (ii) bar certain claims against third parties who might claim contribution and indemnity against the restructured company, they should be entitled to the benefit of that provision.
- The response of the proposed Class Plaintiffs in the Love litigation is that the claim against Underwriters is based on the negligence, fraud or wilful misconduct of Underwriters. It is submitted that Underwriters are not entitled to indemnity as against Allen-Vanguard for the several negligence of Underwriters, either at law or under s. 130 of the Securities Act.

- The proposed Class Plaintiff submits that given the nature of the claim as against Underwriters, Underwriters would never have had a right to an indemnity for the claims asserted in the Love Action and therefore there were no such claims to be released.
- 87 It is submitted that Underwriters bargained any possible indemnity away by the terms of their contract with Allen-Vanguard in September 2007, and that even if they had the benefit of an indemnity, all that was required for the Plan's success was that Alan-Vanguard be protected from Underwriters, not that Mr. Love's claims against Underwriters be eliminated.
- Counsel for the Plaintiff in the Love Action also urges that Underwriters did not have the right of indemnity as at the time of the Initial Order, and the Sanction Order bars any indemnity that they might otherwise have had and there is nothing in the language of either Order to preclude the claim of the Class Plaintiff against Underwriters limited to Underwriters' negligence.
- Finally, it is submitted that since Underwriters did not "bring anything to the table" in respect of the restructuring, there is no basis on which the Court should vary the Sanction Order to now provide the indemnity that the Order fails to provide.
- In the alternative, the Class Plaintiffs suggest that the Sanction Order be clarified, if necessary, to clearly provide the right of the Class Plaintiff to proceed against Underwriters.
- In my view, there is a distinction to be made between the claim as against the directors and that against Underwriters, since in the case as against the directors, the parties appear to have bargained that if the claim could be brought under s. 5.1(2), it could proceed. That consideration was known to the parties who negotiated and agreed on the form of the Sanction Order and that was the only claim not otherwise covered by the Release terms.
- 92 In the case of Underwriters, there was nothing to suggest that any discussion or negotiation took place with respect to specific protection for Underwriters or the allowance of a claim against Underwriters at the time that the Sanction Order was approved.
- This is another reason why in my view s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA should be read narrowly with respect to pre-filing claims or claims that relate to pre-filing activity.
- The *Ontario Business Corporations Act*, R.S.O. 1990 c. B. 16 ("OBCA") contains a statutory process for that kind of action and remedy sought by the Class Plaintiffs in both actions. Section 246(1) reads as follows:
  - 246.(1) Subject to subsection (2), a complainant may apply to the court for leave to bring an action in the name and on behalf of a corporation or any of its subsidiaries, or intervene in an action to which any such body corporate is a party, for the purpose of prosecuting, defending or discontinuing the action on behalf of the body corporate.
- The Supreme Court of Canada dealt with the issue of collective shareholder claims versus claims that are those of the corporation itself in *Hercules Management Ltd. v. Ernst & Young*, 1997 CanLII 345, [1997] 2 S.C.R. 165 (S.C.C.). The case involved a claim by shareholders of the corporation against its auditors for an alleged negligence in preparation of financial statements of the corporation. Paragraph 48 of the reasons refers to and adopts a statement of Farley J. in *Roman Corp. v. Peat Marwick Thorne* (1992), 11 O.R. (3d) 248 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]) at p 260.

As a matter of law the only purpose for which shareholders receive an auditor's report is to provide the shareholders with information for the purpose of overseeing the management and affairs of the corporation and not for the purpose of guiding personal investment decisions or personal speculation with a view to profit.

- The plaintiffs in *Hercules* asserted reliance on financial statements in monitoring the value of their equity and then due to auditors' negligence, they failed to extract it before the financial demise of the company.
- The Supreme Court, in assessing the claim, referred at paragraph 59 to the rule in *Foss v. Harbottle* [(1843), 67 E.R. 189 (Eng. V.-C.)]:

59. The rule in *Foss v. Harbottle* provides that individual shareholders have no cause of action in law for any wrongs done to the corporation and that if an action is to be brought in respect of such losses, it must be brought either by the corporation itself (through management) or by way of a derivative action. The legal rationale behind the rule was eloquently set out by the English Court of Appeal in *Prudential Assurance Co. v. Newman Industries Ltd.* (No. 2), [1982] 1 All E.R. 354, at p. 367, as follows:

The rule [in *Foss v. Harbottle*] is the consequence of the fact that a corporation is a separate legal entity. Other consequences are limited liability and limited rights. The company is liable for its contracts and torts; the shareholder has no such liability. The company acquires causes of action for breaches of contract and for torts which damage the company. No cause of action vests in the shareholder. When the shareholder acquires a share he accepts the fact that the value of his investment follows the fortunes of the company and that he can only exercise his influence over the fortunes of the company by the exercise of his voting rights in general meeting. The law confers on him the right to ensure that the company observes the limitations of its memorandum of association and the right to ensure that other shareholders observe the rule, imposed on them by the articles of association. If it is right that the law has conferred or should in certain restricted circumstances confer further rights on a shareholder the scope and consequences of such further rights require careful consideration.

To these lucid comments, I would respectfully add that the rule is also sound from a policy perspective, inasmuch as it avoids the procedural hassle of a multiplicity of actions.

60. The manner in which the rule in Foss v. Harbottle, supra, operates with respect to the appellants' claims can thus be demonstrated. As I have already explained, the appellants allege that they were prevented from properly overseeing the management of the audited corporations because the respondents' audit reports painted a misleading picture of their financial state. They allege further that had they known the true situation, they would have intervened to avoid the eventuality of the corporations' going into receivership and the consequent loss of their equity. The difficulty with this submission, I have suggested, is that it fails to recognize that in supervising management, the shareholders must be seen to be acting as a body in respect of the corporation's interests rather than as individuals in respect of their own ends. In a manner of speaking, the shareholders assume what may be seen to be a "managerial role" when, as a collectivity, they oversee the activities of the directors and officers through resolutions adopted at shareholder meetings. In this capacity, they cannot properly be understood to be acting simply as individual holders of equity. Rather, their collective decisions are made in respect of the corporation itself. Any duty owed by auditors in respect of this aspect of the shareholders' functions, then, would be owed not to shareholders qua individuals, but rather to all shareholders as a group, acting in the interests of the corporation. And if the decisions taken by the collectivity of shareholders are in respect of the corporation's affairs, then the shareholders' reliance on negligently prepared audit reports in taking such decisions will result in a wrong to the corporation for which the shareholders cannot, as individuals, recover.

61. This line of reasoning finds support in Lord Bridge's comments in *Caparo*, *supra*, at p. 580:

The shareholders of a company have a collective interest in the company's proper management and in so far as a negligent failure of the auditor to report accurately on the state of the company's finances deprives the shareholders of the opportunity to exercise their powers in general meeting to call the directors to book and to ensure that errors in management are corrected, the shareholders ought to be entitled to a remedy. But in practice no problem arises in this regard since the interest of the shareholders in the proper management of the company's affairs is indistinguishable from the interest of the company itself and any loss suffered by the shareholders... will be recouped by a claim against the auditor in the name of the company, not by individual shareholders.

[Emphasis in Supreme Court decision.]

It is also reflected in the decision of Farley J. in *Roman I, supra*, the facts of which were similar to those of the case at bar. In that case, the plaintiff shareholders brought an action against the defendant auditors alleging, *inter alia*, that the defendant's audit reports were negligently prepared. That negligence, the shareholders contended, prevented them from properly overseeing management which, in turn, led to the winding up of the corporation and a loss to the shareholders of their equity therein. Farley J. discussed the rule in *Foss v. Harbottle* and concluded that it operated so as to preclude the shareholders from bringing personal actions based on an alleged inability to supervise the conduct of management.

- 62. One final point should be made here. Referring to the case of *Goldex Mines Ltd. v. Revill* (1974), 7 O.R. (2d) 216 (C.A.), the appellants submit that where a shareholder has been directly and individually harmed, that shareholder may have a personal cause of action even though the corporation may also have a separate and distinct cause of action. Nothing in the foregoing paragraphs should be understood to detract from this principle. In finding that claims in respect of losses stemming from an alleged inability to oversee or supervise management are really derivative and not personal in nature, I have found only that shareholders cannot raise individual claims in respect of a wrong done to the corporation. Indeed, this is the limit of the rule in *Foss v. Harbottle*. Where, however, a separate and distinct claim (say, in tort) can be raised with respect to a wrong done to a shareholder *qua* individual, a personal action may well lie, assuming that all the requisite elements of a cause of action can be made out.
- The policy of limiting indeterminate liability as in *Hercules* is consistent with the basis for the limitation of claims under s. 5.1(2) as set out above. In my view the words of s. 5.1(2) do not create a cause of action that would otherwise not exist except by leave of the Court. It simply provides an exception to what otherwise could be included in a release.
- 99 The release terms contained in the Sanction Order would deprive Underwriters from any claims for contribution or indemnity to which they would otherwise be entitled at law from the Company and its directors and officers should the actions of the Class Plaintiffs proceed.
- This is just one further reason to support not just what is required for a derivative action but also what is required to be taken into consideration before the Court issues a Sanction Order in this case in effect on consent.
- As noted above, what has come to be known as a "liquidating" CCAA application can provide problems not just for the parties but the Court itself. The presumption behind the timing of the Application in this case was that if not granted quickly, bankruptcy would have ensued with the inevitable loss of jobs, assets and creditor claims.
- The Class Plaintiffs are taken to have known of the CCAA proposal as early as September 2009 and could have sought leave to commence a derivative action prior to or during the CCAA process. No such step was taken.
- I am satisfied that it is appropriate in the circumstances to stay the claims as against Underwriters in negligence and misrepresentation.
- The Claim against Underwriters also alleges fraud. If the only claim were in fraud and full particulars of alleged fraud were contained in the pleading, the claim might survive since the wording of the Release does not extend to fraud.
- Apart from fraud, claims in negligence against Underwriters are caught by the terms of the Release. Arguably, the claims are those of the Company that are specifically released.

#### Variation of the Sanction Order

As noted above in reference to the decision in *Canadian Red Cross*, a Sanction Order in addition to being an Order of the Court and subject to the normal rules for variation thereof, represents an agreed contract between the creditors of an insolvent corporation.

- The Class Plaintiffs in the Laneville action did not seek to lift the stay at the time of the Initial Order. The Class Plaintiff accepted the Release provisions which extend to Underwriters when the Sanctioned Order was granted.
- 108 Underwriters were released by the terms of the Sanction Order, and the Order, which was not appealed, represents a final determination of the rights of shareholders as against Underwriters.
- As was mentioned above, in respect of the suggestion of variation of the Sanction Order to permit the claim as against the directors, I conclude that it is not appropriate to vary a Sanction Order after the fact. The reliance that parties place on the finality of a Sanction Order is such that it would only be in extraordinary circumstances of a clear mistake, operative misrepresentation or fraud that would permit variation without re-opening the whole process.
- In Extreme Retail (Canada) Inc. v. Bank of Montreal, [2007] O.J. No. 3304 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), Stinson J. held at paragraph 21 that an Approval and Vesting Order was a final determination of the rights of parties represented in that proceeding. Morawetz J. adopted those comments in Royal Bank v. Body Blue Inc. 2008 CarswellOnt 2445 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])] 2008 CanLII 19227 to the same effect at paragraphs 19 and 20. In my view the same principle applies to a Sanction Order.
- I see nothing in the requests of either Underwriters or the Class Plaintiffs that would be appropriate to permit variation of the Sanction Order as each of them have proposed.
- Should the Class Plaintiff in the Laneville action seek to pursue a claim against Underwriters limited alone in fraud, the action should be permitted to proceed subject to the Plaintiff persuading a judge that such a limited claim should be certified.

#### **Conclusion**

For the above reasons the motion by the directors will succeed to enjoin the claims as against them in both the Love and Laneville actions. The motion of Underwriters to strike is granted, and motions for variation of the Sanction Order of both Underwriters and the Class Plaintiffs are dismissed. Counsel may make written submissions on the issue of costs.

Motions granted; cross-motion dismissed.

**End of Document** 

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## **TAB 6**

## 2012 SCC 67 Supreme Court of Canada

AbitibiBowater Inc., Re

2012 CarswellQue 12490, 2012 CarswellQue 12491, 2012 SCC 67, [2012] 3 S.C.R. 443, [2012] A.C.S. No. 67, [2012] S.C.J. No. 67, 221 A.C.W.S. (3d) 264, 352 D.L.R. (4th) 399, 438 N.R. 134, 71 C.E.L.R. (3d) 1, 95 C.B.R. (5th) 200, J.E. 2012-2270

Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, Appellant and AbitibiBowater Inc., Abitibi-Consolidated Inc., Bowater Canadian Holdings Inc., Ad Hoc Committee of Bondholders, Ad Hoc Committee of Senior Secured Noteholders and U.S. Bank National Association (Indenture Trustee for the Senior Secured Noteholders), Respondents and Attorney General of Canada, Attorney General of Ontario, Attorney General of British Columbia, Attorney General of Alberta, Her Majesty the Queen in Right of British Columbia, Ernst & Young Inc., as Monitor, and Friends of the Earth Canada, Interveners

McLachlin C.J.C., LeBel, Deschamps, Fish, Abella, Rothstein, Cromwell, Moldaver, Karakatsanis JJ.

Heard: November 16, 2011 Judgment: December 7, 2012 Docket: 33797

Proceedings: affirmed *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re* (2010), 68 C.B.R. (5th) 57, 52 C.E.L.R. (3d) 1, 2010 CarswellQue 4782, 2010 QCCA 965, Chamberland J.A. (C.A. Que.); refused leave to appealdemande d'autorisation d'en appeler refusée *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re* (2010), 68 C.B.R. (5th) 1, 52 C.E.L.R. (3d) 17, 2010 QCCS 1261, 2010 CarswellQue 2812, Clément Gascon J.C.S (C.S. Que.)

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William A. Amos, Anastasia M. Lintner, Hugh S. Wilkins, R. Graham Phoenix, for Intervener, Friends of the Earth Canada

Subject: Insolvency; Environmental

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2315, 2003 CarswellQue 2316, (sub nom. *Imperial Oil Ltd. v. Quebec (Minister of the Environment))* [2003] 2 S.C.R. 624, 5 C.E.L.R. (3d) 38 (S.C.C.) — referred to

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Panamericana de Bienes y Servicios S.A. v. Northern Badger Oil & Gas Ltd. (1991), 8 C.B.R. (3d) 31, 1991 CarswellAlta 315, 81 Alta. L.R. (2d) 45, [1991] 5 W.W.R. 577, 81 D.L.R. (4th) 280, 7 C.E.L.R. (N.S.) 66, 117 A.R. 44, 2 W.A.C. 44 (Alta. C.A.) — distinguished

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Generally — referred to

- s. 2 "claim provable in bankruptcy" considered
- s. 14 [rep. & sub. 1992, c. 27, s. 9] referred to
- s. 121(1) considered
- s. 121(2) considered
- s. 135(1.1) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 89(1)] considered

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art. 1497 — referred to

art. 1508 — referred to

art. 1513 — referred to

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Generally — referred to

- s. 2(1) "claim" considered
- s. 11 considered
- s. 11.1 [en. 2007, c. 36, s. 65] referred to
- s. 11.1(3) [en. 2007, c. 36, s. 65] considered
- s. 11.8(8) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] considered

s. 12 — considered

s. 12(1) "claim" — considered

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Generally — referred to

s. 99 — considered

#### Statutes considered by McLachlin C.J.C. (dissenting):

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Generally — referred to

s. 2 — referred to

s. 14.06(8) [en. 1992, c. 27, s. 9(1)] — considered

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s. 11.1(3) [en. 2007, c. 36, s. 65] — referred to

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s. 11.8(9) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] — considered

s. 12(1) "claim" — considered

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POURVOI formé par la province à l'encontre d'une décision publiée à *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re* (2010), 68 C.B.R. (5th) 57, 52 C.E.L.R. (3d) 1, 2010 CarswellQue 4782, 2010 QCCA 965 (C.A. Que.), ayant refusé d'accorder la permission d'interjeter appel à l'encontre d'une décision ayant rejeté sa requête visant à faire déclarer que l'ordonnance relative à la procédure de réclamations émise en vertu de l'*Environmental Protection Act* n'empêchait pas la province d'exécuter les ordonnances enjoignant la débitrice d'exécuter des travaux de décontamination.

#### Deschamps J.:

- The question in this appeal is whether orders issued by a regulatory body with respect to environmental remediation work can be treated as monetary claims under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("*CCAA*").
- 2 Regulatory bodies may become involved in reorganization proceedings when they order the debtor to comply with statutory rules. As a matter of principle, reorganization does not amount to a licence to disregard rules. Yet there are circumstances in which valid and enforceable orders will be subject to an arrangement under the *CCAA*. One such circumstance is where a regulatory body makes an environmental order that explicitly asserts a monetary claim.
- In other circumstances, it is less clear whether an order can be treated as a monetary claim. The appellant and a number of interveners posit that an order issued by an environmental body is not a claim under the *CCAA* if the order does not require the debtor to make a payment. I agree that not all orders issued by regulatory bodies are monetary in nature and thus provable claims in an insolvency proceeding, but some may be, even if the amounts involved are not quantified at the outset of the proceeding. In the environmental context, the *CCAA* court must determine whether there are sufficient facts indicating the existence of an environmental duty that will ripen into a financial liability owed to the regulatory body that issued the order. In such a case, the relevant question is not simply whether the body has formally exercised its power to claim a debt. A *CCAA* court does not assess claims or orders on the basis of form alone. If the order is not framed in monetary terms, the court must determine, in light of the factual matrix and the applicable statutory framework, whether it is a claim that will be subject to the claims process.
- 4 The case at bar concerns contamination that occurred, prior to the *CCAA* proceedings, on property that is largely no longer under the debtor's possession and control. The *CCAA* court found on the facts of this case that the orders issued by Her Majesty

the Queen in right of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador ("Province") were simply a first step towards remediating the contaminated property and asserting a claim for the resulting costs. In the words of the *CCAA* court, "the intended, practical and realistic effect of the *EPA* Orders was to establish a basis for the Province to recover amounts of money to be eventually used for the remediation of the properties in question" (2010 QCCS 1261, 68 C.B.R. (5th) 1 (C.S. Que.), at para. 211). As a result, the *CCAA* court found that the orders were clearly monetary in nature. I see no error of law and no reason to interfere with this finding of fact. I would dismiss the appeal with costs.

#### I. Facts and Procedural History

- 5 For over 100 years, AbitibiBowater Inc. and its affiliated or predecessor companies (together, "Abitibi") were involved in industrial activity in Newfoundland and Labrador. In 2008, Abitibi announced the closure of a mill that was its last operation in that province.
- Within two weeks of the announcement, the Province passed the *Abitibi-Consolidated Rights and Assets Act*, S.N.L. 2008, c. A-1.01 ("*Abitibi Act*"), which immediately transferred most of Abitibi's property in Newfoundland and Labrador to the Province and denied Abitibi any legal remedy for this expropriation.
- The closure of its mill in Newfoundland and Labrador was one of many decisions Abitibi made in a period of general financial distress affecting its activities both in the United States and in Canada. It filed for insolvency protection in the United States on April 16, 2009. It also sought a stay of proceedings under the *CCAA* in the Superior Court of Quebec, as its Canadian head office was located in Montreal. The *CCAA* stay was ordered on April 17, 2009.
- 8 In the same month, Abitibi also filed a notice of intent to submit a claim to arbitration under NAFTA (the *North American Free Trade Agreement Between the Government of the United Mexican States and the Government of the United States of America*, Can. T.S. 1994 No. 2) for losses resulting from the *Abitibi Act*, which, according to Abitibi, exceeded \$300 million.
- 9 On November 12, 2009, the Province's Minister of Environment and Conservation ("Minister") issued five orders ("EPA Orders") under s. 99 of the Environmental Protection Act, S.N.L. 2002, c. E-14.2 ("EPA"). The EPA Orders required Abitibi to submit remediation action plans to the Minister for five industrial sites, three of which had been expropriated, and to complete the approved remediation actions. The CCAA judge estimated the cost of implementing these plans to be from "the mid-to-high eight figures" to "several times higher" (para. 81).
- On the day it issued the *EPA* Orders, the Province brought a motion for a declaration that a claims procedure order issued under the *CCAA* in relation to Abitibi's proposed reorganization did not bar the Province from enforcing the *EPA* Orders. The Province argued and still argues that non-monetary statutory obligations are not "claims" under the *CCAA* and hence cannot be stayed and be subject to a claims procedure order. It further submits that Parliament lacks the constitutional competence under its power to make laws in relation to bankruptcy and insolvency to stay orders that are validly made in the exercise of a provincial power.
- Abitibi contested the motion and sought a declaration that the *EPA* Orders were stayed and that they were subject to the claims procedure order. It argued that the *EPA* Orders were monetary in nature and hence fell within the definition of the word "claim" in the claims procedure order.
- Gascon J. of the Quebec Superior Court, sitting as a *CCAA* court, dismissed the Province's motion. He found that he had the authority to characterize the orders as "claims" if the underlying regulatory obligations "remain[ed], in a particular fact pattern, truly financial and monetary in nature" (para. 148). He declared that the *EPA* Orders were stayed by the initial stay order and were not subject to the exception found in that order. He also declared that the filing by the Province of any claim based on the *EPA* Orders was subject to the claims procedure order, and reserved to the Province the right to request an extension of time to assert a claim under the claims procedure order and to Abitibi the right to contest such a request.
- 13 In the Court of Appeal, Chamberland J.A. denied the Province leave to appeal (2010 QCCA 965, 68 C.B.R. (5th) 57 (C.A. Que.)). In his view, the appeal had no reasonable chance of success, because Gascon J. had found as a fact that the *EPA* Orders

were financial or monetary in nature. Chamberland J.A. also found that no constitutional issue arose, given that the Superior Court judge had merely characterized the orders in the context of the restructuring process; the judgment did not "immunise' Abitibi from compliance with the EPA Orders" (para. 33). Finally, he noted that Gascon J. had reserved the Province's right to request an extension of time to file a claim in the *CCAA* process.

#### II. Positions of the Parties

- The Province argues that the *CCAA* court erred in interpreting the relevant *CCAA* provisions in a way that nullified the *EPA*, and that the interpretation is inconsistent with both the ancillary powers doctrine and the doctrine of interjurisdictional immunity. The Province further submits that, in any event, the *EPA* Orders are not "claims" within the meaning of the *CCAA*. It takes the position that "any plan of compromise and arrangement that Abitibi might submit for court approval must make provision for compliance with the EPA Orders" (A.F., at para. 32).
- Abitibi contends that the factual record does not provide a basis for applying the constitutional doctrines. It relies on the *CCAA* court's findings of fact, particularly the finding that the Province's intent was to establish the basis for a monetary claim. Abitibi submits that the true issue is whether a province that has a monetary claim against an insolvent company can obtain a preference against other unsecured creditors by exercising its regulatory power.

#### **III. Constitutional Questions**

- 16 At the Province's request, the Chief Justice stated the following constitutional questions:
  - 1. Is the definition of "claim" in s. 2(1) of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, *ultra vires* the Parliament of Canada or constitutionally inapplicable to the extent this definition includes statutory duties to which the debtor is subject pursuant to s. 99 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, S.N.L. 2002, c. E-14.2?
  - 2. Is s. 11 of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, *ultra vires* the Parliament of Canada or constitutionally inapplicable to the extent this section gives courts jurisdiction to bar or extinguish statutory duties to which the debtor is subject pursuant to s. 99 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, S.N.L. 2002, c. E-14.2?
  - 3. Is s. 11 of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, *ultra vires* the Parliament of Canada or constitutionally inapplicable to the extent this section gives courts jurisdiction to review the exercise of ministerial discretion under s. 99 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, S.N.L. 2002, c. E-14.2?
- Inote that the question whether a *CCAA* court has constitutional jurisdiction to stay a provincial order that is *not* a monetary claim does not arise here, because the stay order in this case did not affect non-monetary orders. However, the question may arise in other cases. In 2007, Parliament expressly gave *CCAA* courts the power to stay regulatory orders that are not monetary claims by amending the *CCAA* to include the current version of s. 11.1(3) (*An Act to amend the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, the Wage Earner Protection Program Act and chapter 47 of the Statutes of Canada, 2005, S.C. 2007, c. 36, s. 65) ("2007 amendments"). Thus, future cases may give courts the opportunity to consider the question raised by the Province in an appropriate factual context. The only constitutional question that needs to be answered in this case concerns the jurisdiction of a <i>CCAA* court to determine whether an environmental order that is not framed in monetary terms is in fact a monetary claim.
- Processing creditors' claims against an insolvent debtor in an equitable and orderly manner is at the heart of insolvency legislation, which falls under a head of power attributed to Parliament. Rules concerning the assessment of creditors' claims, such as the determination of whether a creditor has a monetary claim, relate directly to the equitable and orderly treatment of creditors in an insolvency process. There is no need to perform a detailed analysis of the pith and substance of the provisions on the assessment of claims in insolvency matters to conclude that the federal legislation governing the characterization of an order as a monetary claim is valid. Because the provisions relate directly to Parliament's jurisdiction, the ancillary powers doctrine is not relevant to this case. I also find that the interjurisdictional immunity doctrine is not applicable. A finding that a

claim of an environmental creditor is monetary in nature does not interfere in any way with the creditor's activities. Its claim is simply subjected to the insolvency process.

What the Province is actually arguing is that courts should consider the form of an order rather than its substance. I see no reason why the Province's choice of order should not be scrutinized to determine whether the form chosen is consistent with the order's true purpose as revealed by the Province's own actions. If the Province's actions indicate that, in substance, it is asserting a provable claim within the meaning of federal legislation, then that claim can be subjected to the insolvency process. Environmental claims do not have a higher priority than is provided for in the *CCAA*. Considering substance over form prevents a regulatory body from artificially creating a priority higher than the one conferred on the claim by federal legislation. This Court recognized long ago that a province cannot disturb the priority scheme established by the federal insolvency legislation: *Husky Oil Operations Ltd. v. Minister of National Revenue*, [1995] 3 S.C.R. 453 (S.C.C.). Environmental claims are given a specific, and limited, priority under the *CCAA*. To exempt orders which are in fact monetary claims from the *CCAA* proceedings would amount to conferring upon provinces a priority higher than the one provided for in the *CCAA*.

#### IV. Claims under the CCAA

- 20 Several provisions of the *CCAA* have been amended since Abitibi filed for insolvency protection. Except where otherwise indicated, the provisions I refer to are those that were in force when the stay was ordered.
- One of the central features of the *CCAA* scheme is the single proceeding model, which ensures that most claims against a debtor are entertained in a single forum. Under this model, the court can stay the enforcement of most claims against the debtor's assets in order to maintain the *status quo* during negotiations with the creditors. When such negotiations are successful, the creditors typically accept less than the full amounts of their claims. Claims have not necessarily accrued or been liquidated at the outset of the insolvency proceeding, and they sometimes have to be assessed in order to determine the monetary value that will be subject to compromise.
- Section 12 of the *CCAA* establishes the basic rules for ascertaining whether an order is a claim that may be subjected to the insolvency process:

[Definition of "claim"]

**12.** (1) For the purposes of this Act, "claim" means any <u>indebtedness</u>, <u>liability</u> or <u>obligation of any kind</u> that, if unsecured, would be a debt provable in bankruptcy within the meaning of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*.

[Determination of amount of claim]

- (2) For the purposes of this Act, the amount represented by a claim of any secured or unsecured creditor shall be determined as follows:
  - (a) the amount of an unsecured claim shall be the amount

. . .

- (iii) in the case of any other company, proof of which might be made under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, but if the amount so provable is not admitted by the company, the amount shall be determined by the court on summary application by the company or by the creditor; and ...
- Section 12 of the *CCAA* refers to the rules of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 ("*BIA*"). Section 2 of the *BIA* defines a claim provable in bankruptcy:

"claim provable in bankruptcy", "provable claim" or "claim provable" includes any claim or liability provable in proceedings under this Act by a <u>creditor</u>.

- 24 This definition is completed by s. 121 of the *BIA*:
  - **121.** (1) All debts and liabilities, present or future, to which the bankrupt is subject on the day on which the bankrupt becomes bankrupt or to which the bankrupt may become subject before the bankrupt's discharge by reason of any obligation incurred before the day on which the bankrupt becomes bankrupt shall be deemed to be claims provable in proceedings under this Act.
- 25 Sections 121(2) and 135(1.1) of the BIA offer additional guidance for the determination of whether an order is a provable claim:

## 121. . . .

(2) The determination whether a <u>contingent</u> or <u>unliquidated</u> claim is a provable claim and the valuation of such a claim shall be made in accordance with section 135.

#### 135. . . .

- (1.1) The trustee shall determine whether any <u>contingent</u> claim or <u>unliquidated</u> claim is a provable claim, and, if a provable claim, the trustee shall value it, and the claim is thereafter, subject to this section, deemed a proved claim to the amount of its valuation.
- These provisions highlight three requirements that are relevant to the case at bar. First, there must be a debt, a liability or an obligation to a *creditor*. Second, the debt, liability or obligation must be incurred *before the debtor becomes bankrupt*. Third, it must be possible to attach a *monetary value* to the debt, liability or obligation. I will examine each of these requirements in turn.
- The *BIA*'s definition of a provable claim, which is incorporated by reference into the *CCAA*, requires the identification of a creditor. Environmental statutes generally provide for the creation of regulatory bodies that are empowered to enforce the obligations the statutes impose. Most environmental regulatory bodies can be creditors in respect of monetary or non-monetary obligations imposed by the relevant statutes. At this first stage of determining whether the regulatory body is a creditor, the question whether the obligation can be translated into monetary terms is not yet relevant. This issue will be broached later. The only determination that has to be made at this point is whether the regulatory body has exercised its enforcement power against a debtor. When it does so, it identifies itself as a creditor, and the requirement of this stage of the analysis is satisfied.
- The enquiry into the second requirement is based on s. 121(1) of the *BIA*, which imposes a time limit on claims. A claim must be founded on an obligation that was "incurred before the day on which the bankrupt becomes bankrupt". Because the date when environmental damage occurs is often difficult to ascertain, s. 11.8(9) of the *CCAA* provides more temporal flexibility for environmental claims:

#### 11.8. . . .

- (9) A claim against a debtor company for costs of remedying any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting real property of the company shall be a claim under this Act, whether the condition arose or the damage occurred before or after the date on which proceedings under this Act were commenced.
- 29 The creditor's claim will be exempt from the single proceeding requirement if the debtor's corresponding obligation has not arisen as of the time limit for inclusion in the insolvency process. This could apply, for example, to a debtor's statutory obligations relating to polluting activities that continue after the reorganization, because in such cases, the damage continues to be sustained after the reorganization has been completed.
- With respect to the third requirement, that it be possible to attach a monetary value to the obligation, the question is whether orders that are not expressed in monetary terms can be translated into such terms. I note that when a regulatory body claims an amount that is owed at the relevant date, that is, when it frames its order in monetary terms, the court does not need

to make this determination, because what is being claimed is an "indebtedness" and therefore clearly falls within the meaning of "claim" as defined in s. 12(1) of the CCAA.

- However, orders, which are used to address various types of environmental challenges, may come in many forms, including stop, control, preventative, and clean-up orders (D. Saxe, "Trustees' and Receivers' Environmental Liability Update", 49 C.B.R. (3d) 138, at p. 141). When considering an order that is not framed in monetary terms, courts must look at its substance and apply the rules for the assessment of claims.
- Parliament recognized that regulatory bodies sometimes have to perform remediation work (see House of Commons, *Standing Committee on Industry*, No. 16, 2nd Sess., 35th Parl., June 11, 1996). When one does so, its claim with respect to remediation costs is subject to the insolvency process, but the claim is secured by a charge on the contaminated real property and certain other related property and benefits from a priority (s. 11.8(8) *CCAA*). Thus, Parliament struck a balance between the public's interest in enforcing environmental regulations and the interest of third-party creditors in being treated equitably.
- If Parliament had intended that the debtor always satisfy all remediation costs, it would have granted the Crown a priority with respect to the totality of the debtor's assets. In light of the legislative history and the purpose of the reorganization process, the fact that the Crown's priority under s. 11.8(8) *CCAA* is limited to the contaminated property and certain related property leads me to conclude that to exempt environmental orders would be inconsistent with the insolvency legislation. As deferential as courts may be to regulatory bodies' actions, they must apply the general rules.
- Unlike in proceedings governed by the common law or the civil law, a claim may be asserted in insolvency proceedings even if it is contingent on an event that has not yet occurred (for the common law, see *McLarty v. R.*, 2008 SCC 26, [2008] 2 S.C.R. 79 (S.C.C.), at paras. 17-18; for the civil law, see arts. 1497, 1508 and 1513 of the *Civil Code of Québec*, S.Q. 1991, c. 64). Thus, the broad definition of "claim" in the *BIA* includes *contingent* and *future* claims that would be unenforceable at common law or in the civil law. As for unliquidated claims, a *CCAA* court has the same power to assess their amounts as would a court hearing a case in a common law or civil law context.
- 35 The reason the *BIA* and the *CCAA* include a broad range of claims is to ensure fairness between creditors and finality in the insolvency proceeding for the debtor. In a corporate liquidation process, it is more equitable to allow as many creditors as possible to participate in the process and share in the liquidation proceeds. This makes it possible to include creditors whose claims have not yet matured when the corporate debtor files for bankruptcy, and thus avert a situation in which they would be faced with an inactive debtor that cannot satisfy a judgment. The rationale is slightly different in the context of a corporate proposal or reorganization. In such cases, the broad approach serves not only to ensure fairness between creditors, but also to allow the debtor to make as fresh a start as possible after a proposal or an arrangement is approved.
- The criterion used by courts to determine whether a contingent claim will be included in the insolvency process is whether the event that has not yet occurred is too remote or speculative: *Confederation Treasury Services Ltd.*, *Re* (1997), 96 O.A.C. 75 (Ont. C.A.). In the context of an environmental order, this means that there must be sufficient indications that the regulatory body that triggered the enforcement mechanism will ultimately perform remediation work and assert a monetary claim to have its costs reimbursed. If there is sufficient certainty in this regard, the court will conclude that the order can be subjected to the insolvency process.
- The exercise by the *CCAA* court of its jurisdiction to determine whether an order is a provable claim entails a certain scrutiny of the regulatory body's actions. This scrutiny is in some ways similar to judicial review. There is a distinction, however, and it lies in the object of the assessment that the *CCAA* court must make. The *CCAA* court does not review the regulatory body's exercise of discretion. Rather, it inquires into whether the facts indicate that the conditions for inclusion in the claims process are met. For example, if activities at issue are ongoing, the *CCAA* court may well conclude that the order cannot be included in the insolvency process because the activities and resulting damages will continue after the reorganization is completed and hence exceed the time limit for a claim. If, on the other hand, the regulatory body, having no realistic alternative but to perform the remediation work itself, simply delays framing the order as a claim in order to improve its position in relation to other creditors, the *CCAA* court may conclude that this course of action is inconsistent with the insolvency scheme and decide that the

order has to be subject to the claims process. Similarly, if the property is not under the debtor's control and the debtor does not, and realistically will not, have the means to perform the remediation work, the *CCAA* court may conclude that it is sufficiently certain that the regulatory body will have to perform the work.

- 38 Certain indicators can thus be identified from the text and the context of the provisions to guide the *CCAA* court in determining whether an order is a provable claim, including whether the activities are ongoing, whether the debtor is in control of the property, and whether the debtor has the means to comply with the order. The *CCAA* court may also consider the effect that requiring the debtor to comply with the order would have on the insolvency process. Since the appropriate analysis is grounded in the facts of each case, these indicators need not all apply, and others may also be relevant.
- Having highlighted three requirements for finding a claim to be provable in a *CCAA* process that need to be considered in the case at bar, I must now discuss certain policy arguments raised by the Province and some of the interveners.
- These parties argue that treating a regulatory order as a claim in an insolvency proceeding extinguishes the debtor's environmental obligations, thereby undermining the polluter-pay principle discussed by this Court in *Cie pétrolière Impériale c. Québec (Tribunal administratif)*, 2003 SCC 58, [2003] 2 S.C.R. 624 (S.C.C.) (para. 24). This objection demonstrates a misunderstanding of the nature of insolvency proceedings. Subjecting an order to the claims process does not extinguish the debtor's environmental obligations any more than subjecting any creditor's claim to that process extinguishes the debtor's obligation to pay its debts. It merely ensures that the creditor's claim will be paid in accordance with insolvency legislation. Moreover, full compliance with orders that are found to be monetary in nature would shift the costs of remediation to third-party creditors, including involuntary creditors, such as those whose claims lie in tort or in the law of extra-contractual liability. In the insolvency context, the Province's position would result not only in a super-priority, but in the acceptance of a "third party-pay" principle in place of the polluter-pay principle.
- Nor does subjecting the orders to the insolvency process amount to issuing a licence to pollute, since insolvency proceedings do not concern the debtor's future conduct. A debtor that is reorganized must comply with all environmental regulations going forward in the same way as any other person. To quote the colourful analogy of two American scholars, "Debtors in bankruptcy have and should have no greater license to pollute in violation of a statute than they have to sell cocaine in violation of a statute" (D. G. Baird and T. H. Jackson, "Comment: *Kovacs* and Toxic Wastes in Bankruptcy" (1984), 36 *Stan. L. Rev.* 1199, at p. 1200).
- 42 Furthermore, corporations may engage in activities that carry risks. No matter what risks are at issue, reorganization made necessary by insolvency is hardly ever a deliberate choice. When the risks materialize, the dire costs are borne by almost all stakeholders. To subject orders to the claims process is not to invite corporations to restructure in order to rid themselves of their environmental liabilities.
- And the power to determine whether an order is a provable claim does not mean that the court will necessarily conclude that the order before it will be subject to the *CCAA* process. In fact, the *CCAA* court in the case at bar recognized that orders relating to the environment may or may not be considered provable claims. It stayed only those orders that were monetary in nature.
- The Province also argues that courts have in the past held that environmental orders cannot be interpreted as claims when the regulatory body has not yet exercised its power to assert a claim framed in monetary terms. The Province relies in particular on *Panamericana de Bienes y Servicios S.A. v. Northern Badger Oil & Gas Ltd.* (1991), 81 Alta. L.R. (2d) 45 (Alta. C.A.), and its progeny. In *Panamericana*, the Alberta Court of Appeal held that a receiver was personally liable for work under a remediation order and that the order was not a claim in insolvency proceedings. The court found that the duty to undertake remediation work is owed to the public at large until the regulator exercises its power to assert a monetary claim.
- The first answer to the Province's argument is that courts have never shied away from putting substance ahead of form. They can determine whether the order is in substance monetary.
- The second answer is that the provisions relating to the assessment of claims, particularly those governing contingent claims, contemplate instances in which the quantum is not yet established when the claims are filed. Whether, in the regulatory

context, an obligation always entails the existence of a correlative right has been discussed by a number of scholars. Various theories of rights have been put forward (see W. N. Hohfeld, *Fundamental Legal Conceptions as Applied in Judicial Reasoning* (new ed. 2001); D. N. MacCormick, "Rights in Legislation", in P. M. S. Hacker and J. Raz, eds., *Law, Morality, and Society: Essays in Honour of H. L. A. Hart* (1977), 189). However, because the Province issued the orders in this case, it would be recognized as a creditor in respect of a right no matter which of these theories was applied. As interesting as the discussion may be, therefore, I do not need to consider which theory should prevail. The real question is not to whom the obligation is owed, as this question is answered by the statute, which determines who can require that it be discharged. Rather, the question is whether it is sufficiently certain that the regulatory body will perform the remediation work and, as a result, have a monetary claim.

- The third answer to the Province's argument is that insolvency legislation has evolved considerably over the two decades since *Panamericana*. At the time of *Panamericana*, none of the provisions relating to environmental liabilities were in force. Indeed, some of those provisions were enacted very soon after, and seemingly in response to, that case. In 1992, Parliament shielded trustees from the very liability imposed on the receiver in *Panamericana* (*An Act to amend the Bankruptcy Act and to amend the Income Tax Act in consequence thereof*, S.C. 1992, c. 27, s. 9, amending s. 14 of the *BIA*). The 1997 amendments provided additional protection to trustees and monitors (S.C. 1997, c. 12). The 2007 amendments made it clear that a *CCAA* court has the power to determine that a regulatory order may be a claim and also provided criteria for staying regulatory orders (s. 65, amending the *CCAA* to include the current version of s. 11.1). The purpose of these amendments was to balance the creditor's need for fairness against the debtor's need to make a fresh start.
- Whether the regulatory body has a contingent claim is a determination that must be grounded in the facts of each case. Generally, a regulatory body has discretion under environmental legislation to decide how best to ensure that regulatory obligations are met. Although the court should take care to avoid interfering with that discretion, the action of a regulatory body is nevertheless subject to scrutiny in insolvency proceedings.

#### V. Application

- I now turn to the application of the principles discussed above to the case at bar. This case does not turn on whether the Province is the creditor of an obligation or whether damage had occurred as of the relevant date. Those requirements are easily satisfied, since the Province had identified itself as a creditor by resorting to *EPA* enforcement mechanisms and since the damage had occurred before the time of the *CCAA* proceedings. Rather, the issue centres on the third requirement: that the orders meet the criterion for admission as a pecuniary claim. The claim was contingent to the extent that the Province had not yet formally exercised its power to ask for the payment of money. The question is whether it was sufficiently certain that the orders would eventually result in a monetary claim. To the *CCAA* judge, there was no doubt that the answer was yes.
- The Province's exercise of its legislative powers in enacting the *Abitibi Act* created a unique set of facts that led to the orders being issued. The seizure of Abitibi's assets by the Province, the cancellation of all outstanding water and hydroelectric contracts between Abitibi and the Province, the cancellation of pending legal proceedings by Abitibi in which it sought the reimbursement of several hundreds of thousands of dollars, and the denial of any compensation for the seized assets and of legal redress are inescapable background facts in the judge's review of the *EPA* Orders.
- The CCAA judge did not elaborate on whether it was sufficiently certain that the Minister would perform the remediation work and therefore make a monetary claim. However, most of his findings clearly rest on a positive answer to this question. For example, his finding that "[i]n all likelihood, the pith and substance of the EPA Orders is an attempt by the Province to lay the groundwork for monetary claims against Abitibi, to be used most probably as an offset in connection with Abitibi's own NAFTA claims for compensation" (para. 178), is necessarily based on the premise that the Province would most likely perform the remediation work. Indeed, since monetary claims must, both at common law and in civil law, be mutual for set-off or compensation to operate, the Province had to have incurred costs in doing the work in order to have a claim that could be set off against Abitibi's claims.
- That the judge relied on an implicit finding that the Province would most likely perform the work and make a claim to offset its costs is also shown by the confirmation he found in the declaration by the Minister that the Province was attempting

to assess the cost of doing remediation work Abitibi had allegedly left undone and that in the Province's assessment, "at this point in time, there would not be a net payment to Abitibi" (para. 181).

- The *CCAA* judge's reasons not only rest on an implicit finding that the Province would most likely perform the work, but refer explicitly to facts that support this finding. To reach his conclusion that the *EPA* Orders were monetary in nature, the *CCAA* judge relied on the fact that Abitibi's operations were funded through debtor-in-possession financing and its access to funds was limited to ongoing operations. Given that the *EPA* Orders targeted sites that were, for the most part, no longer in Abitibi's possession, this meant that Abitibi had no means to perform the remediation work during the reorganization process.
- In addition, because Abitibi lacked funds and no longer controlled the properties, the timetable set by the Province in the *EPA* Orders suggested that the Province never truly intended that Abitibi was to perform the remediation work required by the orders. The timetable was also unrealistic. For example, the orders were issued on November 12, 2009 and set a deadline of January 15, 2010 to perform a particular act, but the evidence revealed that compliance with this requirement would have taken close to a year.
- Furthermore, the judge relied on the fact that Abitibi was not simply designated a "person responsible" under the *EPA*, but was intentionally targeted by the Province. The finding that the Province had targeted Abitibi was drawn not only from the timing of the *EPA* Orders, but also from the fact that Abitibi was the only person designated in them, whereas others also appeared to be responsible in some cases, primarily responsible for the contamination. For example, Abitibi was ordered to do remediation work on a site it had surrendered more than 50 years before the orders were issued; the expert report upon which the orders were based made no distinction between Abitibi's activities on the property, on which its source of power had been horse power, and subsequent activities by others who had used fuelpowered vehicles there. In the judge's opinion, this finding of fact went to the Province's intent to establish a basis for performing the work itself and asserting a claim against Abitibi.
- These reasons and others led the *CCAA* judge to conclude that the Province had not expected Abitibi to perform the remediation work and that the "intended, practical and realistic effect of the EPA Orders was to establish a basis for the Province to recover amounts of money to be eventually used for the remediation of the properties in question" (para. 211). He found that the Province appeared to have in fact taken some steps to liquidate the claims arising out of the *EPA* Orders.
- In the end, the judge found that there was definitely a claim that "might" be filed, and that it was not left to "the subjective choice of the creditor to hold the claim in its pocket for tactical reasons" (para. 227). In his words, the situation did not involve a "detached regulator or public enforcer issuing [an] order for the public good" (at para. 175), and it was "the hat of a creditor that best [fit] the Province, not that of a disinterested regulator" (para. 176).
- In sum, although the analytical framework used by Gascon J. was driven by the facts of the case, he reviewed all the legal principles and facts that needed to be considered in order to make the determination in the case at bar. He did at times rely on indicators that are unique and that do not appear in the analytical framework I propose above, but he did so because of the exceptional facts of this case. Yet, had he formulated the question in the same way as I have, his conclusion, based on his objective findings of fact, would have been the same. Earmarking money may be a strong indicator that a province will perform remediation work, and actually commencing the work is the first step towards the creation of a debt, but these are not the only considerations that can lead to a finding that a creditor has a monetary claim. The *CCAA* judge's assessment of the facts, particularly his finding that the *EPA* Orders were the first step towards performance of the remediation work by the Province, leads to no conclusion other than that it was sufficiently certain that the Province would perform remediation work and therefore fall within the definition of a creditor with a monetary claim.

#### VI. Conclusion

In sum, I agree with the Chief Justice that, as a general proposition, an environmental order issued by a regulatory body can be treated as a contingent claim, and that such a claim can be included in the claims process if it is sufficiently certain that the regulatory body will make a monetary claim against the debtor. Our difference of views lies mainly in the applicable threshold for including contingent claims and in our understanding of the *CCAA* judge's findings of fact.

- With respect to the law, the Chief Justice would craft a standard specific to the context of environmental orders by requiring a "likelihood approaching certainty" that the regulatory body will perform the remediation work. She finds that this threshold is justified because "remediation may cost a great deal of money" (para. 22). I acknowledge that remediating pollution is often costly, but I am of the view that Parliament has borne this consideration in mind in enacting provisions specific to environmental claims. Moreover, I recall that in this case, the Premier announced that the remediation work would be performed at no net cost to the Province. It was clear to him that the *Abitibi Act* would make it possible to offset all the related costs.
- Thus, I prefer to take the approach generally taken for all contingent claims. In my view, the *CCAA* court is entitled to take all relevant facts into consideration in making the relevant determination. Under this approach, the contingency to be assessed in a case such as this is whether it is sufficiently certain that the regulatory body will perform remediation work and be in a position to assert a monetary claim.
- 62 Finally, the Chief Justice would review the *CCAA* court's findings of fact. I would instead defer to them. On those findings, applying any legal standard, be it the one proposed by the Chief Justice or the one I propose, the Province's claim is monetary in nature and its motion for a declaration exempting the *EPA* Orders from the claims procedure order was properly dismissed.
- For these reasons, I would dismiss the appeal with costs.

#### McLachlin C.J.C. (dissenting):

#### 1. Overview

- The issue in this case is whether orders made under the *Environmental Protection Act*, S.N.L. 2002, c. E-14.2 ("*EPA*") by the Newfoundland and Labrador Minister of Environment and Conservation (the "Minister") requiring a polluter to clean up sites (the "*EPA* Orders") are monetary claims that can be compromised in corporate restructuring under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("*CCAA"*). If they are not claims that can be compromised in restructuring, the Abitibi respondents ("Abitibi") will still have a legal obligation to clean up the sites following their emergence from restructuring. If they are such claims, Abitibi will have emerged from restructuring free of the obligation, able to recommence business without remediating the properties it polluted, the cost of which will fall on the Newfoundland and Labrador public.
- Remediation orders made under a province's environmental protection legislation impose ongoing regulatory obligations on the corporation required to clean up the pollution. They are not monetary claims. In narrow circumstances, specified by the *CCAA*, these ongoing regulatory obligations may be reduced to monetary claims, which can be compromised under *CCAA* proceedings. This occurs where a province has done the work, or where it is "sufficiently certain" that it will do the work. In these circumstances, the regulatory obligation would be extinguished and the province would have a monetary claim for the cost of remediation in the *CCAA* proceedings. Otherwise, the regulatory obligation survives the restructuring.
- In my view, the orders for remediation in this case, with a minor exception, are not claims that can be compromised in restructuring. On one of the properties, the Minister did emergency remedial work and put other work out to tender. These costs can be claimed in the *CCAA* proceedings. However, with respect to the other properties, on the evidence before us, the Minister has neither done the clean-up work, nor is it sufficiently certain that he or she will do so. The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador (the "Province") retained a number of options, including requiring Abitibi to perform the remediation if it successfully emerged from the *CCAA* restructuring.
- I would therefore allow the appeal and grant the Province the declaration it seeks that Abitibi is still subject to its obligations under the *EPA* following its emergence from restructuring, except for work done or tendered for on the Buchans site.

## 2. The Proceedings Below

The CCAA judge took the view that the Province issued the EPA Orders, not in order to make Abitibi remediate, but as part of a money grab. He therefore concluded that the orders were monetary and financial in nature and should be considered claims that could be compromised under the CCAA (2010 QCCS 1261, 68 C.B.R. (5th) 1 (C.S. Que.)). The Quebec Court of

Appeal denied leave to appeal on the ground that this "factual" conclusion could not be disturbed (2010 QCCA 965, 68 C.B.R. (5th) 57 (C.A. Que.)).

The *CCAA* judge's stark view that an *EPA* obligation can be considered a monetary claim capable of being compromised simply because (as he saw it) the Province's motive was money, is no longer pressed. Whether an *EPA* order is a claim under the *CCAA* depends on whether it meets the requirements for a claim under that statute. That is the only issue to be resolved. Insofar as this determination touches on the division of powers, I am in substantial agreement with my colleague Deschamps J., at paras. 18-19.

#### 3. The Distinction Between Regulatory Obligations and Claims under the CCAA

- Orders to clean up polluted property under provincial environmental protection legislation are regulatory orders. They remain in effect until the property has been cleaned up or the matter otherwise resolved.
- It is not unusual for corporations seeking to restructure under the *CCAA* to be subject to a variety of ongoing regulatory orders arising from statutory schemes governing matters like employment, energy conservation and the environment. The corporation remains subject to these obligations as it continues to carry on business during the restructuring period, and remains subject to them when it emerges from restructuring unless they have been compromised or liquidated.
- 72 The CCAA, like the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 ("BIA") draws a fundamental distinction between ongoing regulatory obligations owed to the public, which generally survive the restructuring, and monetary claims that can be compromised.
- This distinction is also recognized in the jurisprudence, which has held that regulatory duties owed to the public are not "claims" under the *BIA*, nor, by extension, under the *CCAA*. In *Panamericana de Bienes y Servicios S.A. v. Northern Badger Oil & Gas Ltd.* (1991), 81 Alta. L.R. (2d) 45 (Alta. C.A.), the Alberta Court of Appeal held that a receiver in bankruptcy must comply with an order from the Energy Resources Conservation Board to comply with well abandonment requirements. Writing for the court, Laycraft C.J.A. said the question was whether the *Bankruptcy Act* "requires that the assets in the estate of an insolvent well licensee should be distributed to creditors leaving behind the duties respecting environmental safety ... as a charge to the public" (para. 29). He answered the question in the negative:

The duty is owed as a public duty by all the citizens of the community to their fellow citizens. When the citizen subject to the order complies, the result is not the recovery of money by the peace officer or public authority, or of a judgement for money, nor is that the object of the whole process. Rather, it is simply the enforcement of the general law. The enforcing authority does not become a "creditor" of the citizen on whom the duty is imposed.

[Emphasis added, para. 33]

- The distinction between regulatory obligations under the general law aimed at the protection of the public and monetary claims that can be compromised in *CCAA* restructuring or bankruptcy is a fundamental plank of Canadian corporate law. It has been repeatedly acknowledged: *Lamford Forest Products Ltd. (Re)* (1991), 86 D.L.R. (4th) 534 (B.C. S.C.); *Shirley, Re* (1995), 129 D.L.R. (4th) 105 (Ont. Bktcy.)), at p. 109; *Husky Oil Operations Ltd. v. Minister of National Revenue*, [1995] 3 S.C.R. 453 (S.C.C.), at para. 146, *per* Iacobucci J. (dissenting). As Farley J. succinctly put it in *Air Canada Re [Regulators' motions]*, (2003), 28 C.B.R. (5th) 52 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), at para. 18: "Once [the company] emerges from these CCAA proceedings (successfully one would hope), then it will have to deal with each and every then unresolved [regulatory] matter."
- Recent amendments to the *CCAA* confirm this distinction. Section 11.1(2) now explicitly provides that, except to the extent a regulator is enforcing a payment obligation, a general stay does not affect a regulatory body's authority in relation to a corporation going through restructuring. The *CCAA* court may only stay specific actions or suits brought by a regulatory body, and only if such action is necessary for a viable compromise to be reached and it would not be contrary to the public interest to make such an order (s. 11.1(3)).

Abitibi argues that another amendment to the *CCAA*, s. 11.8(9), treats ongoing regulatory duties owed to the public as claims, and erases the distinction between the two types of obligation: see *General Chemical Canada Ltd.*, *Re*, 2007 ONCA 600, 228 O.A.C. 385 (Ont. C.A.), *per* Goudge J.A., relying on s. 14.06(8) of the *BIA* (the equivalent of s. 11.8(9) of the *CCAA*). With respect, this reads too much into the provision. Section 11.8(9) of the *CCAA* refers only to the situation where a government has performed remediation, and provides that the *costs of the remediation* become a claim in the restructuring process even where the environmental damage arose after *CCAA* proceedings have begun. As stated in *Strathcona* (*County*) v. *Fantasy Construction Ltd. Estate* (*Trustee of*), 2005 ABQB 559, 47 Alta. L.R. (4th) 138 (Alta. Q.B.), *per* Burrows J., the section "does not convert a statutorily imposed obligation owed to the public at large into a liability owed to the public body charged with enforcing it" (para. 42).

#### 4. When Does a Regulatory Obligation Become a Claim Under the CCAA?

- This brings us to the heart of the question before us: when does a regulatory obligation imposed on a corporation under environmental protection legislation become a "claim" provable and compromisable under the *CCAA*?
- Regulatory obligations are, as a general proposition, not compromisable claims. Only financial or monetary claims provable by a "creditor" fall within the definition of "claim" under the *CCAA*. "Creditor" is defined as "a person having a claim ..." (*BIA* s. 2). Thus, the identification of a "creditor" hangs on the existence of a "claim". Section 12(1) of the *CCAA* defines "claim" as "any indebtedness, liability or obligation ... that ... would be a debt provable in bankruptcy", which is accepted as confined to obligations of a financial or monetary nature.
- The *CCAA* does not depart from the proposition that a claim must be financial or monetary. However, it contains a scheme to deal with disputes over whether an obligation is a monetary obligation as opposed to some other kind of obligation.
- 80 Such a dispute may arise with respect to environmental obligations of the corporation. The *CCAA* recognizes three situations that may arise when a corporation enters restructuring.
- The first situation is where the remedial work has not been done (and there is no "sufficient certainty" that the work will be done, unlike the third situation described below). In this situation, the government cannot claim the cost of remediation: see s. 102(3) of the *EPA*. The obligation of compliance falls in principle on the monitor who takes over the corporation's assets and operations. If the monitor remediates the property, he can claim the costs as costs of administration. If he does not wish to do so, he may obtain a court order staying the remediation obligation or abandon the property: s. 11.8(5) *CCAA* (in which case costs of remediation shall not rank as costs of administration: s. 11.8(7)). In this situation, the obligation cannot be compromised.
- The second situation is where the government that has issued the environmental protection order moves to clean up the pollution, as the legislation entitles it to do. In this situation, the government has a claim for the cost of remediation that is compromisable in the *CCAA* proceedings. This is because the government, by moving to clean up the pollution, has changed the outstanding regulatory obligation owed to the public into a financial or monetary obligation owed by the corporation to the government. Section 11.8(9), already discussed, makes it clear that this applies to damage after the *CCAA* proceedings commenced, which might otherwise not be claimable as a matter of timing.
- A third situation may arise: the government has not yet performed the remediation at the time of restructuring, but there is "sufficient certainty" that it will do so. This situation is regulated by the provisions of the *CCAA* for contingent or future claims. Under the *CCAA*, a debt or liability that is contingent on a future event may be compromised.
- It is clear that a mere possibility that work will be done does not suffice to make a regulatory obligation a contingent claim under the *CCAA*. Rather, there must be "sufficient certainty" that the obligation will be converted into a financial or monetary claim to permit this. The impact of the obligation on the insolvency process is irrelevant to the analysis of contingency. The future liabilities must not be "so remote and speculative in nature that they could not properly be considered contingent claims": *Confederation Treasury Services Ltd. (Bankrupt) Re* (1997), 96 O.A.C. 75 (Ont. C.A.) (para. 4).

- Where environmental obligations are concerned, courts to date have relied on a high degree of probability verging on certainty that the government will in fact step in and remediate the property. In *Anvil Range Mining Corp.*, *Re* (2001), 25 C.B.R. (4th) 1 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), Farley J. concluded that a contingent claim was established where the money had already been earmarked in the budget for the remediation project. He observed that "there appears to be *every likelihood to a certainty* that every dollar in the budget for the year ending March 31, 2002 earmarked for reclamation will be spent" (para. 15 (emphasis added)). Similarly, in *Shirley, Re*, Kennedy J. relied on the fact that the Ontario Minister of Environment had already entered the property at issue and commenced remediation activities to conclude that "[a]ny doubt about the resolve of the MOE's intent to realize upon its authority ended when it began to incur expense from operations" (p. 110).
- There is good reason why "sufficient certainty" should be interpreted as requiring "likelihood approaching certainty" when the issue is whether ongoing environmental obligations owed to the public should be converted to contingent claims that can be expunged or compromised in the restructuring process. Courts should not overlook the obstacles governments may encounter in deciding to remediate environmental damage a corporation has caused. To begin with, the government's decision is discretionary and may be influenced by any number of competing political and social considerations. Furthermore, remediation may cost a great deal of money. For example, in this case, the *CCAA* court found that at a minimum the remediation would cost in the "mid-to-high eight figures" (at para. 81), and could indeed cost several times that. In concrete terms, the remediation at issue in this case may be expected to meet or exceed the entire budget of the Minister (\$65 million) for 2009. Not only would this be a massive expenditure, but it would also likely require the specific approval of the Legislature and thereby be subject to political uncertainties. To assess these factors and determine whether all this will occur would embroil the *CCAA* judge in social, economic and political considerations matters which are not normally subject to judicial consideration: *Knight v. Imperial Tobacco Canada Ltd.*, 2011 SCC 42, [2011] 3 S.C.R. 45 (S.C.C.), at para. 74. It is small wonder, then, that courts assessing whether it is "sufficiently certain" that a government will clean up pollution created by a corporation have insisted on proof of likelihood approaching certainty.
- 87 In this case, as will be seen, apart from the Buchans property, the record is devoid of any evidence capable of establishing that it is "sufficiently certain" that the Province will itself remediate the properties. Even on a more relaxed standard than the one adopted in similar cases to date, the evidence in this case would fail to establish that remediation is "sufficiently certain".

#### 5. The Result in this Case

- Five different sites are at issue in this case. The question in each case is whether the Minister has already remediated the property (making it to that extent an actual claim), or if not, whether it is "sufficiently certain" that he or she will remediate the property, permitting it to be considered a contingent claim.
- 89 The Buchans site posed immediate risks to human health as a consequence of high levels of lead and other contaminants in the soil, groundwater, surface water and sediment. There was a risk that the wind would disperse the contamination, posing a threat to the surrounding population. Lead has been found in residential areas of Buchans and adults tested in the town had elevated levels of lead in their blood. In addition, a structurally unsound dam at the Buchans site raised the risk of contaminating silt entering the Exploits and Buchans rivers.
- The Minister quickly moved to address the immediate concern of the unsound dam and put out a request for tenders for other measures that required immediate action at the Buchans site. Money expended is clearly a claim under the *CCAA*. I am also of the view that the work for which the request for tenders was put out meets the "sufficiently certain" standard and constitutes a contingent claim.
- Beyond this, it has not been shown that it is "sufficiently certain" that the Province will do the remediation work to permit Abitibi's ongoing regulatory obligations under the *EPA* Orders to be considered contingent debts. The same applies to the other properties, on which no work has been done and no requests for tender to do the work initiated.
- Far from being "sufficiently certain", there is simply nothing on the record to support the view that the Province will move to remediate the remaining properties. It has not been shown that the contamination poses immediate health risks, which

must be addressed without delay. It has not been shown that the Province has taken any steps to do any work. And it has not been shown that the Province has set aside or even contemplated setting aside money for this work. Abitibi relies on a statement by the then-Premier in discussing the possibility that the Province would be obliged to compensate Abitibi for expropriation of some of the properties, to the effect that "there would not be a net payment to Abitibi" (R.F. at para. 12). Apart from the fact that the Premier was not purporting to state government policy, the statement simply does not say that the Province would do the remediation. The Premier may have simply been suggesting that outstanding environmental liabilities made the properties worth little or nothing, obviating any net payment to Abitibi.

- My colleague Deschamps J. concludes that the findings of the *CCAA* court establish that it was "sufficiently certain" that the Province would remediate the land, converting Abitibi's regulatory obligations under the *EPA* Orders to contingent claims that can be compromised under the *CCAA*. With respect, I find myself unable to agree.
- The CCAA judge never asked himself the critical question of whether it was "sufficiently certain" that the Province would do the work itself. Essentially, he proceeded on the basis that the EPA Orders had not been put forward in a sincere effort to obtain remediation, but were simply a money grab. The CCAA judge buttressed his view that the Province's regulatory orders were not sincere by opining that the orders were unenforceable (which if true would not prevent new EPA orders) and by suggesting that the Province did not want to assert a contingent claim, since this might attract a counterclaim by Abitibi for the expropriation of the properties (something that may be impossible due to Abitibi's decision to take the expropriation issue to NAFTA (the North American Free Trade Agreement Between the Government of the United Mexican States and the Government of the United States of America, Can.T.S. 1994 No. 2), excluding Canadian courts.) In any event, it is clear that the CCAA judge, on the reasoning he adopted, never considered the question of whether it was "sufficiently certain" that the Province would remediate the properties. It follows that the CCAA judge's conclusions cannot support the view that the outstanding obligations are contingent claims under the CCAA.

#### 95 My colleague concludes:

[The CCAA judge] did at times rely on indicators that are unique and that do not appear in the analytical framework I propose above, but he did so because of the exceptional facts of this case. Yet, had he formulated the question in the same way as I have, his conclusion, based on his objective findings of fact would have been same. ... The CCAA judge's assessment of the facts ... leads to no conclusion other than that it was sufficiently certain that the Province would perform remediation work and therefore fall within the definition of a creditor with a monetary claim.

[Emphasis added, para. 58].

- I must respectfully confess to a less sanguine view. First, I find myself unable to decide the case on what I think the *CCAA* judge would have done had he gotten the law right and considered the central question. In my view, his failure to consider that question requires this Court to answer it in his stead on the record before us: *Housen v. Nikolaisen*, 2002 SCC 33, [2002] 2 S.C.R. 235 (S.C.C.), at para. 35. But more to the point, I see no objective facts that support, much less compel, the conclusion that it is "sufficiently certain" that the Province will move to itself remediate any or all of the pollution Abitibi caused. The mood of the regulator in issuing remediation orders, be it disinterested or otherwise, has no bearing on the likelihood that the Province will undertake such a massive project itself. The Province has options. It could, to be sure, opt to do the work. Or it could await the result of Abitibi's restructuring and call on it to remediate once it resumed operations. It could even choose to leave the site contaminated. There is nothing in the record that makes the first option more probable than the others, much less establishes "sufficient certainty" that the Province will itself clean up the pollution, converting it to a debt.
- I would allow the appeal and issue a declaration that Abitibi's remediation obligations under the *EPA* Orders do not constitute claims compromisable under the *CCAA*, except for work done or tendered for on the Buchans site.

#### *LeBel J.* (dissenting):

I have read the reasons of the Chief Justice and Deschamps J. They agree that a court overseeing a proposed arrangement under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("*CCAA*"), cannot relieve debtors of their regulatory

2012 SCC 67, 2012 CarswellQue 12490, 2012 CarswellQue 12491, [2012] 3 S.C.R. 443...

obligations. The only regulatory orders that can be subject to compromise are those which are monetary in nature. My colleagues also accept that contingent environmental claims can be liquidated and compromised if it is established that the regulatory body would remediate the environmental contamination itself, and hence turn the regulatory order into a monetary claim.

- At this point, my colleagues disagree on the proper evidentiary test with respect to whether the government would remediate the contamination. In the Chief Justice's opinion, the evidence must show that there is a "likelihood approaching certainty" that the province would remediate the contamination itself (para. 22). In my respectful opinion, this is not the established test for determining where and how a contingent claim can be liquidated in bankruptcy and insolvency law. The test of "sufficient certainty" described by Deschamps J., which does not look very different from the general civil standard of probability, better reflects how both the common law and the civil law view and deal with contingent claims. On the basis of the test Deschamps J. proposes, I must agree with the Chief Justice and would allow the appeal.
- First, no matter how I read the *CCAA* court's judgment (2010 QCCS 1261, 68 C.B.R. (5th) 1 (C.S. Que.)), I find no support for a conclusion that it is consistent with the principle that the *CCAA* does not apply to purely regulatory obligations, or that the court had evidence that would satisfy the test of "sufficient certainty" that the province of Newfoundland and Labrador (the "Province") would perform the remedial work itself.
- In my view, the *CCAA* court was concerned that the arrangement would fail if the Abitibi respondents ("Abitibi") were not released from their regulatory obligations in respect of pollution. The *CCAA* court wanted to eliminate the uncertainty that would have clouded the reorganized corporations' future. Moreover, its decision appears to have been driven by an opinion that the Province had acted in bad faith in its dealings with Abitibi both during and after the termination of its operations in the Province. I agree with the Chief Justice that there is no evidence that the Province intends to perform the remedial work itself. In the absence of any other evidence, an off-hand comment made in the legislature by a member of the government hardly satisfies the "sufficient certainty" test. Even if the evidentiary test proposed by my colleague Deschamps J. is applied, this Court can legitimately disregard the *CCAA* court's finding as the Chief Justice proposes, since it did not rest on a sufficient factual foundation.

For these reas	sons, I would cor	cur with the dispos	sition proposed b	y the Chief Justice
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Appeal dismissed.

Pourvoi rejeté.

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# **TAB 7**

# 2012 ONSC 4423 Ontario Superior Court of Justice [Commercial List]

Northstar Aerospace Inc., Re

2012 CarswellOnt 9607, 2012 ONSC 4423, 218 A.C.W.S. (3d) 490, 91 C.B.R. (5th) 268

# In the Matter of the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C 36, as Amended

In the Matter of a Plan of Compromise or Arrangement of Northstar Aerospace, Inc., Northstar Aerospace (Canada) Inc., 2007775 Ontario Inc. and 3024308 Nova Scotia Company (Applicants)

#### Morawetz J.

Heard: July 24, 2012 Judgment: July 30, 2012 Docket: CV-12-9761-00CL

Counsel: A.J. Taylor, K. Esaw for Applicants

Craig J. Hill for Court-Appointed Monitor, Ernst & Young Inc.

D.S. Grieve for Heligear Canada

A. Dale for CAW-Canada

- G. Moffat for Chief Restructuring Officer
- J.L. Wall for Her Majesty The Queen in Right of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of the Environment
- R. Brookes for Region of Waterloo
- S. Weisz, L. Rogers J. Willis for Fifth Third Bank as Pre-filing Agent and DIP Lender
- W.P. Meagher for Corporation of the City of Cambridge
- R.M. Slattery for 180 Market Portfolio
- M. Jilesen for General Electric Canada
- C. Prophet for Boeing Capital Loan Corporation
- S. Pickens (by phone) for Fifth Third Bank

Subject: Insolvency; Constitutional; Corporate and Commercial; International

#### Table of Authorities

# Cases considered by Morawetz J.:

AbitibiBowater Inc., Re (2010), 68 C.B.R. (5th) 1, 52 C.E.L.R. (3d) 17, 2010 QCCS 1261, 2010 CarswellQue 2812 (C.S. Que.) — referred to

General Chemical Canada Ltd., Re (2007), 228 O.A.C. 385, (sub nom. Harbert Distressed Investment Fund, L.P. v. General Chemical Canada Ltd.) 2007 C.E.B. & P.G.R. 8258, 35 C.B.R. (5th) 163, 61 C.C.P.B. 266, 31 C.E.L.R. (3d) 205, 2007 ONCA 600, 2007 CarswellOnt 5497 (Ont. C.A.) — considered

Nortel Networks Corp., Re (2009), 256 O.A.C. 131, 2009 CarswellOnt 7383, 2009 ONCA 833, 59 C.B.R. (5th) 23, 77 C.C.P.B. 161, (sub nom. Sproule v. Nortel Networks Corp.) 2010 C.L.L.C. 210-005, (sub nom. Sproule v. Nortel Networks Corp., Re) 99 O.R. (3d) 708 (Ont. C.A.) — referred to

2012 ONSC 4423, 2012 CarswellOnt 9607, 218 A.C.W.S. (3d) 490, 91 C.B.R. (5th) 268

Nortel Networks Corp., Re (2012), 88 C.B.R. (5th) 111, 2012 CarswellOnt 3153, 2012 ONSC 1213, 66 C.E.L.R. (3d) 310 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — considered

Northstar Aerospace Inc., Re (2012), 2012 ONSC 3974, 2012 CarswellOnt 8605 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

#### **Statutes considered:**

Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. 1982 Chapter 11 — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36

Generally — referred to

- s. 6(5)(a) considered
- s. 11.1 [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] considered
- s. 11.1(2) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] considered
- s. 11.1(3) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] considered
- s. 11.1(4) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] considered
- s. 11.8(8) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] considered
- s. 11.8(9) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] considered
- s. 36(3) considered
- s. 36(7) considered

Constitution Act, 1867, (U.K.), 30 & 31 Vict., c. 3, reprinted R.S.C. 1985, App. II, No. 5

- s. 91 ¶ 21 considered
- s. 92 ¶ 13 considered
- s. 92 ¶ 16 considered

Courts of Justice Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. C.43

s. 109 — considered

Environmental Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.19

Generally — referred to

MOTION by debtor companies for approval of asset purchase agreement and other relief; MOTION by Ministry of Environment for declaration.

### Morawetz J.:

#### Overview

- 1 Northstar Aerospace, Inc. ("Northstar Inc."), Northstar Aerospace (Canada) Inc. ("Northstar Canada"), 2007775 Ontario Inc. and 3024308 Nova Scotia Company (collectively, the "CCAA Entities") brought this motion for:
  - (a) approval of an agreement dated June 14, 2012 (the "Heligear Agreement") between Northstar Inc. and Northstar Canada (together, the "Canadian Vendors"), Northstar Aerospace (U.S.A.) Inc. ("Northstar USA") and other Northstar U.S. entities, (collectively, the U.S. Vendors", and together with the Canadian Vendors, the "Vendors") and Heligear Acquisition Co. (the "U.S. Purchaser") and Heligear Canada Acquisition Corporation (the "Canadian Purchaser" and, together with the U.S. Purchaser, "Heligear") for the sale of the Purchased Assets (the "Heligear Transaction");
  - (b) a vesting order of all of the Canadian Purchased Assets in the Canadian Purchaser free and clear of all encumbrances and interests, other than Canadian permitted encumbrances;
  - (c) if necessary, assigning the rights and obligations of the Canadian Vendors under the Canadian Assumed Contracts to the Canadian Purchasers; and
  - (d) authorization and directions to the Monitor, on closing of the Heligear Transaction, to distribute cash or cash equivalents from the proceeds of the Heligear Transaction in an amount equal to the outstanding DIP obligations owing under the DIP Agreement to the DIP Agent for the DIP Lenders (defined below).
- 2 The CCAA Entities applied for and were granted protection under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* (the "CCAA") pursuant to an Initial Order of this court dated June 14, 2012 [*Northstar Aerospace Inc., Re*, 2012 CarswellOnt 8605 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])] (the "Initial Order"). Ernst & Young Inc. was appointed as Monitor (the "Monitor") of the CCAA Entities and FTI Consulting Canada Inc. ("FTI Consulting") was appointed Chief Restructuring Officer ("CRO") of the CCAA Entities.
- Certain of Northstar Canada's direct and indirect U.S. subsidiaries (the "Chapter 11 Entities") commenced insolvency proceedings (the "Chapter 11 Proceedings") pursuant to Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code on June 14, 2012 in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "U.S. Court"). The CCAA Entities and the Chapter 11 Entities are sometimes collectively referred to herein as "Northstar".
- Argument on the motion was heard in two parts. In the morning, argument was heard on Canadian only issues. In the afternoon, argument was heard on Northstar issues in a crossborder hearing with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. The crossborder hearing was held in accordance with the provisions of the previously approved Cross-Border Protocol between the U.S. Court and this court.
- 5 The motion for approval of the Heligear Transaction was opposed by the Ministry of the Environment ("MOE"), GE Canada, the Region of Waterloo and the City of Cambridge.
- At the conclusion of argument, a brief oral endorsement was issued approving the Heligear Transaction, with reasons to follow. These are the reasons.

#### **Facts**

- Northstar supplies components and assemblies for the commercial and military aerospace markets, and provides related services. Northstar provides goods and services to customers all over the world, including military defence suppliers Boeing, Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation and AgustaWestland Ltd., as well as the U.S. army. Northstar's products are used in the Boeing CH-47 Chinook helicopters, Boeing AH-64 Apache helicopters, Sikorsky UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters, AgustaWestland Links/Wildcat helicopters, the Boeing F-22 Raptor Fighter aircraft and various other helicopters and aircraft.
- 8 Northstar owns and leases operating facilities in the United States and Canada. In addition, Northstar owns a dormant facility located at 695 Bishop Street North in Cambridge, Ontario (the "Cambridge Facility").

- 9 The Cambridge Facility has been non-operational since April 2010, when Northstar Canada closed it to focus on its core business of manufacturing aerospace gears and transmissions.
- Operations at the Cambridge Facility historically involved the use of industrial solvents, including trichloroethylene ("TCE").
- In 2004, Northstar Canada notified the MOE of potential environmental contamination at the Cambridge Facility including TCE. Additional investigations determined that the contamination had migrated from beneath the Cambridge Facility to beneath nearby homes. In response, Northstar Canada has spent in excess of \$20 million for environmental testing and remediation at and near the Cambridge Facility through April 2012.
- A separate contamination source, not attributable to Northstar Canada or its operations, has also been identified near the Cambridge Facility. This second source is known as the Borg-Warner Site. GE Canada is the corporate successor to Borg-Warner Canada Inc.
- 13 Since the discovery of the environmental condition at the Cambridge Facility in 2004, Northstar has conducted remediation activities, on a voluntary basis, including after the granting of the Initial Order, with the consent of the DIP Lenders.
- On March 15, 2012, an Ontario MOE director (the "Director"), pursuant to powers under the *Environmental Protection Act*, issued Order Number 6076-8RJRUP (the "March 15 Order") to Northstar Inc. and Northstar Canada. The March 15 Order was issued as a direct result of the MOE's concerns regarding Northstar Canada's solvency.
- 15 The purpose of the March 15 Order was stated as "to ensure the potential adverse effects from TCE and hexavalent chromium impacted groundwater to human health and the environment continues to be monitored, mitigated and remediated where necessary".
- 16 The March 15 Order requires Northstar to undertake the following activities, among others:
  - (a) the operation of a laboratory and retention of a professional engineer to supervise the laboratory, which will operate to prepare, complete and/or supervise the work set out in the March 15 Order;
  - (b) the creation and implementation of an indoor air monitoring protocol, with annual assessment reports submitted to the MOE;
  - (c) continued:
    - (i) operation and monitoring of the indoor air mitigation systems ("IAMS") voluntarily installed by Northstar Canada prior to the issuance of the March 15 Order;
    - (ii) operation and monitoring of the soil vapour extraction systems ("SVES") voluntarily installed by Northstar prior to the issuance of the March 15 Order;
    - (iii) operation and maintenance of a pump and treat system;
    - (iv) groundwater remediation on or around the Cambridge Facility;
    - (v) groundwater and surface water monitoring;
  - (d) the submission of detailed annual assessment reports regarding the measures described above and, on the direction of the MOE, installation of such additional systems and adoption of such additional reporting requirements as may be required by the MOE; and

- (e) submission of an updated interim remedial action plan to the MOE and, upon approval, implementation of same, with bi-annual updated plans unless otherwise advised by the MOE.
- 17 These obligations and others are fully set out at pages 8-19 of the March 15 Order.
- On May 31, 2012, the Director issued a further order, Order Number 2066-8UQP82, (the "May 31 Order", and together with the March 15 Order, the "Director's Orders") ordering Northstar Inc. and Northstar Canada to provide financial assurance in the amount of \$10,352,906 by certified cheque payable to the Ontario Ministry of Finance or irrevocable Letter of Credit issued by a Canadian chartered bank by June 6, 2012 to fund the measures contemplated by the March 15 Order.
- Northstar has continued to perform monitoring, mitigation and remediation activities contemplated by the March 15 Order to the extent it was permitted to do so under the Initial Order. In addition, the CCAA Entities, with the consent of the DIP Lenders, have sought and obtained authorization to pay the utility payments associated with the IAMS. The CCAA Entities, however, advised the MOE that any payment of utility payments by the CCAA Entities was without prejudice to their position that the Director's Orders were stayed by the Initial Order and did not constitute an admission that the CCAA Entities were obligated to make or continue to make such payments and further that they were not committed to continue making such payments.
- The concerns raised by the MOE, the Region of Waterloo and the City of Cambridge are significant. TCE is a carcinogen. The effects of TCE were described in the affidavit filed by Dr. Liana Nolan, the Medical Officer of Health ("MOH") for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. Chronic effects of exposure to TCE, other than cancer, are less well understood but potential effects include those to the central nervous system, kidney, liver, respiratory, developmental and reproductive systems.
- 21 TCE vapour has migrated into the basements of many homes from the groundwater beneath those homes.
- To reduce TCE vapour intrusion to more acceptable levels, there are 59 homes that have subslab depressurization systems and 93 homes that are serviced by soil vapour extraction units. These systems were installed and are operated by Northstar. In addition, Northstar has attempted to reduce the extent and concentration of the TCE contamination in the groundwater beneath the Bishop Street community through the installation and operation of a groundwater pump and treat system.
- Dr. Nolan is of the opinion that Northstar's remediation plan should continue in order to protect the health of residents of the Bishop Street community. It is also her opinion that discontinuing the current pump and treat system will result in increased levels and concentrations of TCE contamination. It is also her belief that discontinuing the operation and maintenance of the indoor air mitigation systems (soil vapour extraction units and subslab depressurization systems) will result in increased levels of TCE vapours in affected homes and will expose residents to undue and increased health risks.
- 24 The materials filed by the MOE describe a number of other environmental issues, which to date have been monitored:
  - Ongoing groundwater monitoring by Northstar Canada
  - Continued indoor air monitoring and mitigation
  - Ongoing surface water monitoring the Grand River
  - Ongoing drinking water monitoring
- The MOE is justifiably concerned about the future of the remediation efforts as Northstar Canada has made no provision for the continuation of its investigation, monitoring, mitigation and remediation of TCE contamination after the close of the Heligear Transaction.

- Essentially, if the monitoring, mitigation and remediation of TCE contamination is discontinued as a result of the Heligear Transaction, there will be, according to the MOE and Dr. Nolan, the City of Cambridge and the Region of Waterloo, a significant public health issue.
- The CCAA Entities take the position that the March 15 Order requires extensive further remediation steps and they estimate that fully responding to it would require a minimum expenditure of \$25 million over the next 20 years.
- As detailed in the affidavit filed on the initial application, the CCAA Entities have been facing severe liquidity issues for many months and are unable to meet various financial and other covenants with their secured lenders and do not have the liquidity to meet their ongoing prefiling obligations.
- 29 Since late 2011, Northstar has issued press releases discussing, among things, concerns about its ability to continue as a going concern.
- After a comprehensive marketing process conducted with the assistance of Harris Williams Inc. ("Harris Williams"), on June 14, 2012, the Canadian Vendors and Heligear entered into the Heligear Agreement for the sale of substantially all of Northstar's assets (the "Heligear Transaction").
- 31 The assets to be purchased by Heligear do not include the Cambridge Facility and related assets. It is apparent that during the Sales Process, no bidder that expressed an interest in the assets of Northstar was willing to purchase or expressed any interest in purchasing the nonoperating Cambridge Facility, either on its own or together with the other assets of Northstar.
- 32 Two significant credit facilities have security over the property of the CCAA Entities.
- In 2010, the CCAA Entities entered into a \$66 million secured credit agreement (the "Credit Facility") between certain of the CCAA and Chapter 11 Entities and Fifth Third Bank ("Fifth Third") and other lenders (collectively, the "Lenders").
- 34 The Monitor has found the security related to the Credit Facility to be valid, perfected and enforceable.
- In the Initial Order, the court approved a Debtor-in-Possession Facility (the "DIP Facility") under which Fifth Third, as the DIP Agent, and other lenders (together, the "DIP Lenders"), agreed to provide up to a principal amount of \$3 million to finance the CCAA Entities' working capital requirements and other general corporate purposes and capital expenditures. A court-ordered charge over the CCAA Entities' property in favour of the DIP Lenders (the "DIP Lenders' Charge") was also granted and was given super priority status by court order dated June 27, 2012.
- As of August 3, 2012, the proposed closing date for the proposed Heligear Transaction, the aggregate amount owing under the DIP Facility, the U.S. Dip Facilities (to which the CCAA Entities are guarantors) and the Credit Facility will be approximately \$75 million. Net proceeds from the Heligear Transaction are expected to be less than \$65 million after transaction costs, payment of outstanding post-filing obligations and prior ranking claims. As a result, if the Transaction is approved, Northstar's secured creditors are expected to realize a shortfall.
- 37 Notwithstanding this shortfall, the secured creditors support approval of the Heligear Transaction.
- 38 The DIP Lenders have advised Northstar that they will not fund the continued voluntary remediation efforts after closing of the proposed Heligear Transaction, which is scheduled for August 3, 2012.

# **Analysis**

- 39 The MOE takes the position and has served a motion for a declaration that the March 15 Order is a "regulatory order" pursuant to s. 11.1(2) of the CCAA and is not subject to the stay of proceedings provided by the Initial Order; or, in the alternative, the MOE seeks an order lifting the stay.
- The MOE also seeks an order that the Heligear Transaction not be approved.

- Alternatively, if the Heligear Transaction is approved, the MOE seeks an order that no proceeds be distributed pending the release of the decision on this motion and the hearing of further submissions on the allocation of proceeds.
- 42 The issues on this motion, from the standpoint of the MOE, are:
  - (a) is the March 15 Order subject to the stay of proceedings granted in the Initial Order?
  - (b) should the court declare, pursuant to s. 11.1(4) of the CCAA that the MOE is seeking to enforce its rights as a creditor and that the enforcement of those rights is stayed?
- In addition, the MOE takes the position that the court should not approve the sale where the effect of such an order would so seriously prejudice the public interest.
- 44 The MOE also takes the position that:
  - (i) the March 15 Order is regulatory in nature and not subject to the stay;
  - (ii) the Order is not a "claim" within the meaning of ss. 11.8(8) and 11.8(9) of the CCAA; and
  - (iii) any other interpretation of these provisions upsets the balance between the federal power over bankruptcy and insolvency in s. 91(21) of the *Constitution Act*, 1867 and provincial regulatory authority over the environment, founded on s. 92(13) and s. 92(16).
- Alternatively, the MOE requests an order lifting the stay of the March 15 Order in order to permit continued enforcement of the March 15 Order as against Northstar.
- Turning first to the constitutional argument, the MOE acknowledged that it was not until July 23, 2012, the day before the scheduled hearing, that notice of a constitutional question was provided to the Attorney General of Canada as required by s. 109 of the *Courts of Justice Act*.
- 47 Counsel to the MOE advised that the Attorney General of Canada was not in a position to respond on such a short time frame. Counsel to the MOE requested an adjournment of this aspect of the motion. This request was opposed by the CCAA Entities and those supporting the CCAA Entities.
- After hearing argument on the adjournment request, I denied the request for several reasons: the environmental issue raised by the MOE has been known about since the outset of the CCAA Proceedings and, in fact, since before the issuance of the CCAA Proceedings; a similar issue was litigated in *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re*, 2012 ONSC 1213 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) ("*Nortel*"); and, the proposed Heligear Transaction is scheduled to close August 3, 2012 and it is not feasible to adjourn this aspect of the motion and still comply with commercial requirements. In addition, I also accept the arguments of both counsel to the CCAA Entities and Fifth Third that the MOE should not be permitted to bifurcate its case.
- The first substantive issue raised by the submissions of the MOE is whether the March 15 Order is subject to the stay of proceedings granted in the Initial Order.
- The Initial Order grants a broad stay of proceedings in favour of the CCAA Entities, subject to certain limitations, including investigations, acts, suits or proceedings by a regulatory body that are permitted by s. 11.1 of the CCAA.
- Exceptions to the stay should be narrowly interpreted so as to accord with the objectives of the CCAA: *Nortel Networks Corp., Re*, 2009 ONCA 833 (Ont. C.A.) at para. 17; *Nortel, supra*, at para. 55.
- 52 Subsection 11.1(2) of the CCAA provides that, subject to subsection 11.1(3), a stay of proceedings shall not affect an action, suit or proceeding that is taken by a regulatory body, other than the enforcement of a payment ordered by the regulatory body.

- I recently considered this issue in *Nortel*. Counsel to the CCAA Entities submits that the facts in this case are virtually identical to those in *Nortel*. He cites as an example the fact that the March 15 Order requires, among other things, the continued pumping and treatment of groundwater, the submission of an action plan to be reviewed and amended by the MOE, if necessary, and additional remediation work. Counsel submits that these requirements significantly overlap with the obligations set forth by the MOE in the orders at issue in *Nortel*.
- In *Nortel*, at para. 104, I stated that: "[t]he Ministry has the discretion under the legislation and, if the Minister is solely acting in is regulatory capacity, it can do so unimpeded by the stay. This is the effect of section 11.1(2) of the CCAA".
- However, at para. 105 I stated that:
  - [w]hen the entity that is the subject of the MOE's attention is insolvent and not carrying on operations at the property in question, it is necessary to consider the substance of the MOE's actions. If the result of the issuance of the MOE Orders is that [the debtor] is required to react in a certain way, it follows, in the present circumstances, that [the debtor] will be required to incur a financial obligation to comply. It is not a question of altering its operational activities in order to comply with the EPA on a going forward basis. There is no going forward business. [The debtor] is in a position where it has no real option but to pay money to comply with any environmental issue. In my view, if the MOE moves from draft orders to issued orders, the result is clear. The MOE would be, in reality, enforcing a payment obligation, which step is prohibited by the Stay.
- Counsel to the CCAA Entities pointed out one distinction between *Nortel* and the present scenario. In *Nortel*, the MOE had not issued draft orders against *Nortel* until after the CCAA proceedings had already commenced, whereas in this case, the March 15 Order was issued prefiling as a result of concern about the CCAA Entities' financial situation. As stated in the conclusion to the provincial officer's report issued in connection with the March 15 Order:
- While Northstar has undertaken all needed investigation, mitigation and remediation programs on a voluntary basis without the need for a director's order, recent financial disclosures made by Northstar have revealed there is significant doubt regarding the corporation's ability to continue as a going concern which could impact on the environmental remediation programs.
- The record in this case is clear. The CCAA Entities are insolvent. The Cambridge Facility was shut down in 2010 and no operations (other than environmental remediation activities) have been conducted there since that time. The CCAA Entities have conducted a court approved Sales Process. During the Sales Process, no bidder expressed any interest in purchasing the Cambridge Facility or was willing to assume the obligations associated with it.
- I agree with the submission of counsel to the CCAA Entities that the purpose of the March 15 Order and the MOE's motion is to attempt to require the CCAA Entities to continue to comply with the March 15 Order and all of the financial obligations associated therewith in perpetuity and in conflict with the priorities enjoyed by other creditors.
- At paragraph 127 in *Nortel*, I stated that, "the moment that [the debtor] is "required" to undertake such an activity, it is "required" to expend monies in response to actions being taken by the MOE. In my view, any financial activity that [the debtor] is required to undertake is stayed by the provisions of the Initial Order".
- In this case, it seems to me quite clear that the March 15 Order seeks to enforce a payment obligation and it is therefore stayed by the Initial Order: see also *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, 2010 QCCS 1261 (C.S. Que.) ("*Abitibi*") at para. 160.
- Counsel to the CCAA Entities submits that the MOE is attempting to create a priority claim through the issuance of the March 15 Order that does not exist at law and contrary to the priority scheme provided in the CCAA.
- 63 Counsel to the CCAA Entities cites *General Chemical Canada Ltd.*, *Re*, 2007 ONCA 600 (Ont. C.A.) ("*General Chemical*") at para. 46, for the proposition that federal insolvency statutes were amended to delineate the priority for the MOE in insolvency scenarios and, thus, "giving effect to provincial environmental legislation in the face of these amendments... would impermissibly affect the scheme of priorities in the federal legislation".

- The scope of the MOE's security is set out in the CCAA at s. 11.8(8) which provides:
  - 11.8(8) Any claim by Her Majesty in right of Canada or a province against a debtor company in respect of which proceedings have been commenced under this Act for costs of remediating any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting real property of the company is secured by a charge on the real property and on any other real property of the company that is contiguous thereto and that is related to the activity that caused the environmental condition or environmental damage, and the charge
    - (a) is enforceable in accordance with the law of the jurisdiction in which the real property is located, in the same way as a mortgage, hypothec or other security on real property; and
    - (b) ranks above any other claim, right or charge against the property, notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or anything in any other federal or provincial law.
- 65 Subsection 11.8(9) of the CCAA provides:
  - 11.8(9) A claim against a debtor company for costs of remedying any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting real property of the company shall be a claim under this Act, whether the condition arose or the damage occurred before or after the date on which proceedings under this Act were commenced.
- In my view, the MOE is entitled to file a claim against Northstar for any costs of remedying the environmental condition at the Cambridge Facility. However, the MOE is not entitled to attempt to use the March 15 Order to create a priority that it otherwise does not have access to under the legislation.
- This conclusion is consistent with the views that I expressed in *Nortel* at paras. 107 and 116 and is in accordance with the reasoning of *AbitibiBowater* at paras. 132 and 148, as well as *General Chemical* at para. 46.
- With respect to the Heligear Transaction, full details are contained in the affidavit filed in support of the motion.
- I have considered the factors listed under s. 36(3) of the CCAA. I am satisfied that the record establishes that the Heligear Agreement was the result of a broad and comprehensive marketing process conducted with the assistance of Harris Williams. The Sales Process Order approved key elements of the Sales Process, including (a) the execution of the Heligear Agreement, *nunc pro tunc*, for the purpose of establishing a stalking horse bid and (b) the Bidding Procedures which governed the determination of the successful bid.
- 70 I am satisfied that the CCAA Entities complied with the terms of the Sales Process Order.
- I am also satisfied that while Northstar conducted a broad and comprehensive marketing process prior to the commencement of these proceedings, the Monitor has reviewed and supported the approval of the execution of the Heligear Agreement *nunc pro tunc* and the approval of the Bidding Procedures as granted in the Sales Process Order.
- The CCAA Entities take the position that the Heligear Transaction is in the best interests of Northstar's stakeholders, including its employees, suppliers and customers.
- I am satisfied that the record establishes that the creditors were adequately consulted and the effects of the Heligear Transaction are positive. I am also satisfied that the consideration to be received for the Canadian Purchased Assets is reasonable and fair in the circumstances.
- In making these statements, I do not in any way wish to diminish the arguments put forth by the MOE and supported by the Region of Waterloo, the City of Cambridge and GE Canada. The concerns raised by the MOE are real and serious. However, the reality of the situation is that during the Sales Process, no bidder was willing to purchase or expressed any interest in purchasing the Cambridge Facility, either alone or together with the other assets of Northstar.

- The reality of the situation was also expressed by counsel to Fifth Third. Counsel submitted that the record is clear that, if the Heligear Transaction is not approved, Fifth Third will proceed to enforce its rights. As a result of ss. 11.8(8) and (9) of the CCAA, Fifth Third Bank has a superior priority position to the MOE and would be in a position to commence proceedings to enforce its rights as such.
- The practical result at that point would be that Northstar would have no assets available and no ability to comply with the MOE Order.
- The reality of the situation is that, regardless of whether the Heligear Transaction is approved, Northstar will not have the practical ability to comply with the MOE Order. In this respect, the sale of the Canadian Purchased Assets to the Canadian Purchaser has no real effect on the MOE or any other party with an interest in the Cambridge Facility.
- The Heligear Transaction is supported by the Monitor, the CRO, Fifth Third Bank (both as DIP Agent and as Agent for the Lenders under Northstar's existing secured facility), Boeing, Boeing Capital and the CAW.
- In addition to the factors set out in s. 36(3), discussed above, s. 36(7) of the CCAA sets out the following restrictions on the disposition of assets within CCAA proceedings:
  - 36(7) The court may grant the authorization only if the court is satisfied that the company can and will make the payments that would have been required under paragraphs 6(4)(a) and (5)(a) if the court had sanctioned the compromise or arrangement.
- The CCAA Entities have advised that they intend to make the payments of the amounts described in subsections 6(4)(a) and (5)(a) of the CCAA on their normal due dates from the proceeds of the Heligear Transaction.
- 81 Counsel to the CAW made reference to issues of successor liability. These issues are not directly before the court today and do not factor into this endorsement.

## **Disposition**

- 82 In conclusion, I am satisfied that the Heligear Transaction is in the best interests of Northstar's stakeholders, including its employees, suppliers and customers. The proceeds of the Transaction will be available for distribution to the CCAA Entities' creditors in accordance with their legal priorities. The Lenders have asserted a claim against the proceeds of the Heligear Transaction. Independent counsel to the Monitor has reviewed the Lenders' security and concluded that the security granted under the Credit Facility is valid, perfected and enforceable.
- 83 In the result, I am satisfied that the Heligear Transaction should be approved.
- An order is also made declaring that the MOE is seeking to enforce its rights as a creditor and that the enforcement of those rights is stayed.
- Further, MOE's request to lift the stay is denied on the basis that the MOE is seeking to create a super priority claim by way of the March 15 Order. Such a priority is not recognized at law and, consequently, it is appropriate that the MOE's enforcement of its rights as a creditor should be stayed.
- An order is also granted vesting all of the Canadian Purchased Assets in the Canadian Purchaser free and clear of all restrictions.
- Finally, the Monitor is authorized and directed, on closing of the Heligear Transaction, to make distributions to the DIP Agent for the DIP Lenders and to the Lenders in accordance with their legal priorities.
- 88 I thank counsel for their comprehensive submissions and argument in connection with this matter.

Debtor companies' motion granted; Ministry's motion dismissed.

2012 ONSC 4423, 2012 CarswellOnt 9607, 218 A.C.W.S. (3d) 490, 91 C.B.R. (5th) 268

**End of Document** 

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# **TAB 8**

# 2013 ONCA 599 Ontario Court of Appeal

Nortel Networks Corp., Re

2013 CarswellOnt 13651, 2013 ONCA 599, 235 A.C.W.S. (3d) 391, 311 O.A.C. 101, 368 D.L.R. (4th) 122, 6 C.B.R. (6th) 159, 78 C.E.L.R. (3d) 43

# In the Matter of the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as amended

In the Matter of a Plan of Compromise or Arrangement of Nortel Networks Corporation, Nortel Networks Limited, Nortel Networks Global Corporation, Nortel Networks International Corporation and Nortel Networks Technology Corporation

S.T. Goudge, J.C. MacPherson, R.G. Juriansz JJ.A.

Heard: June 19, 2013 Judgment: October 3, 2013 Docket: CA C55682

Proceedings: reversing *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re* (2012), 66 C.E.L.R. (3d) 310, 2012 ONSC 1213, 2012 CarswellOnt 3153, 88 C.B.R. (5th) 111 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])

Counsel: Leonard F. Marsello, William R. MacLarkey, for Appellant, Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario as represented by the Ministry of the Environment

David W. DeMille, for City of Belleville and the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board

Alan B. Merskey, and Vasuda Sinha, for Respondents, Nortel Networks Corp., Nortel Networks Ltd., Nortel Networks Global Corp., Nortel Networks International Corp. and Nortel Networks Technology Corp.

Joseph Pasquariello, for Monitor, Ernst & Young Inc.

Adam Hirsh, for Former Directors and Officers of Nortel Networks Corp. and Nortel Networks Ltd.

Jane Dietrich, for Unsecured Creditors' Committee of Nortel Networks Inc.

Adam Slavens, for Nortel Networks Inc.

Gavin H. Finlayson, for Informal Committee of Noteholders

Subject: Insolvency; Environmental

## **Table of Authorities**

# Cases considered by R.G. Juriansz J.A.:

AbitibiBowater Inc., Re (2012), 352 D.L.R. (4th) 399, 71 C.E.L.R. (3d) 1, (sub nom. Newfoundland and Labrador v. AbitibiBowater Inc.) 438 N.R. 134, (sub nom. Newfoundland and Labrador v. AbitibiBowater Inc.) [2012] 3 S.C.R. 443, 2012 SCC 67, 2012 CarswellQue 12490, 2012 CarswellQue 12491, 95 C.B.R. (5th) 200 (S.C.C.) — distinguished

Confederation Treasury Services Ltd., Re (1997), 43 C.B.R. (3d) 4, (sub nom. Confederation Treasury Services Ltd. (Bankrupt), Re) 96 O.A.C. 75, 1997 CarswellOnt 31 (Ont. C.A.) — referred to

Confederation Treasury Services Ltd., Re (1997), (sub nom. Confederation Treasury Services Ltd. (Bankrupt), Re) 104 O.A.C. 160 (note) (S.C.C.) — referred to

#### **Statutes considered:**

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Generally — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36
Generally — referred to

s. 11.1(2) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] — considered

s. 11.1(3) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] — considered

s. 11.8(8) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] — considered

s. 11.8(9) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 124] — considered

Environmental Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.19
Generally — referred to

s. 18 — considered
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APPEAL by Minister from judgment reported at *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re* (2012), 66 C.E.L.R. (3d) 310, 2012 ONSC 1213, 2012 CarswellOnt 3153, 88 C.B.R. (5th) 111 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), determining that orders were subject to stay.

#### R.G. Juriansz J.A.:

#### A. Overview

- The CCAA judge, whose decision is the subject of this appeal, aptly described the issues as arising "from the untidy intersection" of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, ("CCAA") and the powers of the provincial Minister of the Environment ("MOE") "to make orders with respect to the remediation of real property in Ontario."
- After the usual order staying proceedings (the "Initial Order") was granted to the insolvent respondents, Nortel Networks Corporation, Nortel Networks Limited, Nortel Networks Global Corporation, Nortel Networks International Corporation and Nortel Networks Technology Corporation (collectively, "Nortel or the "respondents"), the MOE issued orders pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. E-19, ("EPA") requiring Nortel Networks Limited to remediate environmental contamination remaining on properties it once or currently owned.
- In his order dated March 9, 2012, the CCAA judge declared that the MOE's remediation orders were subject to the stay granted by the Initial Order. Ancillary to that declaration, he granted certain other relief. He declared that all proceedings against the respondents or the Former Directors and Officers before the Ontario Environmental Review Tribunal in relation to the EPA orders were subject to the stay of proceedings; he authorized the respondents to cease performing remediation of property; he declared that any claims in relation to current or future remediation requirements imposed by orders under the EPA against the respondents or the Former Directors and Officers were subject to the insolvency claims process; and he authorized the respondents to repudiate all contractual obligations to carry out remediation at the properties.
- 4 The MOE appeals.
- 5 For the reasons that follow, I would allow the appeal.

# **B.** Facts

- Nortel is engaged in a liquidating insolvency and has no operations. The sites where Nortel and its predecessors once conducted manufacturing operations were largely disposed of in the late 1990s. At that time Nortel identified environmental impacts that arose from its past operations at Brampton, Brockville, Kingston, Belleville, and London (the "Impacted Sites") and was conducting remediation at those sites on a voluntary or contractual basis.
- On January 14, 2009, Nortel filed for protection under the CCAA. At that time, Nortel maintained only a partial interest in the London site. It had disposed of its interests in the other Impacted Sites. As well, the MOE had not issued any remediation orders against Nortel. Nortel says that it spent some \$28.5 million on remediation of the sites before filing under the CCAA. After Nortel's CCAA filing, the MOE issued remediation orders (the "MOE Orders") that Nortel estimates would require further expenditures of approximately \$18 million.
- Nortel brought a motion before the CCAA judge seeking an order declaring that the relief the MOE Orders sought was financial and monetary in nature; that the Initial Order stayed the MOE Orders; and an order staying all related proceedings before the Ontario Environmental Review Tribunal. Nortel also sought authorization and direction that it cease performing remediation at the Impacted Sites and a declaration that any claims in relation to current or future remediation by the MOE or any other person against Nortel were stayed and had to be dealt with according to the CCAA claims procedure. In addition, Nortel sought an order repudiating or disclaiming any contractual obligations to carry out remediation at the Impacted Sites; and finally, advice and direction with respect to the London site where Nortel maintained a partial interest in the property.
- 9 On March 9, 2012, the CCAA judge determined that, where operations had ceased on a particular property and a company could only comply with the EPA or MOE Orders by expending funds, the environmental liabilities involved amount to financial obligations to pay. Therefore, they were subject to the Initial Order and had to be addressed as claims in the CCAA process.
- 10 On June 22, 2012, the MOE was granted leave to appeal the CCAA judge's order.
- While the MOE's appeal was pending, the Supreme Court released its decision in *AbitibiBowater Inc., Re*, 2012 SCC 67, [2012] 3 S.C.R. 443 (S.C.C.), on December 7, 2012. On March 28, 2013, the parties were given leave to file "fresh" factums and fresh evidence.
- 12 The parties dispute the interpretation of the Supreme Court's decision, and how it should be applied to the case under appeal.

### C. Supreme Court's Decision in Abitibibowater

- AbitibiBowater Inc. ("Abitibi") had carried on industrial activities in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador for over 100 years. In 2009, Abitibi sought protection under the CCAA.
- Subsequently, the Minister of Environment and Conservation of Newfoundland and Labrador issued five ministerial orders against Abitibi under the province's environmental legislation. These orders required Abitibi to remediate several sites, most of which had been expropriated by the province. The province also brought a motion for a declaration that the CCAA claims process did not bar the province from enforcing the orders. The province argued, among other things, that the remediation orders were regulatory orders, not "claims" under the CCAA, and therefore they could not be stayed or subjected to compromise in the CCAA restructuring process.
- The Supreme Court decided that a CCAA court could determine whether an environmental order that is not framed in monetary terms is in fact a "provable claim". Justice Deschamps, writing for the majority, held that "[a] finding that a claim of an environmental creditor is monetary in nature does not interfere in any way with the creditor's activities. Its claim is simply subjected to the insolvency process" (at para. 18). The CCAA court should consider the substance of an order rather than its form: "[i]f the Province's actions indicate that, in substance, it is asserting a provable claim within the meaning of federal legislation, then that claim can be subjected to the insolvency process" (at para. 19).

- 16 The CCAA, informed by the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 ("BIA"), establishes three requirements for establishing a provable claim. First, there must be a debt, liability or obligation to a creditor. This requirement is satisfied simply by the regulatory body exercising its enforcement power against a debtor: at paras. 26-27.
- 17 Second, a claim must be founded on an obligation that falls within the time limit for claims. Section 11.8(9) of the CCAA provides temporal flexibility for environmental claims by providing that
  - [a] claim against a debtor company for costs of remedying any environmental condition or environmental damage affecting real property of the company shall be a claim under this Act, whether the condition arose or the damage occurred before or after the date on which proceedings under this Act were commenced.

However, statutory environmental obligations relating to polluting activities that continue after the reorganization will not satisfy the time limits: at paras. 28-29.

- 18 Both the first and second requirements were easily satisfied in the Abitibi case.
- 19 The third requirement is "that it be possible to attach a monetary value to the obligation"; that is, "the question is whether orders that are not expressed in monetary terms can be translated into such terms" (at para. 30). A court must look at the substance of the order not its form and apply its usual approach in dealing with future or contingent claims.
- The usual test courts use to decide if a contingent claim will be included in insolvency proceedings is whether it is "too remote or speculative": at para. 36, citing *Confederation Treasury Services Ltd.*, *Re* (1997), 96 O.A.C. 75 (Ont. C.A.), leave to appeal to S.C.C. refused, [1997] S.C.C.A. No. 229 (S.C.C.). This means that there must be "sufficient indications" that the regulatory body that made the remediation order "will ultimately perform remediation work" itself, thus entitling it to seek reimbursement by means of a monetary claim: *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, at para 36.
- Accordingly, Deschamps J. concluded that the CCAA court must assess whether "it is sufficiently certain that the regulatory body will perform the remediation work and, as a result, have a monetary claim" (at para. 46).
- The CCAA judge's discretion will govern the assessment, but several considerations may be relevant, depending on the circumstances of the case. Justice Deschamps identified four potential factors: "whether the [polluting] activities are ongoing, whether the debtor is in control of the property..., whether the debtor has the means to comply with the order," and "the effect that requiring the debtor to comply with the order would have on the insolvency process" (at para. 38).
- In the circumstances of *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, Deschamps J. acknowledged that the CCAA judge had not addressed whether it was "sufficiently certain" that the Province would remediate the property and seek reimbursement, but she concluded that his reasons rested on the implicit finding that the Province would do so (at para. 51). The CCAA judge explicitly referred to the facts that supported this finding, at paras. 53-55:
  - Abitibi was not in a position to carry out the remediation because it was no longer in possession of most of the sites;
  - Abitibi's operations were funded through debtor-in-possession financing and its access to funds would limited to ongoing operations;
  - the timetable set by the Province in the remediation orders suggested that the Province never truly expected Abitibi to perform the remediation work;
  - and the surrounding facts suggested that the Province had intentionally targeted Abitibi.
- On this reasoning, Deschamps J., writing for the majority, deferred to the CCAA judge's implicit conclusion it was sufficiently certain that the Province would perform the remediation work. Therefore, the Province fell within the definition of a creditor with a monetary claim.

25 McLachlin C.J. and LeBel J. dissented.

# D. The Respondents' Effort to Distinguish Abitibibowater

- The respondents submit that it is an oversimplification of the *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re* decision to read it as requiring all future courts to examine environmental remediation orders "through the exclusive and binary test" of determining whether it is sufficiently certain that the province would perform the remediation and claim reimbursement. The respondents suggest that in *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re* the court used this language because it was particularly apt for the circumstances in the case. They claim that a careful reading of the reasons makes evident that the test the court established is less specific.
- The respondents point to the more general language in Deschamps J.'s reasons. They highlight the various factors that Deschamps J. indicated could be relevant depending on the circumstances of each case to determine whether remediation orders will be subject to a CCAA stay: at para. 38. They argue that as long as the order requires an expenditure of funds its nature is monetary. In setting out the three basic requirements to determine whether an environmental order is a "claim", Deschamps J. said with respect to the third requirement, "that it be possible to attach a monetary value to the obligation, the question is whether orders that are not expressed in monetary terms can be translated into such terms" (at para. 30).
- Instead, the respondents posit that in *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, the Supreme Court set out the policy approach to be followed in determining whether nonmonetary orders can be translated into monetary terms. This approach, as Deschamps J. emphasized, concerns: the importance of the single proceeding model of insolvency in Canada; the necessity of examining the substance, not only the form, of an environmental remediation order; the balance struck by Parliament between enforcement of environmental regulation and the interests of insolvency stakeholders; and the need to have regard to the interests of third-party creditors.
- Turning to this case, the respondents submit that it was sufficiently certain that compliance with the orders would require the expenditure of a minimum of \$18 million. Whether the money is paid to the MOE as reimbursement for the costs of performing the remediation, or paid to third parties retained to perform the remediation should make no difference. The environmental problems at the impacted sites were long-standing; the soil had been contaminated decades earlier. In fact, the Brockville site was already contaminated when Nortel bought it. Historical environmental problems, the respondents argue, should be distinguished from current ones, where the debtor is polluting at the time.
- 30 Finally, the respondents stress that the CCAA court should be mindful of the impact on the debtor and the stakeholders and avoid giving the MOE a super-priority it would not have under the BIA. Under the BIA there is no debtor-in-possession, only a trustee, and the trustee could abandon the contaminated property. In a liquidating reorganization there was no good reason why the MOE should do better under the CCAA than under the BIA.

## E. Analysis

- I cannot accept the respondents' proposed interpretation of *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*. In determining whether a regulatory order is a provable claim, a CCAA court must apply the general rules that apply to future or contingent claims. As I read it, the Supreme Court's decision is clear: ongoing environmental remediation obligations may be reduced to monetary claims that can be compromised in CCAA proceedings only where the province has performed the remediation work and advances a claim for reimbursement, or where the obligation may be considered a contingent or future claim because it is "sufficiently certain" that the province will do the work and then seek reimbursement.
- 32 The respondents' approach is not only inconsistent with *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, it is too broad. It would result in virtually all regulatory environmental orders being found to be provable claims. As Deschamps J. observed, a company may engage in activities that carry risks. When those risks materialize, the costs are borne by those who hold a stake in the company. A risk that results in an environmental obligation becomes subject to the insolvency process only when it is in substance monetary and is in substance a provable claim.

Parliament has struck a balance between the interests of the stakeholders and that of the public in designing the CCAA process. Parliament, in s. 11.8(8) of the CCAA, granted the MOE's claims with respect to remediation costs the security of a charge on the contaminated property. And Parliament, in s. 11.1(3), made it clear that a CCAA court has the discretion to stay regulatory orders on specified criteria.

# F. Is It Implicit That the CCAA Judge Applied the Correct Test?

- The CCAA judge in this case, without the benefit of the *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re* decision, did not explicitly consider the question whether it was sufficiently certain that the MOE would perform the remediation work ordered. In these circumstances there are two legal approaches available to this court. This court could attempt to glean from the CCAA judge's reasons how he would have answered the question had the law been available to him; and it can consider the evidence in the record and answer the question in his stead, as the dissenting judges did in *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*.
- I am unable to read the CCAA judge's reasons as implicitly addressing the question whether it was sufficiently certain that the MOE would perform the remediation work. The CCAA judge's analysis focused on whether Nortel would be required to incur a financial obligation to comply with the remediation orders, without regard to whom the financial obligations would be owed. He rejected the MOE's contention "that financial obligations incurred by Nortel for the purpose of complying with the MOE Orders are different from obligations incurred directly to the Crown." He focused instead on the fact that undertaking remedial work would result in Nortel expending money that would be "directed away from creditors participating in the insolvency proceedings". He held that "the same insolvency considerations ought to apply regardless of who receives the money" (at para. 107).
- This analysis stands in contrast to that of Deschamps J. She made it clear, at para. 3, that the question was "whether there are sufficient facts indicating the existence of an environmental duty that will ripen into a financial liability owed *to the regulatory body that issued the order*" (emphasis added).
- 37 The CCAA judge was well aware that in this case, unlike *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, it could not be said that the regulatory body had no realistic alternative but to perform the remediation work itself. Nortel no longer owns most of the properties, and the MOE Orders are directed to Nortel and the subsequent owners. In fact, the CCAA judge specifically discussed Nortel's contractual arrangements with some of the subsequent purchasers and in his order permitted Nortel to repudiate some of those arrangements.
- In my view, this court lacks the basis to conclude, as did the majority in *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, that the CCAA judge's decision rests on an implicit finding that the MOE will most likely perform the work.

## G. Is It Sufficiently Certain the Moe Will Undertake the Remediation?

- 39 Considering the matter afresh, I would conclude that it is not sufficiently certain that the MOE will perform the remediations ordered. The MOE orders respecting in the Belleville, Brockville and Kingston sites are directed to Nortel together with other current and former owners of the properties. In fact with respect to the Kingston site, the other current and former owners named in the orders are jointly and severally liable with Nortel to carry out the activities required by the orders. Under s. 18 of the EPA, the MOE clearly has the power to make orders against subsequent (or past) owners for anything it ordered Nortel to do.
- In *AbitibiBowater Inc.*, *Re*, the province had expropriated most of the properties and remained the owner. It would seem reasonable to expect that the MOE would enforce the orders against other parties instead of undertaking the remediation itself. Indeed, the CCAA judge observed that subsequent purchasers of the properties may have unsecured contractual claims against Nortel.
- 41 Matters at the London site are not so clear. Evidently, in 1997 and 1998 Nortel subdivided and sold three parts of the London site to others, but retained the fourth part. The MOE order respecting the London site is directed to Nortel and the three entities who own the other parts and imposes joint responsibilities as well as some individual responsibilities on them.

After the insolvency there will be no going-forward entity. Evidently Nortel's retained portion of the land is worth less than the cost of remediating it and it seems probable that the retained portion will eventually be abandoned. There is no one to carry out Nortel's responsibilities under the MOE Order. As a result, I consider it "sufficiently certain" that MOE will ultimately undertake Nortel's obligations under the order, and may seek to claim the security provided by s. 11.8(8).

#### H. Conclusion

- I would conclude that the MOE Orders in relation to the Impacted Sites other than the retained portion of the London property have not been established to be provable claims that must be included in the insolvency process.
- In paragraph 2 of his order, the CCAA judge declared that the MOE's remediation orders "are subject to the stay of proceedings granted in the initial order... and stayed thereunder". This declaration cannot stand. Paragraph 15 of the initial order contains the caveat that "nothing in this Order shall...(ii) exempt the [respondents] from compliance with statutory or regulatory provisions relating to health, safety or the environment". The conclusion that the remediation orders are regulatory rather than provable claims brings them within the ambit of this caveat.
- The CCAA judge himself acknowledged, at para. 104 that "if the Minister is solely acting in its regulatory capacity, it can do so unimpeded by the Stay. This is the effect of s. 11.1(2) of the CCAA." Section 11.1(2) provides:
  - (2) Subject to subsection (3), no order made under section 11.02 affects a regulatory body's investigation in respect of the debtor company or an action, suit or proceeding that is taken in respect of the company by or before the regulatory body, other than the enforcement of a payment ordered by the regulatory body or the court.
- I would therefore allow the appeal and modify the CCAA judge's declaration that the MOE Orders are stayed by the Initial Order so that it applies only to the retained London lands. I would also modify paragraphs 3, 4, 5, and 6 of his order, which are premised on the finding that MOE Orders are claims and are not regulatory, so that they apply only to the retained London lands.
- 46 If the MOE is seeking costs, it may make written submissions through the court's senior legal counsel, John Kromkamp.

# S.T. Goudge J.A.:

I agree

J.C. MacPherson J.A.:

I agree

Appeal allowed.

**End of Document** 

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# TAB 9

# 2011 ONSC 1647 Ontario Superior Court of Justice [Commercial List]

Robertson v. ProQuest Information & Learning Co.

2011 CarswellOnt 1770, 2011 ONSC 1647, [2011] O.J. No. 1160, 199 A.C.W.S. (3d) 757

# In the Matter of the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as Amended

In the Matter of a Plan of Compromise or Arrangement of Canwest Publishing Inc./Publications Canwest Inc., Canwest Books Inc. and Canwest (Canada) Inc.

Heather Robertson, Plaintiff and Proquest Information and Learning Company, Cedrom-Sni Inc., Toronto Star Newspapers Ltd., Rogers Publishing Limited and Canwest Publishing Inc., Defendants

# Pepall J.

Judgment: March 15, 2011 Docket: 03-CV-252945CP, CV-10-8533-00CL

Counsel: Kirk Baert, for Plaintiff

Peter J. Osborne, Kate McGrann, for Canwest Publishing Inc.

Alex Cobb, for CCAA Applicants

Ashley Taylor, Maria Konyukhova, for Monitor

Subject: Civil Practice and Procedure; Insolvency

#### **Table of Authorities**

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*Calpine Canada Energy Ltd., Re* (2007), 35 C.B.R. (5th) 27, 410 W.A.C. 25, 417 A.R. 25, 2007 ABCA 266, 2007 CarswellAlta 1097, 80 Alta. L.R. (4th) 60, 33 B.L.R. (4th) 94 (Alta. C.A. [In Chambers]) — referred to

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2011 ONSC 1647, 2011 CarswellOnt 1770, [2011] O.J. No. 1160, 199 A.C.W.S. (3d) 757

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Robertson v. Thomson Canada Ltd. (2009), 2009 CarswellOnt 3660, 80 C.P.C. (6th) 77 (Ont. S.C.J.) — considered

#### **Statutes considered:**

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Generally — referred to
s. 29 — considered
s. 34 — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36
Generally — referred to
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MOTION by representative plaintiff journalist and defendant publishing company for approval of settlement of two actions.

### Pepall J.:

#### Overview

On January 8, 2010, I granted an initial order pursuant to the provisions of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* ("*CCAA*") in favour of Canwest Publishing Inc. ("CPI") and related entities (the "LP Entities"). As a result of this order and subsequent orders, actions against the LP Entities were stayed. This included a class proceeding against CPI brought by Heather Robertson in her personal capacity and as a representative plaintiff (the "Representative Plaintiff"). Subsequently, CPI brought a motion for an order approving a proposed notice of settlement of the action which was granted. CPI and the Representative Plaintiff then jointly brought a motion for approval of the settlement of both the class proceeding as against CPI and the *CCAA* claim. The Monitor supported the request and no one was opposed. I granted the judgment requested and approved the settlement with endorsement to follow. Given the significance of the interplay of class proceedings with *CCAA* proceedings, I have written more detailed reasons for decision rather than simply an endorsement.

#### **Facts**

- 2 The Representative Plaintiff commenced this class proceeding by statement of claim dated July 25, 2003 and the action was case managed by Justice Cullity. He certified the action as a class proceeding on October 21, 2008 which order was subsequently amended on September 15, 2009.
- 3 The Representative Plaintiff claimed compensatory damages of \$500 million plus punitive and exemplary damages of \$250 million against the named defendants, ProQuest Information and Learning LLC, Cedrom-SNI Inc., Toronto Star Newspapers Ltd., Rogers Publishing Limited and CPI for the alleged infringement of copyright and moral rights in certain works owned by class members. She alleged that class members had granted the defendants the limited right to reproduce the class members' works in the print editions of certain newspapers and magazines but that the defendant publishers had proceeded to reproduce, distribute and communicate the works to the public in electronic media operated by them or by third parties.
- 4 As set out in the certification order, the class consists of:
  - A. All persons who were the authors or creators of original literary works ("Works") which were published in Canada in any newspaper, magazine, periodical, newsletter, or journal (collectively "Print Media") which Print Media have been

## 2011 ONSC 1647, 2011 CarswellOnt 1770, [2011] O.J. No. 1160, 199 A.C.W.S. (3d) 757

reproduced, distributed or communicated to the public by telecommunication by, or pursuant to the purported authorization or permission of, one or more of the defendants, through any electronic database, excluding electronic databases in which only a precise electronic reproduction of the Work or substantial portion thereof is made available (such as PDF and analogous copies) (collectively "Electronic Media"), excluding:

- (a) persons who by written document assigned or exclusively licensed all of the copyright in their Works to a defendant, a licensor to a defendant, or any third party; or
- (b) persons who by written document granted to a defendant or a licensor to a defendant a license to publish or use their Works in Electronic Media; or
- (c) persons who provided Works to a not for profit or non-commercial publisher of Print Media which was licensor to a defendant (including a third party defendant), and where such persons either did not expect or request, or did not receive, financial gain for providing such Works; or
- (d) persons who were employees of a defendant or a licensor to a defendant, with respect to any Works created in the course of their employment.

Where the Print Media publication was a Canadian edition of a foreign publication, only Works comprising of the content exclusive to the Canada edition shall qualify for inclusion under this definition.

(Persons included in clause A are thereinafter referred to as "Creators". A "licensor to a defendant" is any party that has purportedly authorized or provided permission to one or more defendants to make Works available in Electronic Media. References to defendants or licensors to defendants include their predecessors and successors in interest)

B. All persons (except a defendant or a licensor to a defendant) to whom a Creator, or an Assignee, assigned, exclusively licensed, granted or transmitted a right to publish or use their Works in Electronic Media.

(Persons included in clause B are hereinafter referred to as "Assignees")

- C. Where a Creator or Assignee is deceased, the personal representatives of the estate of such person unless the date of death of the Creator was on or before December 31, 1950.
- As part of the *CCAA* proceedings, I granted a claims procedure order detailing the procedure to be adopted for claims to be made against the LP Entities in the *CCAA* proceedings. On April 12, 2010, the Representative Plaintiff filed a claim for \$500 million in respect of the claims advanced against CPI in the action pursuant to the provisions of the claims procedure order. The Monitor was of the view that the claim in the *CCAA* proceedings should be valued at \$0 on a preliminary basis.
- The Representative Plaintiff's claim was scheduled to be heard by a claims officer appointed pursuant to the terms of the claims procedure order. The claims officer would determine liability and would value the claim for voting purposes in the *CCAA* proceedings.
- 7 Prior to the hearing before the claims officer, the Representative Plaintiff and CPI negotiated for approximately two weeks and ultimately agreed to settle the *CCAA* claim pursuant to the terms of a settlement agreement.
- 8 When dealing with the consensual resolution of a *CCAA* claim filed in a claims process that arises out of ongoing litigation, typically no court approval is required. In contrast, class proceeding settlements must be approved by the court. The notice and process for dissemination of the settlement agreement must also be approved by the court.
- 9 Pursuant to section 34 of the *Class Proceedings Act*, the same judge shall hear all motions before the trial of the common issues although another judge may be assigned by the Regional Senior Judge (the "RSJ") in certain circumstances. The action had been stayed as a result of the CCAA proceedings. While I was the supervising CCAA judge, I was also assigned by the RSJ to hear the class proceeding notice and settlement motions.

- Class counsel said in his affidavit that given the time constraints in the *CCAA* proceedings, he was of the view that the parties had made reasonable attempts to provide adequate notice of the settlement to the class. It would have been preferable to have provided more notice, however, given the exigencies of insolvency proceedings and the proposed meeting to vote on the *CCAA* Plan, I was prepared to accept the notice period requested by class counsel and CPI.
- In this case, given the hybrid nature of the proceedings, the motion for an order approving notice of the settlement in both the class action proceeding and the *CCAA* proceeding was brought before me as the supervising *CCAA* judge. The notice procedure order required:
  - 1) the Monitor and class counsel to post a copy of the settlement agreement and the notice order on their websites;
  - 2) the Monitor to publish an English version of the approved form of notice letter in the National Post and the Globe and Mail on three consecutive days and a French translation of the approved form of notice letter in La Presse for three consecutive days;
  - 3) distribution of a press release in an approved form by Canadian Newswire Group for dissemination to various media outlets; and
  - 4) the Monitor and class counsel were to maintain toll-free phone numbers and to respond to enquiries and information requests from class members.
- 12 The notice order allowed class members to file a notice of appearance on or before a date set forth in the order and if a notice of appearance was delivered, the party could appear in person at the settlement approval motion and any other proceeding in respect of the class proceeding settlement. Any notices of appearance were to be provided to the service list prior to the approval hearing. In fact, no notices of appearance were served.
- In brief, the terms of the settlement were that:
  - a) the CCAA claim in the amount of \$7.5 million would be allowed for voting and distribution purposes;
  - b) the Representative Plaintiff undertook to vote the claim in favour of the proposed CCAA Plan;
  - c) the action would be dismissed as against CPI;
  - d) CPI did not admit liability; and
  - e) the Representative Plaintiff, in her personal capacity and on behalf of the class and/or class members, would provide a licence and release in respect of the freelance subject works as that term was defined in the settlement agreement.
- The claims in the action in respect of CPI would be fully settled but the claims which also involved ProQuest would be preserved. The licence was a non-exclusive licence to reproduce one or more copies of the freelance subject works in electronic media and to authorize others to do the same. The licence excluded the right to licence freelance subject works to ProQuest until such time as the action was resolved against ProQuest, thereby protecting the class members' ability to pursue ProQuest in the action. The settlement did not terminate the lawsuit against the other remaining defendants. Under the *CCAA* Plan, all unsecured creditors, including the class, would be entitled to share on a pro rata basis in a distribution of shares in a new company. The Representative Plaintiff would share pro rata to the extent of the settlement amount with other affected creditors of the LP Entities in the distributions to be made by the LP Entities, if any.
- After the notice motion, CPI and the Representative Plaintiff brought a motion to approve the settlement. Evidence was filed showing, among other things, compliance with the claims procedure order. Arguments were made on the process and on the fairness and reasonableness of the settlement.

In her affidavit, Ms. Robertson described why the settlement was fair, reasonable and in the best interests of the class members:

In light of Canwest's insolvency, I am advised by counsel, and verily believe, that, absent an agreement or successful award in the Canwest Claims Process, the prospect of recovery for the Class against Canwest is minimal, at best. However, under the Settlement Agreement, which preserves the claims of the Class as against the remaining defendants in the class proceeding in respect of each of their independent alleged breaches of the class members' rights, as well as its claims as against ProQuest for alleged violations attributable to Canwest content, there is a prospect that members of the Class will receive some form of compensation in respect of their direct claims against Canwest.

Because the Settlement Agreement provides a possible avenue of recovery for the Class, and because it largely preserves the remaining claims of the Class as against the remaining defendants in the class proceeding, I am of the view that the Settlement Agreement represents a reasonable compromise of the Class claim as against Canwest, and is both fair and reasonable in the circumstances of Canwest's insolvency.

- In the affidavit filed by class counsel, Anthony Guindon of the law firm Koskie Minsky LLP noted that he was not in a position to ascertain the approximate dollar value of the potential benefit flowing to the class from the potential share in a pro rata distribution of shares in the new corporation. This reflected the unfortunate reality of the *CCAA* process. While a share price of \$11.45 was used, he noted that no assurance could be given as to the actual market price that would prevail. In addition, recovery was contingent on the total quantum of proven claims in the claims process. He also described the litigation risks associated with attempting to obtain a lifting of the *CCAA* stay of proceedings. The likelihood of success was stated to be minimal. He also observed the problems associated with collection of any judgment in favour of the Representative Plaintiff. He went on to state:
  - ... The Representative Plaintiff, on behalf of the Class, could have elected to challenge Canwest's initial valuation of the Class claim of \$0 before a Claims Officer, rather than entering into a negotiated settlement. However, a number of factors militated against the advisability of such a course of action. Most importantly, the claims of the Class in the class proceeding have not been proven, and the Class does not enjoy the benefit of a final judgment as against Canwest. Thus, a hearing before the Claims Officer would necessarily necessitate a finding of liability as against Canwest, in addition to a quantification of the claims of the Class against Canwest.
  - ... a negative outcome in a hearing before a Claims Officer could have the effect of jeopardizing the Class claims as against the remaining defendants in the class proceeding. Such a finding would not be binding on a judge seized of a common issues trial in the class proceeding; however, it could have persuasive effect.

Given the likely limited recovery available from Canwest in the Claims Process, it is the view of Class Counsel that a negotiated resolution of the quantification of Class claim as against Canwest is preferable to risking a negative finding of liability in the context of a contested Claims hearing before a Claims Officer.

- The Monitor was also involved in the negotiation of the settlement and was also of the view that the settlement agreement was a fair and reasonable resolution for CPI and the LP Entities' stakeholders. The Monitor indicated in its report that the settlement agreement eliminated a large degree of uncertainty from the *CCAA* proceeding and facilitated the approval of the Plan by the requisite majorities of stakeholders. This of course was vital to the successful restructuring of the LP Entities. The Monitor recommended approval of the settlement agreement.
- 19 The settlement of the class proceeding action was made prior to the creditors' meeting to vote on the Plan for the LP Entities. The issues of the fees and disbursements of class counsel and the ultimate distribution to class members were left to be dealt with by the class proceedings judge if and when there was a resolution of the action with the remaining defendants.

## Discussion

- Both motions in respect of the settlement were heard by me but were styled in both the *CCAA* proceedings and the class proceeding.
- 21 As noted by Jay A. Swartz and Natasha J. MacParland in their article "Canwest Publishing A Tale of Two Plans" 1:

"There have been a number of CCAA proceedings in which settlements in respect of class proceedings have been implemented including McCarthy v. Canadian Red Cross Society, (Re:) Grace Canada Inc., Muscletech Research and Development Inc., and (Re:) Hollinger Inc. ... The structure and process for notice and approval of the settlement used in the LP Entities restructuring appears to be the most efficient and effective and likely a model for future approvals. Both motions in respect of the Settlement, discussed below, were heard by the CCAA judge but were styled in both proceedings." [citations omitted]

#### (a) Approval

- (i) CCAA Settlements in General
- Certainly the court has jurisdiction to approve a *CCAA* settlement agreement. As stated by Farley J. in *Lehndorff General Partner Ltd.*, *Re*, <sup>2</sup> the *CCAA* is intended to provide a structured environment for the negotiation of compromises between a debtor company and its creditors for the benefit of both. Very broad powers are provided to the *CCAA* judge and these powers are exercised to achieve the objectives of the statute. It is well settled that courts may approve settlements by debtor companies during the *CCAA* stay period: *Calpine Canada Energy Ltd.*, *Re* <sup>3</sup>; *Air Canada*, *Re* <sup>4</sup>; and *Playdium Entertainment Corp.*, *Re*. <sup>5</sup> To obtain approval of a settlement under the *CCAA*, the moving party must establish that: the transaction is fair and reasonable; the transaction will be beneficial to the debtor and its stakeholders generally; and the settlement is consistent with the purpose and spirit of the *CCAA*. See in this regard *Air Canada*, *Re* <sup>6</sup> and *Calpine Canada Energy Ltd.*, *Re*. <sup>7</sup>
- (ii) Class Proceedings Settlement
- The power to approve the settlement of a class proceeding is found in section 29 of the *Class Proceedings Act*, 1992 8. That section states:
  - 29(1) A proceeding commenced under this *Act* and a proceeding certified as a class proceeding under this *Act* may be discontinued or abandoned only with the approval of the court, on such terms as the court considers appropriate.
  - (2) A settlement of a class proceeding is not binding unless approved by the court.
  - (3) A settlement of a class proceeding that is approved by the court binds all class members.
  - (4) In dismissing a proceeding for delay or in approving a discontinuance, abandonment or settlement, the court shall consider whether notice should be given under section 19 and whether any notice should include,
    - (a) an account of the conduct of the proceedings;
    - (b) a statement of the result of the proceeding; and
    - (c) a description of any plan for distributing settlement funds.
- 24 The test for approval of the settlement of a class proceeding was described in *Dabbs v. Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada* <sup>9</sup>. The court must find that in all of the circumstances the settlement is fair, reasonable and in the best interests of those affected by it. In making this determination, the court should consider, amongst other things:
  - a) the likelihood of recovery or success at trial;

- b) the recommendation and experience of class counsel; and
- c) the terms of the settlement.

As such, it is clear that although the *CCAA* and class proceeding tests for approval are not identical, a certain symmetry exists between the two.

A perfect settlement is not required. As stated by Sharpe J. (as he then was) in *Dabbs v. Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada* <sup>10</sup>:

Fairness is not a standard of perfection. Reasonableness allows for a range of possible resolutions. A less than perfect settlement may be in the best interests of those affected by it when compared to the alternative of the risks and costs of litigation.

- Where there is more than one defendant in a class proceeding, the action may be settled against one of the defendants provided that the settlement is fair, reasonable and in the best interests of the class members: *Ontario New Home Warranty Program v. Chevron Chemical Co.* <sup>11</sup>
- (iii) The Robertson Settlement
- 27 I concluded that the settlement agreement met the tests for approval under the CCAA and the Class Proceedings Act.
- As a general proposition, settlement of litigation is to be promoted. Settlement saves time and expense for the parties and the court and enables individuals to extract themselves from a justice system that, while of a high caliber, is often alien and personally demanding. Even though settlements are to be encouraged, fairness and reasonableness are not to be sacrificed in the process.
- 29 The presence or absence of opposition to a settlement may sometimes serve as a proxy for reasonableness. This is not invariably so, particularly in a class proceeding settlement. In a class proceeding, the court approval process is designed to provide some protection to absent class members.
- In this case, the proposed settlement is supported by the LP Entities, the Representative Plaintiff, and the Monitor. No one, including the non-settling defendants all of whom received notice, opposed the settlement. No class member appeared to oppose the settlement either.
- The Representative Plaintiff is a very experienced and sophisticated litigant and has been so recognized by the court. She is a freelance writer having published more than 15 books and having been a regular contributor to Canadian magazines for over 40 years. She has already successfully resolved a similar class proceeding against Thomson Canada Limited, Thomson Affiliates, Information Access Company and Bell Global Media Publishing Inc. which was settled for \$11 million after 13 years of litigation. That proceeding involved allegations quite similar to those advanced in the action before me. In approving the settlement in that case, Justice Cullity described the involvement of the Representative Plaintiff in the class proceeding:

The Representative Plaintiff, Ms. Robertson, has been actively involved throughout the extended period of the litigation. She has an honours degree in English from the University of Manitoba, and an M.A. from Columbia University in New York. She is the author of works of fiction and non-fiction, she has been a regular contributor to Canadian magazines and newspapers for over 40 years, and she was a founder member of each of the Professional Writers' Association of Canada and the Writers' Union of Canada. Ms. Robertson has been in communication with class members about the litigation since its inception and has obtained funds from them to defray disbursements. She has clearly been a driving force behind the litigation: *Robertson v. Thomson Canada Ltd.* <sup>12</sup>

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- 32 The settlement agreement was recommended by experienced counsel and entered into after serious and considered negotiations between sophisticated parties. The quantum of the class members' claim for voting and distribution purposes, though not identical, was comparable to the settlement in *Robertson v. Thomson Canada Ltd.*. In approving that settlement, Justice Cullity stated:
  - Ms. Robertson's best estimate is that there may be 5,000 to 10,000 members in the class and, on that basis, the gross settlement amount of \$11 million does not appear to be unreasonable. It compares very favourably to an amount negotiated among the parties for a much wider class in the U.S. litigation and, given the risks and likely expense attached to a continuation of the proceeding, does not appear to be out of line. On this question I would, in any event, be very reluctant to second guess the recommendations of experienced class counsel, and their well informed client, who have been involved in all stages of the lengthy litigation. <sup>13</sup>
- In my view, Ms. Robertson's and Mr. Guindon's description of the litigation risks in this class proceeding were realistic and reasonable. As noted by class counsel in oral argument, issues relating to the existence of any implied license arising from conduct, assessment of damages, and recovery risks all had to be considered. Fundamentally, CPI was in an insolvency proceeding with all its attendant risks and uncertainties. The settlement provided a possible avenue for recovery for class members but at the same time preserved the claims of the class against the other defendants as well as the claims against ProQuest for alleged violations attributable to CPI content. The settlement brought finality to the claims in the action against CPI and removed any uncertainty and the possibility of an adverse determination. Furthermore, it was integral to the success of the consolidated plan of compromise that was being proposed in the *CCAA* proceedings and which afforded some possibility of recovery for the class. Given the nature of the CCAA Plan, it was not possible to assess the final value of any distribution to the class. As stated in the joint factum filed by counsel for CPI and the Representative Plaintiff, when measured against the litigation risks, the settlement agreement represented a reasonable, pragmatic and realistic compromise of the class claims.
- The Representative Plaintiff, Class Counsel and the Monitor were all of the view that the settlement resulted in a fair and reasonable outcome. I agreed with that assessment. The settlement was in the best interests of the class and was also beneficial to the LP Entities and their stakeholders. I therefore granted my approval.

Motion granted.

### Footnotes

- 1 Annual Review of Insolvency Law, 2010, J.P. Sarra Ed, Carswell, Toronto at page 79.
- 2 (1993), 17 C.B.R. (3d) 24 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]), at 31.
- 3 2007 ABQB 504 (Alta. Q.B.) at para. 71; leave to appeal dismissed 2007 ABCA 266 (Alta. C.A. [In Chambers]).
- 4 (2004), 47 C.B.R. (4th) 169 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]).
- 5 (2001), 31 C.B.R. (4th) 302 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) at para. 23.
- 6 Supra. at para. 9.
- 7 Supra. at para. 59.
- 8 S.O. 1992, C.6.
- 9 [1998] O.J. No. 1598 (Ont. Gen. Div.) at para. 9.
- 10 (1998), 40 O.R. (3d) 429 (Ont. Gen. Div.) at para 30.
- 11 [1999] O.J. No. 2245 (Ont. S.C.J.) at para. 97.

2011 ONSC 1647, 2011 CarswellOnt 1770, [2011] O.J. No. 1160, 199 A.C.W.S. (3d) 757

- 12 [2009] O.J. No. 2650 at para. 15.
- 13 Robertson v. Thomson Canada Ltd., [2009] O.J. No. 2650 (Ont. S.C.J.) para. 20.

**End of Document** 

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# **TAB 10**

# 2008 ONCA 587 Ontario Court of Appeal

ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp.

2008 CarswellOnt 4811, 2008 ONCA 587, [2008] O.J. No. 3164, 168 A.C.W.S. (3d) 698, 240 O.A.C. 245, 296 D.L.R. (4th) 135, 45 C.B.R. (5th) 163, 47 B.L.R. (4th) 123, 92 O.R. (3d) 513

# IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE AND ARRANGEMENT INVOLVING METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS II CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS IV CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS V CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS XI CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS XII CORP., 4446372 CANADA INC. AND 6932819 CANADA INC., TRUSTEES OF THE CONDUITS LISTED IN SCHEDULE "A" HERETO

THE INVESTORS REPRESENTED ON THE PAN-CANADIAN INVESTORS COMMITTEE FOR THIRD-PARTY STRUCTURED ASSET-BACKED COMMERCIAL PAPER LISTED IN SCHEDULE "B" HERETO (Applicants / Respondents in Appeal) and METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS II CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS III CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS V CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS XI CORP., METCALFE & MANSFIELD ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS XII CORP., 4446372 CANADA INC. AND 6932819 CANADA INC., TRUSTEES OF THE CONDUITS LISTED IN SCHEDULE "A" HERETO (Respondents / Respondents in Appeal) and AIR TRANSAT A.T. INC., TRANSAT TOURS CANADA INC., THE JEAN COUTU GROUP (PJC) INC., AÉROPORTS DE MONTRÉAL INC., AÉROPORTS DE MONTRÉAL CAPITAL INC., POMERLEAU ONTARIO INC., POMERLEAU INC., LABOPHARM INC., DOMTAR INC., DOMTAR PULP AND PAPER PRODUCTS INC., GIRO INC., VÊTEMENTS DE SPORTS R.G.R. INC., 131519 CANADA INC., AIR JAZZ LP, PETRIFOND FOUNDATION COMPANY LIMITED, PETRIFOND FOUNDATION MIDWEST LIMITED, SERVICES HYPOTHÉCAIRES LA PATRIMONIALE INC., TECSYS INC. SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE DE FINANCEMENT DU QUÉBEC, VIBROSYSTM INC., INTERQUISA CANADA L.P., REDCORP VENTURES LTD., JURA ENERGY CORPORATION, IVANHOE MINES LTD., WEBTECH WIRELESS INC., WYNN CAPITAL CORPORATION INC., HY BLOOM INC., CARDACIAN MORTGAGE SERVICES, INC., WEST ENERGY LTD., SABRE ENERTY LTD., PETROLIFERA PETROLEUM LTD., VAQUERO RESOURCES LTD. and STANDARD ENERGY INC. (Respondents / Appellants)

J.I. Laskin, E.A. Cronk, R.A. Blair JJ.A.

Heard: June 25-26, 2008 Judgment: August 18, 2008 \* Docket: CA C48969

Proceedings: affirming ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp. (2008), 2008 CarswellOnt 3523, 43 C.B.R. (5th) 269 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])

Counsel: Benjamin Zarnett, Frederick L. Myers for Pan-Canadian Investors Committee

Aubrey E. Kauffman, Stuart Brotman for 4446372 Canada Inc., 6932819 Canada Inc.

Peter F.C. Howard, Samaneh Hosseini for Bank of America N.A., Citibank N.A., Citibank Canada, in its capacity as Credit Derivative Swap Counterparty and not in any other capacity, Deutsche Bank AG, HSBC Bank Canada, HSBC Bank

ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative..., 2008 ONCA 587, 2008...

2008 ONCA 587, 2008 CarswellOnt 4811, [2008] O.J. No. 3164, 168 A.C.W.S. (3d) 698...

USA, National Association, Merrill Lynch International, Merill Lynch Capital Services, Inc., Swiss Re Financial Products Corporation, UBS AG

Kenneth T. Rosenberg, Lily Harmer, Max Starnino for Jura Energy Corporation, Redcorp Ventures Ltd.

Craig J. Hill, Sam P. Rappos for Monitors (ABCP Appeals)

Jeffrey C. Carhart, Joseph Marin for Ad Hoc Committee, Pricewaterhouse Coopers Inc., in its capacity as Financial Advisor Mario J. Forte for Caisse de Dépôt et Placement du Québec

John B. Laskin for National Bank Financial Inc., National Bank of Canada

Thomas McRae, Arthur O. Jacques for Ad Hoc Retail Creditors Committee (Brian Hunter, et al)

Howard Shapray, Q.C., Stephen Fitterman for Ivanhoe Mines Ltd.

Kevin P. McElcheran, Heather L. Meredith for Canadian Banks, BMO, CIBC RBC, Bank of Nova Scotia, T.D. Bank

Jeffrey S. Leon for CIBC Mellon Trust Company, Computershare Trust Company of Canada, BNY Trust Company of Canada, as Indenture Trustees

Usman Sheikh for Coventree Capital Inc.

Allan Sternberg, Sam R. Sasso for Brookfield Asset Management and Partners Ltd., Hy Bloom Inc., Cardacian Mortgage Services Inc.

Neil C. Saxe for Dominion Bond Rating Service

James A. Woods, Sebastien Richemont, Marie-Anne Paquette for Air Transat A.T. Inc., Transat Tours Canada Inc., Jean Coutu Group (PJC) Inc., Aéroports de Montréal, Aéroports de Montréal Capital Inc., Pomerleau Ontario Inc., Pomerleau Inc., Labopharm Inc., Agence Métropolitaine de Transport (AMT), Giro Inc., Vêtements de sports RGR Inc., 131519 Canada Inc., Tecsys Inc., New Gold Inc., Jazz Air LP

Scott A. Turner for Webtech Wireless Inc., Wynn Capital Corporation Inc., West Energy Ltd., Sabre Energy Ltd., Petrolifera Petroleum Ltd., Vaquero Resources Ltd., and Standard Energy Ltd.

R. Graham Phoenix for Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments III Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments V Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments XI Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments XII Corp., Quanto Financial Corporation and Metcalfe & Mansfield Capital Corp.

Subject: Insolvency; Civil Practice and Procedure

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Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36
Generally — referred to
s. 4 — considered
s. 5.1 [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 122] — considered
s. 6 — considered

Constitution Act, 1867, (U.K.), 30 & 31 Vict., c. 3, reprinted R.S.C. 1985, App. II, No. 5
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s. 92 — referred to
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## Words and phrases considered:

# arrangement

"Arrangement" is broader than "compromise" and would appear to include any scheme for reorganizing the affairs of the debtor.

APPEAL by opponents of creditor-initiated plan from judgment reported at *ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp.* (2008), 2008 CarswellOnt 3523, 43 C.B.R. (5th) 269, 47 B.L.R. (4th) 74 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), granting application for approval of plan.

# R.A. Blair J.A.:

### A. Introduction

- 1 In August 2007 a liquidity crisis suddenly threatened the Canadian market in Asset Backed Commercial Paper ("ABCP"). The crisis was triggered by a loss of confidence amongst investors stemming from the news of widespread defaults on U.S. sub-prime mortgages. The loss of confidence placed the Canadian financial market at risk generally and was reflective of an economic volatility worldwide.
- By agreement amongst the major Canadian participants, the \$32 billion Canadian market in third-party ABCP was frozen on August 13, 2007 pending an attempt to resolve the crisis through a restructuring of that market. The Pan-Canadian Investors Committee, chaired by Purdy Crawford, C.C., Q.C., was formed and ultimately put forward the creditor-initiated Plan of Compromise and Arrangement that forms the subject-matter of these proceedings. The Plan was sanctioned by Colin L. Campbell J. on June 5, 2008.
- 3 Certain creditors who opposed the Plan seek leave to appeal and, if leave is granted, appeal from that decision. They raise an important point regarding the permissible scope of a restructuring under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 as amended ("CCAA"): can the court sanction a Plan that calls for creditors to provide releases to third parties who are themselves solvent and not creditors of the debtor company? They also argue that, if the answer to this question is yes, the application judge erred in holding that this Plan, with its particular releases (which bar some claims even in fraud), was fair and reasonable and therefore in sanctioning it under the CCAA.

# Leave to Appeal

- 4 Because of the particular circumstances and urgency of these proceedings, the court agreed to collapse an oral hearing for leave to appeal with the hearing of the appeal itself. At the outset of argument we encouraged counsel to combine their submissions on both matters.
- The proposed appeal raises issues of considerable importance to restructuring proceedings under the CCAA Canada-wide. There are serious and arguable grounds of appeal and given the expedited time-table the appeal will not unduly delay the progress of the proceedings. I am satisfied that the criteria for granting leave to appeal in CCAA proceedings, set out in such cases as *Cineplex Odeon Corp.*, *Re* (2001), 24 C.B.R. (4th) 201 (Ont. C.A.), and *Country Style Food Services Inc.*, *Re* (2002), 158 O.A.C. 30 (Ont. C.A. [In Chambers]), are met. I would grant leave to appeal.

## Appeal

6 For the reasons that follow, however, I would dismiss the appeal.

#### **B.** Facts

### The Parties

- The appellants are holders of ABCP Notes who oppose the Plan. They do so principally on the basis that it requires them to grant releases to third party financial institutions against whom they say they have claims for relief arising out of their purchase of ABCP Notes. Amongst them are an airline, a tour operator, a mining company, a wireless provider, a pharmaceuticals retailer, and several holding companies and energy companies.
- 8 Each of the appellants has large sums invested in ABCP in some cases, hundreds of millions of dollars. Nonetheless, the collective holdings of the appellants slightly over \$1 billion represent only a small fraction of the more than \$32 billion of ABCP involved in the restructuring.
- 9 The lead respondent is the Pan-Canadian Investors Committee which was responsible for the creation and negotiation of the Plan on behalf of the creditors. Other respondents include various major international financial institutions, the five largest Canadian banks, several trust companies, and some smaller holders of ABCP product. They participated in the market in a number of different ways.

# The ABCP Market

- Asset Backed Commercial Paper is a sophisticated and hitherto well-accepted financial instrument. It is primarily a form of short-term investment usually 30 to 90 days typically with a low interest yield only slightly better than that available through other short-term paper from a government or bank. It is said to be "asset backed" because the cash that is used to purchase an ABCP Note is converted into a portfolio of financial assets or other asset interests that in turn provide security for the repayment of the notes.
- ABCP was often presented by those selling it as a safe investment, somewhat like a guaranteed investment certificate.
- 12 The Canadian market for ABCP is significant and administratively complex. As of August 2007, investors had placed over \$116 billion in Canadian ABCP. Investors range from individual pensioners to large institutional bodies. On the selling and distribution end, numerous players are involved, including chartered banks, investment houses and other financial institutions. Some of these players participated in multiple ways. The Plan in this proceeding relates to approximately \$32 billion of non-bank sponsored ABCP the restructuring of which is considered essential to the preservation of the Canadian ABCP market.
- 13 As I understand it, prior to August 2007 when it was frozen, the ABCP market worked as follows.

- 14 Various corporations (the "Sponsors") would arrange for entities they control ("Conduits") to make ABCP Notes available to be sold to investors through "Dealers" (banks and other investment dealers). Typically, ABCP was issued by series and sometimes by classes within a series.
- The cash from the purchase of the ABCP Notes was used to purchase assets which were held by trustees of the Conduits ("Issuer Trustees") and which stood as security for repayment of the notes. Financial institutions that sold or provided the Conduits with the assets that secured the ABCP are known as "Asset Providers". To help ensure that investors would be able to redeem their notes, "Liquidity Providers" agreed to provide funds that could be drawn upon to meet the demands of maturing ABCP Notes in certain circumstances. Most Asset Providers were also Liquidity Providers. Many of these banks and financial institutions were also holders of ABCP Notes ("Noteholders"). The Asset and Liquidity Providers held first charges on the assets.
- When the market was working well, cash from the purchase of new ABCP Notes was also used to pay off maturing ABCP Notes; alternatively, Noteholders simply rolled their maturing notes over into new ones. As I will explain, however, there was a potential underlying predicament with this scheme.

# The Liquidity Crisis

- 17 The types of assets and asset interests acquired to "back" the ABCP Notes are varied and complex. They were generally long-term assets such as residential mortgages, credit card receivables, auto loans, cash collateralized debt obligations and derivative investments such as credit default swaps. Their particular characteristics do not matter for the purpose of this appeal, but they shared a common feature that proved to be the Achilles heel of the ABCP market: because of their long-term nature there was an inherent timing mismatch between the cash they generated and the cash needed to repay maturing ABCP Notes.
- When uncertainty began to spread through the ABCP marketplace in the summer of 2007, investors stopped buying the ABCP product and existing Noteholders ceased to roll over their maturing notes. There was no cash to redeem those notes. Although calls were made on the Liquidity Providers for payment, most of the Liquidity Providers declined to fund the redemption of the notes, arguing that the conditions for liquidity funding had not been met in the circumstances. Hence the "liquidity crisis" in the ABCP market.
- The crisis was fuelled largely by a lack of transparency in the ABCP scheme. Investors could not tell what assets were backing their notes partly because the ABCP Notes were often sold before or at the same time as the assets backing them were acquired; partly because of the sheer complexity of certain of the underlying assets; and partly because of assertions of confidentiality by those involved with the assets. As fears arising from the spreading U.S. sub-prime mortgage crisis mushroomed, investors became increasingly concerned that their ABCP Notes may be supported by those crumbling assets. For the reasons outlined above, however, they were unable to redeem their maturing ABCP Notes.

## The Montreal Protocol

- The liquidity crisis could have triggered a wholesale liquidation of the assets, at depressed prices. But it did not. During the week of August 13, 2007, the ABCP market in Canada froze the result of a standstill arrangement orchestrated on the heels of the crisis by numerous market participants, including Asset Providers, Liquidity Providers, Noteholders and other financial industry representatives. Under the standstill agreement known as the Montréal Protocol the parties committed to restructuring the ABCP market with a view, as much as possible, to preserving the value of the assets and of the notes.
- 21 The work of implementing the restructuring fell to the Pan-Canadian Investors Committee, an applicant in the proceeding and respondent in the appeal. The Committee is composed of 17 financial and investment institutions, including chartered banks, credit unions, a pension board, a Crown corporation, and a university board of governors. All 17 members are themselves Noteholders; three of them also participated in the ABCP market in other capacities as well. Between them, they hold about two thirds of the \$32 billion of ABCP sought to be restructured in these proceedings.

- Mr. Crawford was named the Committee's chair. He thus had a unique vantage point on the work of the Committee and the restructuring process as a whole. His lengthy affidavit strongly informed the application judge's understanding of the factual context, and our own. He was not cross-examined and his evidence is unchallenged.
- 23 Beginning in September 2007, the Committee worked to craft a plan that would preserve the value of the notes and assets, satisfy the various stakeholders to the extent possible, and restore confidence in an important segment of the Canadian financial marketplace. In March 2008, it and the other applicants sought CCAA protection for the ABCP debtors and the approval of a Plan that had been pre-negotiated with some, but not all, of those affected by the misfortunes in the Canadian ABCP market.

## The Plan

- a) Plan Overview
- Although the ABCP market involves many different players and kinds of assets, each with their own challenges, the committee opted for a single plan. In Mr. Crawford's words, "all of the ABCP suffers from common problems that are best addressed by a common solution." The Plan the Committee developed is highly complex and involves many parties. In its essence, the Plan would convert the Noteholders' paper which has been frozen and therefore effectively worthless for many months into new, long-term notes that would trade freely, but with a discounted face value. The hope is that a strong secondary market for the notes will emerge in the long run.
- The Plan aims to improve transparency by providing investors with detailed information about the assets supporting their ABCP Notes. It also addresses the timing mismatch between the notes and the assets by adjusting the maturity provisions and interest rates on the new notes. Further, the Plan adjusts some of the underlying credit default swap contracts by increasing the thresholds for default triggering events; in this way, the likelihood of a forced liquidation flowing from the credit default swap holder's prior security is reduced and, in turn, the risk for ABCP investors is decreased.
- Under the Plan, the vast majority of the assets underlying ABCP would be pooled into two master asset vehicles (MAV1 and MAV2). The pooling is designed to increase the collateral available and thus make the notes more secure.
- The Plan does not apply to investors holding less than \$1 million of notes. However, certain Dealers have agreed to buy the ABCP of those of their customers holding less than the \$1-million threshold, and to extend financial assistance to these customers. Principal among these Dealers are National Bank and Canaccord, two of the respondent financial institutions the appellants most object to releasing. The application judge found that these developments appeared to be designed to secure votes in favour of the Plan by various Noteholders, and were apparently successful in doing so. If the Plan is approved, they also provide considerable relief to the many small investors who find themselves unwittingly caught in the ABDP collapse.
- b) The Releases
- This appeal focuses on one specific aspect of the Plan: the comprehensive series of releases of third parties provided for in Article 10.
- The Plan calls for the release of Canadian banks, Dealers, Noteholders, Asset Providers, Issuer Trustees, Liquidity Providers, and other market participants in Mr. Crawford's words, "virtually all participants in the Canadian ABCP market" from any liability associated with ABCP, with the exception of certain narrow claims relating to fraud. For instance, under the Plan as approved, creditors will have to give up their claims against the Dealers who sold them their ABCP Notes, including challenges to the way the Dealers characterized the ABCP and provided (or did not provide) information about the ABCP. The claims against the proposed defendants are mainly in tort: negligence, misrepresentation, negligent misrepresentation, failure to act prudently as a dealer/advisor, acting in conflict of interest, and in a few cases fraud or potential fraud. There are also allegations of breach of fiduciary duty and claims for other equitable relief.
- The application judge found that, in general, the claims for damages include the face value of the Notes, plus interest and additional penalties and damages.

- 31 The releases, in effect, are part of a *quid pro quo*. Generally speaking, they are designed to compensate various participants in the market for the contributions they would make to the restructuring. Those contributions under the Plan include the requirements that:
  - a) Asset Providers assume an increased risk in their credit default swap contracts, disclose certain proprietary information in relation to the assets, and provide below-cost financing for margin funding facilities that are designed to make the notes more secure;
  - b) Sponsors who in addition have cooperated with the Investors' Committee throughout the process, including by sharing certain proprietary information give up their existing contracts;
  - c) The Canadian banks provide below-cost financing for the margin funding facility and,
  - d) Other parties make other contributions under the Plan.
- According to Mr. Crawford's affidavit, the releases are part of the Plan "because certain key participants, whose participation is vital to the restructuring, have made comprehensive releases a condition for their participation."

# The CCAA Proceedings to Date

- On March 17, 2008 the applicants sought and obtained an Initial Order under the CCAA staying any proceedings relating to the ABCP crisis and providing for a meeting of the Noteholders to vote on the proposed Plan. The meeting was held on April 25 <sup>th</sup>. The vote was overwhelmingly in support of the Plan 96% of the Noteholders voted in favour. At the instance of certain Noteholders, and as requested by the application judge (who has supervised the proceedings from the outset), the Monitor broke down the voting results according to those Noteholders who had worked on or with the Investors' Committee to develop the Plan and those Noteholders who had not. Re-calculated on this basis the results remained firmly in favour of the proposed Plan 99% of those connected with the development of the Plan voted positively, as did 80% of those Noteholders who had not been involved in its formulation.
- 34 The vote thus provided the Plan with the "double majority" approval a majority of creditors representing two-thirds in value of the claims required under s. 6 of the CCAA.
- 35 Following the successful vote, the applicants sought court approval of the Plan under s. 6. Hearings were held on May 12 and 13. On May 16, the application judge issued a brief endorsement in which he concluded that he did not have sufficient facts to decide whether all the releases proposed in the Plan were authorized by the CCAA. While the application judge was prepared to approve the releases of negligence claims, he was not prepared at that point to sanction the release of fraud claims. Noting the urgency of the situation and the serious consequences that would result from the Plan's failure, the application judge nevertheless directed the parties back to the bargaining table to try to work out a claims process for addressing legitimate claims of fraud.
- The result of this renegotiation was a "fraud carve-out" an amendment to the Plan excluding certain fraud claims from the Plan's releases. The carve-out did not encompass all possible claims of fraud, however. It was limited in three key respects. First, it applied only to claims against ABCP Dealers. Secondly, it applied only to cases involving an express fraudulent misrepresentation made with the intention to induce purchase and in circumstances where the person making the representation knew it to be false. Thirdly, the carve-out limited available damages to the value of the notes, minus any funds distributed as part of the Plan. The appellants argue vigorously that such a limited release respecting fraud claims is unacceptable and should not have been sanctioned by the application judge.
- A second sanction hearing this time involving the amended Plan (with the fraud carve-out) was held on June 3, 2008. Two days later, Campbell J. released his reasons for decision, approving and sanctioning the Plan on the basis both that he had jurisdiction to sanction a Plan calling for third-party releases and that the Plan including the third-party releases in question here was fair and reasonable.

38 The appellants attack both of these determinations.

# C. Law and Analysis

- 39 There are two principal questions for determination on this appeal:
  - 1) As a matter of law, may a CCAA plan contain a release of claims against anyone other than the debtor company or its directors?
  - 2) If the answer to that question is yes, did the application judge err in the exercise of his discretion to sanction the Plan as fair and reasonable given the nature of the releases called for under it?

# (1) Legal Authority for the Releases

- The standard of review on this first issue whether, as a matter of law, a CCAA plan may contain third-party releases is correctness.
- The appellants submit that a court has no jurisdiction or legal authority under the CCAA to sanction a plan that imposes an obligation on creditors to give releases to third parties other than the directors of the debtor company. The requirement that objecting creditors release claims against third parties is illegal, they contend, because:
  - a) on a proper interpretation, the CCAA does not permit such releases;
  - b) the court is not entitled to "fill in the gaps" in the CCAA or rely upon its inherent jurisdiction to create such authority because to do so would be contrary to the principle that Parliament did not intend to interfere with private property rights or rights of action in the absence of clear statutory language to that effect;
  - c) the releases constitute an unconstitutional confiscation of private property that is within the exclusive domain of the provinces under s. 92 of the *Constitution Act*, 1867;
  - d) the releases are invalid under Quebec rules of public order; and because
  - e) the prevailing jurisprudence supports these conclusions.
- 42 I would not give effect to any of these submissions.

Interpretation, "Gap Filling" and Inherent Jurisdiction

- On a proper interpretation, in my view, the CCAA permits the inclusion of third party releases in a plan of compromise or arrangement to be sanctioned by the court where those releases are reasonably connected to the proposed restructuring. I am led to this conclusion by a combination of (a) the open-ended, flexible character of the CCAA itself, (b) the broad nature of the term "compromise or arrangement" as used in the Act, and (c) the express statutory effect of the "double-majority" vote and court sanction which render the plan binding on *all* creditors, including those unwilling to accept certain portions of it. The first of these signals a flexible approach to the application of the Act in new and evolving situations, an active judicial role in its application and interpretation, and a liberal approach to that interpretation. The second provides the entrée to negotiations between the parties affected in the restructuring and furnishes them with the ability to apply the broad scope of their ingenuity in fashioning the proposal. The latter afford necessary protection to unwilling creditors who may be deprived of certain of their civil and property rights as a result of the process.
- The CCAA is skeletal in nature. It does not contain a comprehensive code that lays out all that is permitted or barred. Judges must therefore play a role in fleshing out the details of the statutory scheme. The scope of the Act and the powers of the court under it are not limitless. It is beyond controversy, however, that the CCAA is remedial legislation to be liberally construed in accordance with the modern purposive approach to statutory interpretation. It is designed to be a flexible instrument and it

is that very flexibility which gives the Act its efficacy: *Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadienne de la Croix-Rouge, Re* (1998), 5 C.B.R. (4th) 299 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]). As Farley J. noted in *Dylex Ltd., Re* (1995), 31 C.B.R. (3d) 106 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]), at 111, "[t]he history of CCAA law has been an evolution of judicial interpretation."

- Much has been said, however, about the "evolution of judicial interpretation" and there is some controversy over both the source and scope of that authority. Is the source of the court's authority statutory, discerned solely through application of the principles of statutory interpretation, for example? Or does it rest in the court's ability to "fill in the gaps" in legislation? Or in the court's inherent jurisdiction?
- These issues have recently been canvassed by the Honourable Georgina R. Jackson and Dr. Janis Sarra in their publication "Selecting the Judicial Tool to get the Job Done: An Examination of Statutory Interpretation, Discretionary Power and Inherent Jurisdiction in Insolvency Matters," and there was considerable argument on these issues before the application judge and before us. While I generally agree with the authors' suggestion that the courts should adopt a hierarchical approach in their resort to these interpretive tools statutory interpretation, gap-filling, discretion and inherent jurisdiction it is not necessary in my view to go beyond the general principles of statutory interpretation to resolve the issues on this appeal. Because I am satisfied that it is implicit in the language of the CCAA itself that the court has authority to sanction plans incorporating third-party releases that are reasonably related to the proposed restructuring, there is no "gap-filling" to be done and no need to fall back on inherent jurisdiction. In this respect, I take a somewhat different approach than the application judge did.
- The Supreme Court of Canada has affirmed generally and in the insolvency context particularly that remedial statutes are to be interpreted liberally and in accordance with Professor Driedger's modern principle of statutory interpretation. Driedger advocated that "the words of an Act are to be read in their entire context and in their grammatical and ordinary sense harmoniously with the scheme of the Act, the object of the Act, and the intention of Parliament": *Rizzo & Rizzo Shoes Ltd.*, *Re*, [1998] 1 S.C.R. 27 (S.C.C.) at para. 21, quoting E.A. Driedger, *Construction of Statutes*, 2nd ed. (Toronto: Butterworths, 1983); *Bell ExpressVu Ltd. Partnership v. Rex*, [2002] 2 S.C.R. 559 (S.C.C.) at para. 26.
- 48 More broadly, I believe that the proper approach to the judicial interpretation and application of statutes particularly those like the CCAA that are skeletal in nature is succinctly and accurately summarized by Jackson and Sarra in their recent article, *supra*, at p. 56:

The exercise of a statutory authority requires the statute to be construed. The plain meaning or textualist approach has given way to a search for the object and goals of the statute and the intentionalist approach. This latter approach makes use of the purposive approach and the mischief rule, including its codification under interpretation statutes that every enactment is deemed remedial, and is to be given such fair, large and liberal construction and interpretation as best ensures the attainment of its objects. This latter approach advocates reading the statute as a whole and being mindful of Driedger's "one principle", that the words of the Act are to be read in their entire context, in their grammatical and ordinary sense harmoniously with the scheme of the Act, the object of the Act, and the intention of Parliament. It is important that courts first interpret the statute before them and exercise their authority pursuant to the statute, before reaching for other tools in the judicial toolbox. Statutory interpretation using the principles articulated above leaves room for gap-filling in the common law provinces and a consideration of purpose in *Québec* as a manifestation of the judge's overall task of statutory interpretation. Finally, the jurisprudence in relation to statutory interpretation demonstrates the fluidity inherent in the judge's task in seeking the objects of the statute and the intention of the legislature.

- 49 I adopt these principles.
- The remedial purpose of the CCAA as its title affirms is to facilitate compromises or arrangements between an insolvent debtor company and its creditors. In *Hongkong Bank of Canada v. Chef Ready Foods Ltd.* (1990), 4 C.B.R. (3d) 311 (B.C. C.A.) at 318, Gibbs J.A. summarized very concisely the purpose, object and scheme of the Act:

Almost inevitably, liquidation destroyed the shareholders' investment, yielded little by way of recovery to the creditors, and exacerbated the social evil of devastating levels of unemployment. The government of the day sought, through the

- C.C.A.A., to create a regime whereby the principals of the company and the creditors could be brought together under the supervision of the court to attempt a reorganization or compromise or arrangement under which the company could continue in business.
- The CCAA was enacted in 1933 and was necessary as the then Secretary of State noted in introducing the Bill on First Reading "because of the prevailing commercial and industrial depression" and the need to alleviate the effects of business bankruptcies in that context: see the statement of the Hon. C.H. Cahan, Secretary of State, *House of Commons Debates (Hansard)* (April 20, 1933) at 4091. One of the greatest effects of that Depression was what Gibbs J.A. described as "the social evil of devastating levels of unemployment". Since then, courts have recognized that the Act has a broader dimension than simply the direct relations between the debtor company and its creditors and that this broader public dimension must be weighed in the balance together with the interests of those most directly affected: see, for example, *Nova Metal Products Inc. v. Comiskey (Trustee of)* (1990), 1 O.R. (3d) 289 (Ont. C.A.), *per* Doherty J.A. in dissent; *Skydome Corp., Re* (1998), 16 C.B.R. (4th) 125 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]); *Anvil Range Mining Corp., Re* (1998), 7 C.B.R. (4th) 51 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]).
- 52 In this respect, I agree with the following statement of Doherty J.A. in *Elan*, *supra*, at pp. 306-307:
  - ... [T]he Act was designed to serve a "broad constituency of investors, creditors and employees". <sup>3</sup> Because of that "broad constituency" the court must, when considering applications brought under the Act, have regard not only to the individuals and organizations directly affected by the application, but also to the wider public interest. [Emphasis added.]

Application of the Principles of Interpretation

- An interpretation of the CCAA that recognizes its broader socio-economic purposes and objects is apt in this case. As the application judge pointed out, the restructuring underpins the financial viability of the Canadian ABCP market itself.
- The appellants argue that the application judge erred in taking this approach and in treating the Plan and the proceedings as an attempt to restructure a financial market (the ABCP market) rather than simply the affairs between the debtor corporations who caused the ABCP Notes to be issued and their creditors. The Act is designed, they say, only to effect reorganizations between a corporate debtor and its creditors and not to attempt to restructure entire marketplaces.
- This perspective is flawed in at least two respects, however, in my opinion. First, it reflects a view of the purpose and objects of the CCAA that is too narrow. Secondly, it overlooks the reality of the ABCP marketplace and the context of the restructuring in question here. It may be true that, in their capacity as ABCP *Dealers*, the releasee financial institutions are "third-parties" to the restructuring in the sense that they are not creditors of the debtor corporations. However, in their capacities as *Asset Providers* and *Liquidity Providers*, they are not only creditors but they are prior secured creditors to the Noteholders. Furthermore as the application judge found in these latter capacities they are making significant contributions to the restructuring by "foregoing immediate rights to assets and ... providing real and tangible input for the preservation and enhancement of the Notes" (para. 76). In this context, therefore, the application judge's remark at para. 50 that the restructuring "involves the commitment and participation of all parties" in the ABCP market makes sense, as do his earlier comments at paras. 48-49:

Given the nature of the ABCP market and all of its participants, it is more appropriate to consider all Noteholders as claimants and the object of the Plan to restore liquidity to the assets being the Notes themselves. The restoration of the liquidity of the market necessitates the participation (including more tangible contribution by many) of all Noteholders.

In these circumstances, it is unduly technical to classify the Issuer Trustees as debtors and the claims of the Noteholders as between themselves and others as being those of third party creditors, although I recognize that the restructuring structure of the CCAA requires the corporations as the vehicles for restructuring. [Emphasis added.]

The application judge did observe that "[t]he insolvency is of the ABCP market itself, the restructuring is that of the market for such paper ..." (para. 50). He did so, however, to point out the uniqueness of the Plan before him and its industry-wide significance and not to suggest that he need have no regard to the provisions of the CCAA permitting a restructuring

as between debtor and creditors. His focus was on *the effect* of the restructuring, a perfectly permissible perspective, given the broad purpose and objects of the Act. This is apparent from his later references. For example, in balancing the arguments against approving releases that might include aspects of fraud, he responded that "what is at issue is a liquidity crisis that affects the ABCP market in Canada" (para. 125). In addition, in his reasoning on the fair-and-reasonable issue, he stated at para. 142: "Apart from the Plan itself, there is a need to restore confidence in the financial system in Canada and this Plan is a legitimate use of the CCAA to accomplish that goal."

I agree. I see no error on the part of the application judge in approaching the fairness assessment or the interpretation issue with these considerations in mind. They provide the context in which the purpose, objects and scheme of the CCAA are to be considered.

# The Statutory Wording

- Keeping in mind the interpretive principles outlined above, I turn now to a consideration of the provisions of the CCAA. Where in the words of the statute is the court clothed with authority to approve a plan incorporating a requirement for third-party releases? As summarized earlier, the answer to that question, in my view, is to be found in:
  - a) the skeletal nature of the CCAA;
  - b) Parliament's reliance upon the broad notions of "compromise" and "arrangement" to establish the framework within which the parties may work to put forward a restructuring plan; and in
  - c) the creation of the statutory mechanism binding all creditors in classes to the compromise or arrangement once it has surpassed the high "double majority" voting threshold and obtained court sanction as "fair and reasonable".

Therein lies the expression of Parliament's intention to permit the parties to negotiate and vote on, and the court to sanction, third-party releases relating to a restructuring.

- 59 Sections 4 and 6 of the CCAA state:
  - 4. Where a compromise or an arrangement is proposed between a debtor company and its unsecured creditors or any class of them, the court may, on the application in a summary way of the company, of any such creditor or of the trustee in bankruptcy or liquidator of the company, order a meeting of the creditors or class of creditors, and, if the court so determines, of the shareholders of the company, to be summoned in such manner as the court directs.
  - 6. Where a majority in number representing two-thirds in value of the creditors, or class of creditors, as the case may be, present and voting either in person or by proxy at the meeting or meetings thereof respectively held pursuant to sections 4 and 5, or either of those sections, agree to any compromise or arrangement either as proposed or as altered or modified at the meeting or meetings, the compromise or arrangement may be sanctioned by the court, and if so sanctioned is binding
    - (a) on all the creditors or the class of creditors, as the case may be, and on any trustee for any such class of creditors, whether secured or unsecured, as the case may be, and on the company; and
    - (b) in the case of a company that has made an authorized assignment or against which a bankruptcy order has been made under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* or is in the course of being wound up under the *Winding-up and Restructuring Act*, on the trustee in bankruptcy or liquidator and contributories of the company.

# **Compromise or Arrangement**

While there may be little practical distinction between "compromise" and "arrangement" in many respects, the two are not necessarily the same. "Arrangement" is broader than "compromise" and would appear to include any scheme for reorganizing the affairs of the debtor: Houlden & Morawetz, *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Law of Canada*, loose-leaf, 3rd ed., vol. 4 (Toronto: Thomson Carswell) at 10A-12.2, N§10. It has been said to be "a very wide and indefinite [word]": *Reference re Refund of Dues* 

Paid under s.47 (f) of Timber Regulations in the Western Provinces, [1935] A.C. 184 (Canada P.C.) at 197, affirming S.C.C. [1933] S.C.R. 616 (S.C.C.). See also, Guardian Assurance Co., Re, [1917] 1 Ch. 431 (Eng. C.A.) at 448, 450; T&N Ltd., Re (2006), [2007] 1 All E.R. 851 (Eng. Ch. Div.).

- The CCAA is a sketch, an outline, a supporting framework for the resolution of corporate insolvencies in the public interest. Parliament wisely avoided attempting to anticipate the myriad of business deals that could evolve from the fertile and creative minds of negotiators restructuring their financial affairs. It left the shape and details of those deals to be worked out within the framework of the comprehensive and flexible concepts of a "compromise" and "arrangement." I see no reason why a release in favour of a third party, negotiated as part of a package between a debtor and creditor and reasonably relating to the proposed restructuring cannot fall within that framework.
- A proposal under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S., 1985, c. B-3 (the "BIA") is a contract: *Employers' Liability Assurance Corp. v. Ideal Petroleum* (1959) *Ltd.*, [1978] 1 S.C.R. 230 (S.C.C.) at 239; *Society of Composers, Authors & Music Publishers of Canada v. Armitage* (2000), 50 O.R. (3d) 688 (Ont. C.A.) at para. 11. In my view, a compromise or arrangement under the CCAA is directly analogous to a proposal for these purposes, and therefore is to be treated as a contract between the debtor and its creditors. Consequently, parties are entitled to put anything into such a plan that could lawfully be incorporated into any contract. See *Air Canada, Re* (2004), 2 C.B.R. (5th) 4 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) at para. 6; *Olympia & York Developments Ltd. v. Royal Trust Co.* (1993), 12 O.R. (3d) 500 (Ont. Gen. Div.) at 518.
- There is nothing to prevent a debtor and a creditor from including in a contract between them a term providing that the creditor release a third party. The term is binding as between the debtor and creditor. In the CCAA context, therefore, a plan of compromise or arrangement may propose that creditors agree to compromise claims against the debtor and to release third parties, just as any debtor and creditor might agree to such a term in a contract between them. Once the statutory mechanism regarding voter approval and court sanctioning has been complied with, the plan including the provision for releases becomes binding on all creditors (including the dissenting minority).
- 64 *T&N Ltd., Re, supra*, is instructive in this regard. It is a rare example of a court focussing on and examining the meaning and breadth of the term "arrangement". T&N and its associated companies were engaged in the manufacture, distribution and sale of asbestos-containing products. They became the subject of many claims by former employees, who had been exposed to asbestos dust in the course of their employment, and their dependents. The T&N companies applied for protection under s. 425 of the U.K. *Companies Act 1985*, a provision virtually identical to the scheme of the CCAA including the concepts of compromise or arrangement. <sup>4</sup>
- T&N carried employers' liability insurance. However, the employers' liability insurers (the "EL insurers") denied coverage. This issue was litigated and ultimately resolved through the establishment of a multi-million pound fund against which the employees and their dependants (the "EL claimants") would assert their claims. In return, T&N's former employees and dependants (the "EL claimants") agreed to forego any further claims against the EL insurers. This settlement was incorporated into the plan of compromise and arrangement between the T&N companies and the EL claimants that was voted on and put forward for court sanction.
- Certain creditors argued that the court could not sanction the plan because it did not constitute a "compromise or arrangement" between T&N and the EL claimants since it did not purport to affect rights as between them but only the EL claimants' rights against the EL insurers. The Court rejected this argument. Richards J. adopted previous jurisprudence cited earlier in these reasons to the effect that the word "arrangement" has a very broad meaning and that, while both a compromise and an arrangement involve some "give and take", an arrangement need not involve a compromise or be confined to a case of dispute or difficulty (paras. 46-51). He referred to what would be the equivalent of a solvent arrangement under Canadian corporate legislation as an example. <sup>5</sup> Finally, he pointed out that the compromised rights of the EL claimants against the EL insurers were not unconnected with the EL claimants' rights against the T&N companies; the scheme of arrangement involving the EL insurers was "an integral part of a single proposal affecting all the parties" (para. 52). He concluded his reasoning with these observations (para. 53):

In my judgment it is not a necessary element of an arrangement for the purposes of s 425 of the 1985 Act that it should alter the rights existing between the company and the creditors or members with whom it is made. No doubt in most cases it will alter those rights. But, provided that the context and content of the scheme are such as properly to constitute an arrangement between the company and the members or creditors concerned, it will fall within s 425. It is ... neither necessary nor desirable to attempt a definition of arrangement. The legislature has not done so. To insist on an alteration of rights, or a termination of rights as in the case of schemes to effect takeovers or mergers, is to impose a restriction which is neither warranted by the statutory language nor justified by the courts' approach over many years to give the term its widest meaning. Nor is an arrangement necessarily outside the section, because its effect is to alter the rights of creditors against another party or because such alteration could be achieved by a scheme of arrangement with that party. [Emphasis added.]

I find Richard J.'s analysis helpful and persuasive. In effect, the claimants in *T&N* were being asked to release their claims against the EL insurers in exchange for a call on the fund. Here, the appellants are being required to release their claims against certain financial third parties in exchange for what is anticipated to be an improved position for all ABCP Noteholders, stemming from the contributions the financial third parties are making to the ABCP restructuring. The situations are quite comparable.

# The Binding Mechanism

Parliament's reliance on the expansive terms "compromise" or "arrangement" does not stand alone, however. Effective insolvency restructurings would not be possible without a statutory mechanism to bind an unwilling minority of creditors. Unanimity is frequently impossible in such situations. But the minority must be protected too. Parliament's solution to this quandary was to permit a wide range of proposals to be negotiated and put forward (the compromise or arrangement) and to bind *all* creditors by class to the terms of the plan, but to do so only where the proposal can gain the support of the requisite "double majority" of votes <sup>6</sup> *and* obtain the sanction of the court on the basis that it is fair and reasonable. In this way, the scheme of the CCAA supports the intention of Parliament to encourage a wide variety of solutions to corporate insolvencies without unjustifiably overriding the rights of dissenting creditors.

# The Required Nexus

- In keeping with this scheme and purpose, I do not suggest that any and all releases between creditors of the debtor company seeking to restructure and third parties may be made the subject of a compromise or arrangement between the debtor and its creditors. Nor do I think the fact that the releases may be "necessary" in the sense that the third parties or the debtor may refuse to proceed without them, of itself, advances the argument in favour of finding jurisdiction (although it may well be relevant in terms of the fairness and reasonableness analysis).
- The release of the claim in question must be justified as part of the compromise or arrangement between the debtor and its creditors. In short, there must be a reasonable connection between the third party claim being compromised in the plan and the restructuring achieved by the plan to warrant inclusion of the third party release in the plan. This nexus exists here, in my view.
- In the course of his reasons, the application judge made the following findings, all of which are amply supported on the record:
  - a) The parties to be released are necessary and essential to the restructuring of the debtor;
  - b) The claims to be released are rationally related to the purpose of the Plan and necessary for it;
  - c) The Plan cannot succeed without the releases;
  - d) The parties who are to have claims against them released are contributing in a tangible and realistic way to the Plan; and
  - e) The Plan will benefit not only the debtor companies but creditor Noteholders generally.

- Here, then as was the case in T&N there is a close connection between the claims being released and the restructuring proposal. The tort claims arise out of the sale and distribution of the ABCP Notes and their collapse in value, just as do the contractual claims of the creditors against the debtor companies. The purpose of the restructuring is to stabilize and shore up the value of those notes in the long run. The third parties being released are making separate contributions to enable those results to materialize. Those contributions are identified earlier, at para. 31 of these reasons. The application judge found that the claims being released are not independent of or unrelated to the claims that the Noteholders have against the debtor companies; they are closely connected to the value of the ABCP Notes and are required for the Plan to succeed. At paras. 76-77 he said:
  - [76] I do not consider that the Plan in this case involves a change in relationship among creditors "that does not directly involve the Company." Those who support the Plan and are to be released are "directly involved in the Company" in the sense that many are foregoing immediate rights to assets and are providing real and tangible input for the preservation and enhancement of the Notes. It would be unduly restrictive to suggest that the moving parties' claims against released parties do not involve the Company, since the claims are directly related to the value of the Notes. The value of the Notes is in this case the value of the Company.
  - [77] This Plan, as it deals with releases, doesn't change the relationship of the creditors apart from involving the Company and its Notes.
- I am satisfied that the wording of the CCAA construed in light of the purpose, objects and scheme of the Act and in accordance with the modern principles of statutory interpretation supports the court's jurisdiction and authority to sanction the Plan proposed here, including the contested third-party releases contained in it.

# The Jurisprudence

- Third party releases have become a frequent feature in Canadian restructurings since the decision of the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench in *Canadian Airlines Corp.*, *Re* (2000), 265 A.R. 201 (Alta. Q.B.), leave to appeal refused by (2000), 266 A.R. 131 (Alta. C.A. [In Chambers]), and (2001), 293 A.R. 351 (note) (S.C.C.). In *Muscletech Research & Development Inc.*, *Re* (2006), 25 C.B.R. (5th) 231 (Ont. S.C.J.) Justice Ground remarked (para. 8):
  - [It] is not uncommon in CCAA proceedings, in the context of a plan of compromise and arrangement, to compromise claims against the Applicants and other parties against whom such claims or related claims are made.
- We were referred to at least a dozen court-approved CCAA plans from across the country that included broad third-party releases. With the exception of *Canadian Airlines Corp.*, *Re*, however, the releases in those restructurings including *Muscletech Research & Development Inc.*, *Re* were not opposed. The appellants argue that those cases are wrongly decided, because the court simply does not have the authority to approve such releases.
- In Canadian Airlines Corp., Re the releases in question were opposed, however. Paperny J. (as she then was) concluded the court had jurisdiction to approve them and her decision is said to be the well-spring of the trend towards third-party releases referred to above. Based on the foregoing analysis, I agree with her conclusion although for reasons that differ from those cited by her.
- Justice Paperny began her analysis of the release issue with the observation at para. 87 that "[p]rior to 1997, the CCAA did not provide for compromises of claims against anyone other than the petitioning company." It will be apparent from the analysis in these reasons that I do not accept that premise, notwithstanding the decision of the Quebec Court of Appeal in *Steinberg Inc. c. Michaud*, of which her comment may have been reflective. Paperny J.'s reference to 1997 was a reference to the amendments of that year adding s. 5.1 to the CCAA, which provides for limited releases in favour of directors. Given the limited scope of s. 5.1, Justice Paperny was thus faced with the argument dealt with later in these reasons that Parliament must not have intended to extend the authority to approve third-party releases beyond the scope of this section. She chose to address this contention by concluding that, although the amendments "[did] not authorize a release of claims against third parties other than directors, [they did] not prohibit such releases either" (para. 92).

- Respectfully, I would not adopt the interpretive principle that the CCAA permits releases because it does not expressly prohibit them. Rather, as I explain in these reasons, I believe the open-ended CCAA permits third-party releases that are reasonably related to the restructuring at issue because they are encompassed in the comprehensive terms "compromise" and "arrangement" and because of the double-voting majority and court sanctioning statutory mechanism that makes them binding on unwilling creditors.
- The appellants rely on a number of authorities, which they submit support the proposition that the CCAA may not be used to compromise claims as between anyone other than the debtor company and its creditors. Principal amongst these are *Steinberg Inc. c. Michaud, supra*; *NBD Bank, Canada v. Dofasco Inc.* (1999), 46 O.R. (3d) 514 (Ont. C.A.); *Pacific Coastal Airlines Ltd. v. Air Canada* (2001), 19 B.L.R. (3d) 286 (B.C. S.C.); and *Stelco Inc., Re* (2005), 78 O.R. (3d) 241 (Ont. C.A.) ("*Stelco I*"). I do not think these cases assist the appellants, however. With the exception of *Steinberg Inc.*, they do not involve third party claims that were reasonably connected to the restructuring. As I shall explain, it is my opinion that *Steinberg Inc.* does not express a correct view of the law, and I decline to follow it.
- 80 In Pacific Coastal Airlines Ltd., Tysoe J. made the following comment at para. 24:

[The purpose of the CCAA proceeding] is not to deal with disputes between a creditor of a company and a third party, even if the company was also involved in the subject matter of the dispute. While issues between the debtor company and non-creditors are sometimes dealt with in CCAA proceedings, it is not a proper use of a CCAA proceeding to determine disputes between parties other than the debtor company.

- This statement must be understood in its context, however. Pacific Coastal Airlines had been a regional carrier for Canadian Airlines prior to the CCAA reorganization of the latter in 2000. In the action in question it was seeking to assert separate tort claims against Air Canada for contractual interference and inducing breach of contract in relation to certain rights it had to the use of Canadian's flight designator code prior to the CCAA proceeding. Air Canada sought to have the action dismissed on grounds of *res judicata* or issue estoppel because of the CCAA proceeding. Tysoe J. rejected the argument.
- The facts in *Pacific Coastal Airlines Ltd.* are not analogous to the circumstances of this case, however. There is no suggestion that a resolution of Pacific Coastal's separate tort claim against Air Canada was in any way connected to the Canadian Airlines restructuring, even though Canadian at a contractual level may have had some involvement with the particular dispute. Here, however, the disputes that are the subject-matter of the impugned releases are not simply "disputes between parties other than the debtor company". They are closely connected to the disputes being resolved between the debtor companies and their creditors and to the restructuring itself.
- Nor is the decision of this Court in the *NBD Bank, Canada* case dispositive. It arose out of the financial collapse of Algoma Steel, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Dofasco. The Bank had advanced funds to Algoma allegedly on the strength of misrepresentations by Algoma's Vice-President, James Melville. The plan of compromise and arrangement that was sanctioned by Farley J. in the Algoma CCAA restructuring contained a clause releasing Algoma from all claims creditors "may have had against Algoma or its directors, officers, employees and advisors." Mr. Melville was found liable for negligent misrepresentation in a subsequent action by the Bank. On appeal, he argued that since the Bank was barred from suing Algoma for misrepresentation by its officers, permitting it to pursue the same cause of action against him personally would subvert the CCAA process in short, he was personally protected by the CCAA release.
- Rosenberg J.A., writing for this Court, rejected this argument. The appellants here rely particularly upon his following observations at paras. 53-54:
  - 53 In my view, the appellant has not demonstrated that allowing the respondent to pursue its claim against him would undermine or subvert the purposes of the Act. As this court noted in *Elan Corp. v. Comiskey* (1990), 1 O.R. (3d) 289 at 297, the *CCAA* is remedial legislation "intended to provide a structured environment for the negotiation of compromises between a debtor company and its creditors for the benefit of both". It is a means of avoiding a liquidation that may yield little for the creditors, especially unsecured creditors like the respondent, and the debtor company shareholders. However,

the appellant has not shown that allowing a creditor to continue an action against an officer for negligent misrepresentation would erode the effectiveness of the Act.

54 In fact, to refuse on policy grounds to impose liability on an officer of the corporation for negligent misrepresentation would contradict the policy of Parliament as demonstrated in recent amendments to the *CCAA* and the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3. Those Acts now contemplate that an arrangement or proposal may include a term for compromise of certain types of claims against directors of the company except claims that "are based on allegations of misrepresentations made by directors". L.W. Houlden and C.H. Morawetz, the editors of *The 2000 Annotated Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Toronto: Carswell, 1999) at p. 192 are of the view that the policy behind the provision is to encourage directors of an insolvent corporation to remain in office so that the affairs of the corporation can be reorganized. I can see no similar policy interest in barring an action against an officer of the company who, prior to the insolvency, has misrepresented the financial affairs of the corporation to its creditors. It may be necessary to permit the compromise of claims against the debtor corporation, otherwise it may not be possible to successfully reorganize the corporation. The same considerations do not apply to individual officers. Rather, it would seem to me that it would be contrary to good policy to immunize officers from the consequences of their negligent statements which might otherwise be made in anticipation of being forgiven under a subsequent corporate proposal or arrangement. [Footnote omitted.]

- Once again, this statement must be assessed in context. Whether Justice Farley had the authority in the earlier Algoma CCAA proceedings to sanction a plan that included third party releases was not under consideration at all. What the Court was determining in NBD Bank, Canada was whether the release extended by its terms to protect a third party. In fact, on its face, it does not appear to do so. Justice Rosenberg concluded only that not allowing Mr. Melville to rely upon the release did not subvert the purpose of the CCAA. As the application judge here observed, "there is little factual similarity in NBD Bank, Canada to the facts now before the Court" (para. 71). Contrary to the facts of this case, in NBD Bank, Canada the creditors had not agreed to grant a release to officers; they had not voted on such a release and the court had not assessed the fairness and reasonableness of such a release as a term of a complex arrangement involving significant contributions by the beneficiaries of the release as is the situation here. Thus, NBD Bank, Canada is of little assistance in determining whether the court has authority to sanction a plan that calls for third party releases.
- The appellants also rely upon the decision of this Court in *Stelco I*. There, the Court was dealing with the scope of the CCAA in connection with a dispute over what were called the "Turnover Payments". Under an inter-creditor agreement one group of creditors had subordinated their rights to another group and agreed to hold in trust and "turn over" any proceeds received from Stelco until the senior group was paid in full. On a disputed classification motion, the Subordinated Debt Holders argued that they should be in a separate class from the Senior Debt Holders. Farley J. refused to make such an order in the court below, stating:

[Sections] 4, 5 and 6 [of the CCAA] talk of compromises or arrangements between a company and its creditors. There is no mention of this extending by statute to encompass a change of relationship among the creditors vis-à-vis the creditors themselves *and not directly involving the company*. [Citations omitted; emphasis added.]

See Re Stelco Inc. (2005), 15 C.B.R. (5th) 297 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) at para. 7.

- 87 This Court upheld that decision. The legal relationship between each group of creditors and Stelco was the same, albeit there were inter-creditor differences, and creditors were to be classified in accordance with their legal rights. In addition, the need for timely classification and voting decisions in the CCAA process militated against enmeshing the classification process in the vagaries of inter-corporate disputes. In short, the issues before the Court were quite different from those raised on this appeal.
- Indeed, the Stelco plan, as sanctioned, included third party releases (albeit uncontested ones). This Court subsequently dealt with the same inter-creditor agreement on an appeal where the Subordinated Debt Holders argued that the inter-creditor subordination provisions were beyond the reach of the CCAA and therefore that they were entitled to a separate civil action to determine their rights under the agreement: *Stelco Inc.*, *Re* (2006), 21 C.B.R. (5th) 157 (Ont. C.A.) ("*Stelco III*"). The Court

rejected that argument and held that where the creditors' rights amongst themselves were sufficiently related to the debtor and its plan, they were properly brought within the scope of the CCAA plan. The Court said (para. 11):

In [Stelco I] — the classification case — the court observed that it is not a proper use of a CCAA proceeding to determine disputes between parties other than the debtor company ... [H]owever, the present case is not simply an inter-creditor dispute that does not involve the debtor company; it is a dispute that is inextricably connected to the restructuring process. [Emphasis added.]

- 89 The approach I would take to the disposition of this appeal is consistent with that view. As I have noted, the third party releases here are very closely connected to the ABCP restructuring process.
- Some of the appellants particularly those represented by Mr. Woods rely heavily upon the decision of the Quebec Court of Appeal in *Steinberg Inc. c. Michaud, supra*. They say that it is determinative of the release issue. In *Steinberg*, the Court held that the CCAA, as worded at the time, did not permit the release of directors of the debtor corporation and that third-party releases were not within the purview of the Act. Deschamps J.A. (as she then was) said (paras. 42, 54 and 58 English translation):
  - [42] Even if one can understand the extreme pressure weighing on the creditors and the respondent at the time of the sanctioning, a plan of arrangement is not the appropriate forum to settle disputes other than the claims that are the subject of the arrangement. In other words, one cannot, under the pretext of an absence of formal directives in the Act, transform an arrangement into a potpourri.

. . . . .

[54] The Act offers the respondent a way to arrive at a compromise with is creditors. It does not go so far as to offer an umbrella to all the persons within its orbit by permitting them to shelter themselves from any recourse.

. . . . .

- [58] The [CCAA] and the case law clearly do not permit extending the application of an arrangement to persons other than the respondent and its creditors and, consequently, the plan should not have been sanctioned as is [that is, including the releases of the directors].
- Justices Vallerand and Delisle, in separate judgments, agreed. Justice Vallerand summarized his view of the consequences of extending the scope of the CCAA to third party releases in this fashion (para. 7):
  - In short, the Act will have become the Companies' and Their Officers and Employees Creditors Arrangement Act an awful mess and likely not attain its purpose, which is to enable the company to survive in the face of *its* creditors and through their will, and not in the face of the creditors of its officers. This is why I feel, just like my colleague, that such a clause is contrary to the Act's mode of operation, contrary to its purposes and, for this reason, is to be banned.
- Justice Delisle, on the other hand, appears to have rejected the releases because of their broad nature they released directors from all claims, including those that were altogether unrelated to their corporate duties with the debtor company rather than because of a lack of authority to sanction under the Act. Indeed, he seems to have recognized the wide range of circumstances that could be included within the term "compromise or arrangement". He is the only one who addressed that term. At para. 90 he said:
  - The CCAA is drafted in general terms. It does not specify, among other things, what must be understood by "compromise or arrangement". However, it may be inferred from the purpose of this [A]ct that these terms *encompass all that should enable the person who has recourse to it to fully dispose of his debts*, both those that exist on the date when he has recourse to the statute and *those contingent on the insolvency in which he finds himself* ... [Emphasis added.]
- The decision of the Court did not reflect a view that the terms of a compromise or arrangement should "encompass all that should enable the person who has recourse to [the Act] to dispose of his debts ... and those contingent on the insolvency

in which he finds himself," however. On occasion such an outlook might embrace third parties other than the debtor and its creditors in order to make the arrangement work. Nor would it be surprising that, in such circumstances, the third parties might seek the protection of releases, or that the debtor might do so on their behalf. Thus, the perspective adopted by the majority in *Steinberg Inc.*, in my view, is too narrow, having regard to the language, purpose and objects of the CCAA and the intention of Parliament. They made no attempt to consider and explain why a compromise or arrangement could not include third-party releases. In addition, the decision appears to have been based, at least partly, on a rejection of the use of contract-law concepts in analysing the Act — an approach inconsistent with the jurisprudence referred to above.

- Finally, the majority in *Steinberg Inc*. seems to have proceeded on the basis that the CCAA cannot interfere with civil or property rights under Quebec law. Mr. Woods advanced this argument before this Court in his factum, but did not press it in oral argument. Indeed, he conceded that if the Act encompasses the authority to sanction a plan containing third-party releases as I have concluded it does the provisions of the CCAA, as valid federal insolvency legislation, are paramount over provincial legislation. I shall return to the constitutional issues raised by the appellants later in these reasons.
- Accordingly, to the extent *Steinberg Inc.* stands for the proposition that the court does not have authority under the CCAA to sanction a plan that incorporates third-party releases, I do not believe it to be a correct statement of the law and I respectfully decline to follow it. The modern approach to interpretation of the Act in accordance with its nature and purpose militates against a narrow interpretation and towards one that facilitates and encourages compromises and arrangements. Had the majority in *Steinberg Inc.* considered the broad nature of the terms "compromise" and "arrangement" and the jurisprudence I have referred to above, they might well have come to a different conclusion.

#### The 1997 Amendments

- 96 Steinberg Inc. led to amendments to the CCAA, however. In 1997, s. 5.1 was added, dealing specifically with releases pertaining to directors of the debtor company. It states:
  - 5.1(1) A compromise or arrangement made in respect of a debtor company may include in its terms provision for the compromise of claims against directors of the company that arose before the commencement of proceedings under this Act and that relate to the obligations of the company where the directors are by law liable in their capacity as directors for the payment of such obligations.

## **Exception**

- (2) A provision for the compromise of claims against directors may not include claims that
  - (a) relate to contractual rights of one or more creditors; or
  - (b) are based on allegations of misrepresentations made by directors to creditors or of wrongful or oppressive conduct by directors.

## **Powers of court**

(3) The court may declare that a claim against directors shall not be compromised if it is satisfied that the compromise would not be fair and reasonable in the circumstances.

# Resignation or removal of directors

(4) Where all of the directors have resigned or have been removed by the shareholders without replacement, any person who manages or supervises the management of the business and affairs of the debtor company shall be deemed to be a director for the purposes of this section.

1997, c. 12, s. 122.

- Perhaps the appellants' strongest argument is that these amendments confirm a prior lack of authority in the court to sanction a plan including third party releases. If the power existed, why would Parliament feel it necessary to add an amendment specifically permitting such releases (subject to the exceptions indicated) in favour of directors? *Expressio unius est exclusio alterius*, is the Latin maxim sometimes relied on to articulate the principle of interpretation implied in that question: to express or include one thing implies the exclusion of the other.
- 98 The maxim is not helpful in these circumstances, however. The reality is that there *may* be another explanation why Parliament acted as it did. As one commentator has noted: <sup>8</sup>

Far from being a rule, [the maxim *expressio unius*] is not even lexicographically accurate, because it is simply not true, generally, that the mere express conferral of a right or privilege in one kind of situation implies the denial of the equivalent right or privilege in other kinds. Sometimes it does and sometimes its does not, and whether it does or does not depends on the particular circumstances of context. Without contextual support, therefore there is not even a mild presumption here. Accordingly, the maxim is at best a description, after the fact, of what the court has discovered from context.

- As I have said, the 1997 amendments to the CCAA providing for releases in favour of directors of debtor companies in limited circumstances were a response to the decision of the Quebec Court of Appeal in *Steinberg Inc.*. A similar amendment was made with respect to proposals in the BIA at the same time. The rationale behind these amendments was to encourage directors of an insolvent company to remain in office during a restructuring, rather than resign. The assumption was that by remaining in office the directors would provide some stability while the affairs of the company were being reorganized: see Houlden & Morawetz, vol.1, *supra*, at 2-144, E§11A; *Royal Penfield Inc.*, *Re*, [2003] R.J.Q. 2157 (C.S. Que.) at paras. 44-46.
- Parliament thus had a particular focus and a particular purpose in enacting the 1997 amendments to the CCAA and the BIA. While there is some merit in the appellants' argument on this point, at the end of the day I do not accept that Parliament intended to signal by its enactment of s. 5.1 that it was depriving the court of authority to sanction plans of compromise or arrangement in all circumstances where they incorporate third party releases in favour of anyone other than the debtor's directors. For the reasons articulated above, I am satisfied that the court does have the authority to do so. Whether it sanctions the plan is a matter for the fairness hearing.

# The Deprivation of Proprietary Rights

Mr. Shapray very effectively led the appellants' argument that legislation must not be construed so as to interfere with or prejudice established contractual or proprietary rights — including the right to bring an action — in the absence of a clear indication of legislative intention to that effect: *Halsbury's Laws of England*, 4 <sup>th</sup> ed. reissue, vol. 44 (1) (London: Butterworths, 1995) at paras. 1438, 1464 and 1467; Driedger, 2 <sup>nd</sup> ed., *supra*, at 183; Ruth Sullivan, *Sullivan and Driedger on the Construction of Statutes*, 4 <sup>th</sup> ed., (Markham: Butterworths, 2002) at 399. I accept the importance of this principle. For the reasons I have explained, however, I am satisfied that Parliament's intention to clothe the court with authority to consider and sanction a plan that contains third party releases is expressed with sufficient clarity in the "compromise or arrangement" language of the CCAA coupled with the statutory voting and sanctioning mechanism making the provisions of the plan binding on all creditors. This is not a situation of impermissible "gap-filling" in the case of legislation severely affecting property rights; it is a question of finding meaning in the language of the Act itself. I would therefore not give effect to the appellants' submissions in this regard.

# The Division of Powers and Paramountcy

Mr. Woods and Mr. Sternberg submit that extending the reach of the CCAA process to the compromise of claims as between solvent creditors of the debtor company and solvent third parties to the proceeding is constitutionally impermissible. They say that under the guise of the federal insolvency power pursuant to s. 91(21) of the *Constitution Act*, 1867, this approach would improperly affect the rights of civil claimants to assert their causes of action, a provincial matter falling within s. 92(13), and contravene the rules of public order pursuant to the *Civil Code of Quebec*.

I do not accept these submissions. It has long been established that the CCAA is valid federal legislation under the federal insolvency power: *Reference re Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act (Canada)*, [1934] S.C.R. 659 (S.C.C.). As the Supreme Court confirmed in that case (p. 661), citing Viscount Cave L.C. in *Quebec (Attorney General) v. Bélanger (Trustee of)*, [1928] A.C. 187 (Canada P.C.), "the exclusive legislative authority to deal with all matters within the domain of bankruptcy and insolvency is vested in Parliament." Chief Justice Duff elaborated:

Matters normally constituting part of a bankruptcy scheme but not in their essence matters of bankruptcy and insolvency may, of course, from another point of view and in another aspect be dealt with by a provincial legislature; but, when treated as matters pertaining to bankruptcy and insolvency, they clearly fall within the legislative authority of the Dominion.

That is exactly the case here. The power to sanction a plan of compromise or arrangement that contains third-party releases of the type opposed by the appellants is embedded in the wording of the CCAA. The fact that this may interfere with a claimant's right to pursue a civil action — normally a matter of provincial concern — or trump Quebec rules of public order is constitutionally immaterial. The CCAA is a valid exercise of federal power. Provided the matter in question falls within the legislation directly or as necessarily incidental to the exercise of that power, the CCAA governs. To the extent that its provisions are inconsistent with provincial legislation, the federal legislation is paramount. Mr. Woods properly conceded this during argument.

Conclusion With Respect to Legal Authority

For all of the foregoing reasons, then, I conclude that the application judge had the jurisdiction and legal authority to sanction the Plan as put forward.

# (2) The Plan is "Fair and Reasonable"

- The second major attack on the application judge's decision is that he erred in finding that the Plan is "fair and reasonable" and in sanctioning it on that basis. This attack is centred on the nature of the third-party releases contemplated and, in particular, on the fact that they will permit the release of some claims based in fraud.
- Whether a plan of compromise or arrangement is fair and reasonable is a matter of mixed fact and law, and one on which the application judge exercises a large measure of discretion. The standard of review on this issue is therefore one of deference. In the absence of a demonstrable error an appellate court will not interfere: see *Ravelston Corp.*, *Re* (2007), 31 C.B.R. (5th) 233 (Ont. C.A. [In Chambers]).
- I would not interfere with the application judge's decision in this regard. While the notion of releases in favour of third parties including leading Canadian financial institutions that extend to claims of fraud is distasteful, there is no legal impediment to the inclusion of a release for claims based in fraud in a plan of compromise or arrangement. The application judge had been living with and supervising the ABCP restructuring from its outset. He was intimately attuned to its dynamics. In the end he concluded that the benefits of the Plan to the creditors as a whole, and to the debtor companies, outweighed the negative aspects of compelling the unwilling appellants to execute the releases as finally put forward.
- The application judge was concerned about the inclusion of fraud in the contemplated releases and at the May hearing adjourned the final disposition of the sanctioning hearing in an effort to encourage the parties to negotiate a resolution. The result was the "fraud carve-out" referred to earlier in these reasons.
- The appellants argue that the fraud carve-out is inadequate because of its narrow scope. It (i) applies only to ABCP Dealers, (ii) limits the type of damages that may be claimed (no punitive damages, for example), (iii) defines "fraud" narrowly, excluding many rights that would be protected by common law, equity and the Quebec concept of public order, and (iv) limits claims to representations made directly to Noteholders. The appellants submit it is contrary to public policy to sanction a plan containing such a limited restriction on the type of fraud claims that may be pursued against the third parties.

- The law does not condone fraud. It is the most serious kind of civil claim. There is therefore some force to the appellants' submission. On the other hand, as noted, there is no legal impediment to granting the release of an antecedent claim in fraud, provided the claim is in the contemplation of the parties to the release at the time it is given: *Fotinis Restaurant Corp. v. White Spot Ltd* (1998), 38 B.L.R. (2d) 251 (B.C. S.C. [In Chambers]) at paras. 9 and 18. There may be disputes about the scope or extent of what is released, but parties are entitled to settle allegations of fraud in civil proceedings the claims here all being untested allegations of fraud and to include releases of such claims as part of that settlement.
- The application judge was alive to the merits of the appellants' submissions. He was satisfied in the end, however, that the need "to avoid the potential cascade of litigation that ... would result if a broader 'carve out' were to be allowed" (para. 113) outweighed the negative aspects of approving releases with the narrower carve-out provision. Implementation of the Plan, in his view, would work to the overall greater benefit of the Noteholders as a whole. I can find no error in principle in the exercise of his discretion in arriving at this decision. It was his call to make.
- At para. 71 above I recited a number of factual findings the application judge made in concluding that approval of the Plan was within his jurisdiction under the CCAA and that it was fair and reasonable. For convenience, I reiterate them here with two additional findings because they provide an important foundation for his analysis concerning the fairness and reasonableness of the Plan. The application judge found that:
  - a) The parties to be released are necessary and essential to the restructuring of the debtor;
  - b) The claims to be released are rationally related to the purpose of the Plan and necessary for it;
  - c) The Plan cannot succeed without the releases;
  - d) The parties who are to have claims against them released are contributing in a tangible and realistic way to the Plan;
  - e) The Plan will benefit not only the debtor companies but creditor Noteholders generally;
  - f) The voting creditors who have approved the Plan did so with knowledge of the nature and effect of the releases; and that,
  - g) The releases are fair and reasonable and not overly broad or offensive to public policy.
- These findings are all supported on the record. Contrary to the submission of some of the appellants, they do not constitute a new and hitherto untried "test" for the sanctioning of a plan under the CCAA. They simply represent findings of fact and inferences on the part of the application judge that underpin his conclusions on jurisdiction and fairness.
- The appellants all contend that the obligation to release the third parties from claims in fraud, tort, breach of fiduciary duty, etc. is confiscatory and amounts to a requirement that they as individual creditors make the equivalent of a greater financial contribution to the Plan. In his usual lively fashion, Mr. Sternberg asked us the same rhetorical question he posed to the application judge. As he put it, how could the court countenance the compromise of what in the future might turn out to be fraud perpetrated at the highest levels of Canadian and foreign banks? Several appellants complain that the proposed Plan is unfair to them because they will make very little additional recovery if the Plan goes forward, but will be required to forfeit a cause of action against third-party financial institutions that may yield them significant recovery. Others protest that they are being treated unequally because they are ineligible for relief programs that Liquidity Providers such as Canaccord have made available to other smaller investors.
- All of these arguments are persuasive to varying degrees when considered in isolation. The application judge did not have that luxury, however. He was required to consider the circumstances of the restructuring as a whole, including the reality that many of the financial institutions were not only acting as Dealers or brokers of the ABCP Notes (with the impugned releases relating to the financial institutions in these capacities, for the most part) but also as Asset and Liquidity Providers (with the financial institutions making significant contributions to the restructuring in these capacities).

ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative..., 2008 ONCA 587, 2008...

2008 ONCA 587, 2008 CarswellOnt 4811, [2008] O.J. No. 3164, 168 A.C.W.S. (3d) 698...

- In insolvency restructuring proceedings almost everyone loses something. To the extent that creditors are required to compromise their claims, it can always be proclaimed that their rights are being unfairly confiscated and that they are being called upon to make the equivalent of a further financial contribution to the compromise or arrangement. Judges have observed on a number of occasions that CCAA proceedings involve "a balancing of prejudices," inasmuch as everyone is adversely affected in some fashion.
- Here, the debtor corporations being restructured represent the issuers of the more than \$32 billion in non-bank sponsored ABCP Notes. The proposed compromise and arrangement affects that entire segment of the ABCP market and the financial markets as a whole. In that respect, the application judge was correct in adverting to the importance of the restructuring to the resolution of the ABCP liquidity crisis and to the need to restore confidence in the financial system in Canada. He was required to consider and balance the interests of *all* Noteholders, not just the interests of the appellants, whose notes represent only about 3% of that total. That is what he did.
- The application judge noted at para. 126 that the Plan represented "a reasonable balance between benefit to all Noteholders and enhanced recovery for those who can make out specific claims in fraud" within the fraud carve-out provisions of the releases. He also recognized at para. 134 that:

No Plan of this size and complexity could be expected to satisfy all affected by it. The size of the majority who have approved it is testament to its overall fairness. No plan to address a crisis of this magnitude can work perfect equity among all stakeholders.

120 In my view we ought not to interfere with his decision that the Plan is fair and reasonable in all the circumstances.

# **D.** Disposition

For the foregoing reasons, I would grant leave to appeal from the decision of Justice Campbell, but dismiss the appeal.

# J.I. Laskin J.A.:

I agree.

# E.A. Cronk J.A.:

I agree.

# Schedule A — Conduits

Apollo Trust

Apsley Trust

Aria Trust

Aurora Trust

Comet Trust

**Encore Trust** 

Gemini Trust

Ironstone Trust

**MMAI-I Trust** 

	Newshore Canadian Trust
	Opus Trust
	Planet Trust
	Rocket Trust
	Selkirk Funding Trust
	Silverstone Trust
	Slate Trust
	Structured Asset Trust
	Structured Investment Trust III
	Symphony Trust
	Whitehall Trust
Schedule B — Applicants	
	ATB Financial
	Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec
	Canaccord Capital Corporation
	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
	Canada Post Corporation
	Credit Union Central Alberta Limited
	Credit Union Central of BC
	Credit Union Central of Canada
	Credit Union Central of Ontario
	Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan
	Desjardins Group
	Magna International Inc.
	National Bank of Canada/National Bank Financial Inc.
	NAV Canada
	Northwater Capital Management Inc.
	Public Sector Pension Investment Board

The Governors of the University of Alberta

# Schedule A — Counsel

- 1) Benjamin Zarnett and Frederick L. Myers for the Pan-Canadian Investors Committee
- 2) Aubrey E. Kauffman and Stuart Brotman for 4446372 Canada Inc. and 6932819 Canada Inc.
- 3) Peter F.C. Howard and Samaneh Hosseini for Bank of America N.A.; Citibank N.A.; Citibank Canada, in its capacity as Credit Derivative Swap Counterparty and not in any other capacity; Deutsche Bank AG; HSBC Bank Canada; HSBC Bank USA, National Association; Merrill Lynch International; Merill Lynch Capital Services, Inc.; Swiss Re Financial Products Corporation; and UBS AG
- 4) Kenneth T. Rosenberg, Lily Harmer and Max Starnino for Jura Energy Corporation and Redcorp Ventures Ltd.
- 5) Craig J. Hill and Sam P. Rappos for the Monitors (ABCP Appeals)
- 6) Jeffrey C. Carhart and Joseph Marin for Ad Hoc Committee and Pricewaterhouse Coopers Inc., in its capacity as Financial Advisor
- 7) Mario J. Forte for Caisse de Dépôt et Placement du Québec
- 8) John B. Laskin for National Bank Financial Inc. and National Bank of Canada
- 9) Thomas McRae and Arthur O. Jacques for Ad Hoc Retail Creditors Committee (Brian Hunter, et al)
- 10) Howard Shapray, Q.C. and Stephen Fitterman for Ivanhoe Mines Ltd.
- 11) Kevin P. McElcheran and Heather L. Meredith for Canadian Banks, BMO, CIBC RBC, Bank of Nova Scotia and T.D. Bank
- 12) Jeffrey S. Leon for CIBC Mellon Trust Company, Computershare Trust Company of Canada and BNY Trust Company of Canada, as Indenture Trustees
- 13) Usman Sheikh for Coventree Capital Inc.
- 14) Allan Sternberg and Sam R. Sasso for Brookfield Asset Management and Partners Ltd. and Hy Bloom Inc. and Cardacian Mortgage Services Inc.
- 15) Neil C. Saxe for Dominion Bond Rating Service
- 16) James A. Woods, Sebastien Richemont and Marie-Anne Paquette for Air Transat A.T. Inc., Transat Tours Canada Inc., The Jean Coutu Group (PJC) Inc., Aéroports de Montréal, Aéroports de Montréal Capital Inc., Pomerleau Ontario Inc., Pomerleau Inc., Labopharm Inc., Agence Métropolitaine de Transport (AMT), Giro Inc., Vêtements de sports RGR Inc., 131519 Canada Inc., Tecsys Inc., New Gold Inc. and Jazz Air LP
- 17) Scott A. Turner for Webtech Wireless Inc., Wynn Capital Corporation Inc., West Energy Ltd., Sabre Energy Ltd., Petrolifera Petroleum Ltd., Vaquero Resources Ltd., and Standard Energy Ltd.
- 18) R. Graham Phoenix for Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments III Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments V Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments XI Corp., Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments XII Corp., Quanto Financial Corporation and Metcalfe & Mansfield Capital Corp.

Application granted; appeal dismissed.

#### Footnotes

- \* Leave to appeal refused at ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp. (2008), 2008 CarswellOnt 5432, 2008 CarswellOnt 5433 (S.C.C.).
- 1 Section 5.1 of the CCAA specifically authorizes the granting of releases to directors in certain circumstances.
- Justice Georgina R. Jackson and Dr. Janis P. Sarra, "Selecting the Judicial Tool to get the Job Done: An Examination of Statutory Interpretation, Discretionary Power and Inherent Jurisdiction in Insolvency Matters" in Sarra, ed., *Annual Review of Insolvency Law*, 2007 (Vancouver: Thomson Carswell, 2007).
- 3 Citing Gibbs J.A. in *Chef Ready Foods*, *supra*, at pp.319-320.
- The Legislative Debates at the time the CCAA was introduced in Parliament in April 1933 make it clear that the CCAA is patterned after the predecessor provisions of s. 425 of the *Companies Act 1985* (U.K.): see *House of Commons Debates (Hansard)*, *supra*.
- 5 See Canada Business Corporations Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-44, s. 192; Ontario Business Corporations Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. B.16, s. 182.
- 6 A majority in number representing two-thirds in value of the creditors (s. 6)
- 7 Steinberg Inc. was originally reported in French: Steinberg Inc. c. Michaud, [1993] R.J.Q. 1684 (C.A. Que.). All paragraph references to Steinberg Inc. in this judgment are from the unofficial English translation available at 1993 CarswellQue 2055 (C.A. Que.)
- Reed Dickerson, *The Interpretation and Application of Statutes* (1975) at pp.234-235, cited in Bryan A. Garner, ed., Black's Law Dictionary, 8th ed. (West Group, St. Paul, Minn., 2004) at 621.

**End of Document** 

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# **TAB 11**

# 2013 ONSC 1078 Ontario Superior Court of Justice [Commercial List]

Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada v. Sino-Forest Corp.

2013 CarswellOnt 3361, 2013 ONSC 1078, 100 C.B.R. (5th) 30, 227 A.C.W.S. (3d) 930, 37 C.P.C. (7th) 135

# In the Matter of the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as Amended

In the Matter of a Plan of Compromise or Arrangement of Sino-Forest Corporation, Applicant

The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, The Trustees of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 793 Pension Plan for Operating Engineers in Ontario, Sjunde Ap-Fonden, David Grant and Robert Wong, Plaintiffs and Sino-Forest Corporation, Ernst & Young LLP, BDO Limited (Formerly Known as BDO McCabe Lo Limited), Allen T.Y. Chan, W. Judson Martin, Kai Kit Poon, David J. Horsley, William E. Ardell, James P. Bowland, James M.E. Hyde, Edmund Mak, Simon Murray, Peter Wang, Garry J. West, Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited, Credit Suisse Securities (Canada) In., TD Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation, RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets Inc., Merrill Lunch Canada Inc., Canaccord Financial Ltd., Maison Placements Canada Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (Successor by Merger to Banc of America Securities LLC), Defendants

### Morawetz J.

Heard: February 4, 2013 Judgment: March 20, 2013

Docket: CV-12-9667-00CL, CV-11-431153-00CP

Counsel: Kenneth Rosenberg, Max Starnino, A. Dimitri Lascaris, Daniel Bach, Charles M. Wright, Jonathan Ptak, for Ad Hoc Committee of Purchasers including the Class Action Plaintiffs

Peter Griffin, Peter Osborne, Shara Roy, for Ernst & Young LLP, John Pirie and David Gadsden, for Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Ltd.

Robert W. Staley for Sino-Forest Corporation

Won J. Kim, Michael C. Spencer, Megan B. McPhee for Objectors, Invesco Canada Ltd., Northwest & Ethical Investments LP and Comité Syndical National de Retraite Bâtirente Inc.

John Fabello Rebecca Wise, for Underwriters

Ken Dekker, Peter Greene for BDO Limited

Emily Cole, Joseph Marin for Allen Chan

James Doris for U.S. Class Action

Brandon Barnes for Kai Kit Poon

Robert Chadwick, Brendan O'Neill for Ad Hoc Committee of Noteholders

Derrick Tay, Cliff Prophet for Monitor, FTI Consulting Canada Inc.

Simon Bieber for David Horsley

James Grout for Ontario Securities Commission

Miles D. O'Reilly, Q.C. for Junior Objectors, Daniel Lam and Senthilvel Kanagaratnam

Subject: Insolvency; Civil Practice and Procedure; Corporate and Commercial; Securities

#### **Table of Authorities**

## Cases considered by *Morawetz J.*:

Allen-Vanguard Corp., Re (2011), 2011 ONSC 5017, 2011 CarswellOnt 8984, 81 C.B.R. (5th) 270 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp. (2008), 2008 ONCA 587, 2008 CarswellOnt 4811, (sub nom. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Re) 240 O.A.C. 245, (sub nom. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Re) 296 D.L.R. (4th) 135, (sub nom. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Re) 92 O.R. (3d) 513, 45 C.B.R. (5th) 163, 47 B.L.R. (4th) 123 (Ont. C.A.) — considered

Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadienne de la Croix-Rouge, Re (1998), 1998 CarswellOnt 3346, 5 C.B.R. (4th) 299, 72 O.T.C. 99 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Durling v. Sunrise Propane Energy Group Inc. (2011), 2011 ONSC 266, 2011 CarswellOnt 77, 10 C.P.C. (7th) 188 (Ont. S.C.J.) — referred to

Eidoo v. Infineon Technologies AG (2012), 2012 CarswellOnt 16498, 2012 ONSC 7299 (Ont. S.C.J.) — referred to

Fischer v. IG Investment Management Ltd. (2012), 2012 ONCA 47, 2012 CarswellOnt 635, 287 O.A.C. 148, 109 O.R. (3d) 498, 346 D.L.R. (4th) 598, 15 C.P.C. (7th) 81 (Ont. C.A.) — referred to

Grace Canada Inc., Re (2008), 50 C.B.R. (5th) 25, 2008 CarswellOnt 6284 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Mangan v. Inco Ltd. (1998), 1998 CarswellOnt 801, 16 C.P.C. (4th) 165, 38 O.R. (3d) 703, 27 C.E.L.R. (N.S.) 141 (Ont. Gen. Div.) — referred to

Muscletech Research & Development Inc., Re (2007), 30 C.B.R. (5th) 59, 2007 CarswellOnt 1029 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Nortel Networks Corp., Re (2010), 63 C.B.R. (5th) 44, 81 C.C.P.B. 56, 2010 CarswellOnt 1754, 2010 ONSC 1708 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — considered

Osmun v. Cadbury Adams Canada Inc. (2009), 85 C.P.C. (6th) 148, 2009 CarswellOnt 8132 (Ont. S.C.J.) — referred to

Robertson v. ProQuest Information & Learning Co. (2011), 2011 ONSC 1647, 2011 CarswellOnt 1770 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — followed

Sammi Atlas Inc., Re (1998), 1998 CarswellOnt 1145, 3 C.B.R. (4th) 171 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Sino-Forest Corp., Re (2012), 2012 ONSC 4377, 2012 CarswellOnt 9430, 92 C.B.R. (5th) 99 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Sino-Forest Corp., Re (2012), 2012 ONCA 816, 2012 CarswellOnt 14701 (Ont. C.A.) — referred to

Ted Leroy Trucking Ltd., Re (2010), (sub nom. Century Services Inc. v. Canada (A.G.)) [2010] 3 S.C.R. 379, [2010] G.S.T.C. 186, 12 B.C.L.R. (5th) 1, (sub nom. Century Services Inc. v. A.G. of Canada) 2011 G.T.C. 2006 (Eng.), (sub nom. Century Services Inc. v. A.G. of Canada) 2011 D.T.C. 5006 (Eng.), (sub nom. Leroy (Ted) Trucking Ltd., Re) 503 W.A.C. 1, (sub nom. Leroy (Ted) Trucking Ltd., Re) 296 B.C.A.C. 1, 2010 SCC 60, 2010 CarswellBC 3419, 2010 CarswellBC 3420, 409 N.R. 201, (sub nom. Ted LeRoy Trucking Ltd., Re) 326 D.L.R. (4th) 577, 72 C.B.R. (5th) 170, [2011] 2 W.W.R. 383 (S.C.C.) — considered

### Statutes considered:

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Class Proceedings Act, 1992, S.O. 1992, c. 6
Generally — referred to
s. 9 — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36
Generally — referred to
s. 2(1) "equity claim" — considered
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MOTION by representative plaintiffs for approval of settlement in class proceeding.

## Morawetz J.:

# Introduction

- The Ad Hoc Committee of Purchasers of the Applicant's Securities (the "Ad Hoc Securities Purchasers' Committee" or the "Applicant"), including the representative plaintiffs in the Ontario class action (collectively, the "Ontario Plaintiffs"), bring this motion for approval of a settlement and release of claims against Ernst & Young LLP [the "Ernst & Young Settlement", the "Ernst & Young Release", the "Ernst & Young Claims" and "Ernst & Young", as further defined in the Plan of Compromise and Reorganization of Sino-Forest Corporation ("SFC") dated December 3, 2012 (the "Plan")].
- Approval of the Ernst & Young Settlement is opposed by Invesco Canada Limited ("Invesco"), Northwest and Ethical Investments L.P. ("Northwest"), Comité Syndical National de Retraite Bâtirente Inc. ("Bâtirente"), Matrix Asset Management Inc. ("Matrix"), Gestion Férique and Montrusco Bolton Investments Inc. ("Montrusco") (collectively, the "Objectors"). The Objectors particularly oppose the no-opt-out and full third-party release features of the Ernst & Young Settlement. The Objectors also oppose the motion for a representation order sought by the Ontario Plaintiffs, and move instead for appointment of the Objectors to represent the interests of all objectors to the Ernst & Young Settlement.
- 3 For the following reasons, I have determined that the Ernst & Young Settlement, together with the Ernst & Young Release, should be approved.

## **Facts**

# Class Action Proceedings

4 SFC is an integrated forest plantation operator and forest productions company, with most of its assets and the majority of its business operations located in the southern and eastern regions of the People's Republic of China. SFC's registered office is in Toronto, and its principal business office is in Hong Kong.

- 5 SFC's shares were publicly traded over the Toronto Stock Exchange. During the period from March 19, 2007 through June 2, 2011, SFC made three prospectus offerings of common shares. SFC also issued and had various notes (debt instruments) outstanding, which were offered to investors, by way of offering memoranda, between March 19, 2007 and June 2, 2011.
- 6 All of SFC's debt or equity public offerings have been underwritten. A total of 11 firms (the "Underwriters") acted as SFC's underwriters, and are named as defendants in the Ontario class action.
- 7 Since 2000, SFC has had two auditors: Ernst & Young, who acted as auditor from 2000 to 2004 and 2007 to 2012, and BDO Limited ("BDO"), who acted as auditor from 2005 to 2006. Ernst & Young and BDO are named as defendants in the Ontario class action.
- Following a June 2, 2011 report issued by short-seller Muddy Waters LLC ("Muddy Waters"), SFC, and others, became embroiled in investigations and regulatory proceedings (with the Ontario Securities Commission (the "OSC"), the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police) for allegedly engaging in a "complex fraudulent scheme". SFC concurrently became embroiled in multiple class action proceedings across Canada, including Ontario, Quebec and Saskatchewan (collectively, the "Canadian Actions"), and in New York (collectively with the Canadian Actions, the "Class Action Proceedings"), facing allegations that SFC, and others, misstated its financial results, misrepresented its timber rights, overstated the value of its assets and concealed material information about its business operations from investors, causing the collapse of an artificially inflated share price.
- 9 The Canadian Actions are comprised of two components: first, there is a shareholder claim, brought on behalf of SFC's current and former shareholders, seeking damages in the amount of \$6.5 billion for general damages, \$174.8 million in connection with a prospectus issued in June 2007, \$330 million in relation to a prospectus issued in June 2009, and \$319.2 million in relation to a prospectus issued in December 2009; and second, there is a noteholder claim, brought on behalf of former holders of SFC's notes (the "Noteholders"), in the amount of approximately \$1.8 billion. The noteholder claim asserts, among other things, damages for loss of value in the notes.
- Two other class proceedings relating to SFC were subsequently commenced in Ontario: *Smith et al. v. Sino-Forest Corporation et al.*, which commenced on June 8, 2011; and *Northwest and Ethical Investments L.P. et al. v. Sino-Forest Corporation et al.*, which commenced on September 26, 2011.
- In December 2011, there was a motion to determine which of the three actions in Ontario should be permitted to proceed and which should be stayed (the "Carriage Motion"). On January 6, 2012, Perell J. granted carriage to the Ontario Plaintiffs, appointed Siskinds LLP and Koskie Minsky LLP to prosecute the Ontario class action, and stayed the other class proceedings.

# **CCAA Proceedings**

- SFC obtained an initial order under the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 ("CCAA") on March 30, 2012 (the "Initial Order"), pursuant to which a stay of proceedings was granted in respect of SFC and certain of its subsidiaries. Pursuant to an order on May 8, 2012, the stay was extended to all defendants in the class actions, including Ernst & Young. Due to the stay, the certification and leave motions have yet to be heard.
- 13 Throughout the CCAA proceedings, SFC asserted that there could be no effective restructuring of SFC's business, and separation from the Canadian parent, if the claims asserted against SFC's subsidiaries arising out of, or connected to, claims against SFC remained outstanding.
- In addition, SFC and FTI Consulting Canada Inc. (the "Monitor") continually advised that timing and delay were critical elements that would impact on maximization of the value of SFC's assets and stakeholder recovery.
- On May 14, 2012, an order (the "Claims Procedure Order") was issued that approved a claims process developed by SFC, in consultation with the Monitor. In order to identify the nature and extent of the claims asserted against SFC's subsidiaries,

the Claims Procedure Order required any claimant that had or intended to assert a right or claim against one or more of the subsidiaries, relating to a purported claim made against SFC, to so indicate on their proof of claim.

- The Ad Hoc Securities Purchasers' Committee filed a proof of claim (encapsulating the approximately \$7.3 billion shareholder claim and \$1.8 billion noteholder claim) in the CCAA proceedings on behalf of all putative class members in the Ontario class action. The plaintiffs in the New York class action filed a proof of claim, but did not specify quantum of damages. Ernst & Young filed a proof of claim for damages and indemnification. The plaintiffs in the Saskatchewan class action did not file a proof of claim. A few shareholders filed proofs of claim separately. No proof of claim was filed by Kim Orr Barristers P.C. ("Kim Orr"), who represent the Objectors.
- Prior to the commencement of the CCAA proceedings, the plaintiffs in the Canadian Actions settled with Pöyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited ("Pöyry") (the "Pöyry Settlement"), a forestry valuator that provided services to SFC. The class was defined as all persons and entities who acquired SFC's securities in Canada between March 19, 2007 to June 2, 2011, and all Canadian residents who acquired SFC securities outside of Canada during that same period (the "Pöyry Settlement Class").
- 18 The notice of hearing to approve the Pöyry Settlement advised the Pöyry Settlement Class that they may object to the proposed settlement. No objections were filed.
- 19 Perell J. and Émond J. approved the settlement and certified the Pöyry Settlement Class for settlement purposes. January 15, 2013 was fixed as the date by which members of the Pöyry Settlement Class, who wished to opt-out of either of the Canadian Actions, would have to file an opt-out form for the claims administrator, and they approved the form by which the right to optout was required to be exercised.
- Notice of the certification and settlement was given in accordance with the certification orders of Perell J. and Émond J. The notice of certification states, in part, that:

IF YOU CHOOSE TO OPT OUT OF THE CLASS, YOU WILL BE OPTING OUT OF THE **ENTIRE** PROCEEDING. THIS MEANS THAT YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY FUTURE SETTLEMENT OR JUDGMENT REACHED WITH OR AGAINST THE REMAINING DEFENDANTS.

- 21 The opt-out made no provision for an opt-out on a conditional basis.
- On June 26, 2012, SFC brought a motion for an order directing that claims against SFC that arose in connection with the ownership, purchase or sale of an equity interest in SFC, and related indemnity claims, were "equity claims" as defined in section 2 of the CCAA, including the claims by or on behalf of shareholders asserted in the Class Action Proceedings. The equity claims motion did not purport to deal with the component of the Class Action Proceedings relating to SFC's notes.
- In reasons released July 27, 2012 [Sino-Forest Corp., Re, 2012 ONSC 4377 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])], I granted the relief sought by SFC (the "Equity Claims Decision"), finding that "the claims advanced in the shareholder claims are clearly equity claims". The Ad Hoc Securities Purchasers' Committee did not oppose the motion, and no issue was taken by any party with the court's determination that the shareholder claims against SFC were "equity claims". The Equity Claims Decision was subsequently affirmed by the Court of Appeal for Ontario on November 23, 2012 [Sino-Forest Corp., Re, 2012 ONCA 816 (Ont. C.A.)].

# **Ernst & Young Settlement**

- The Ernst & Young Settlement, and third party releases, was not mentioned in the early versions of the Plan. The initial creditors' meeting and vote on the Plan was scheduled to occur on November 29, 2012; when the Plan was amended on November 28, 2012, the creditors' meeting was adjourned to November 30, 2012.
- On November 29, 2012, Ernst & Young's counsel and class counsel concluded the proposed Ernst & Young Settlement. The creditors' meeting was again adjourned, to December 3, 2012; on that date, a new Plan revision was released and the Ernst & Young Settlement was publicly announced. The Plan revision featured a new Article 11, reflecting the "framework" for the

proposed Ernst & Young Settlement and for third-party releases for named third-party defendants as identified at that time as the Underwriters or in the future.

- On December 3, 2012, a large majority of creditors approved the Plan. The Objectors note, however, that proxy materials were distributed weeks earlier and proxies were required to be submitted three days prior to the meeting and it is evident that creditors submitting proxies only had a pre-Article 11 version of the Plan. Further, no equity claimants, such as the Objectors, were entitled to vote on the Plan. On December 6, 2012, the Plan was further amended, adding Ernst & Young and BDO to Schedule A, thereby defining them as named third-party defendants.
- Ultimately, the Ernst & Young Settlement provided for the payment by Ernst & Young of \$117 million as a settlement fund, being the full monetary contribution by Ernst & Young to settle the Ernst & Young Claims; however, it remains subject to court approval in Ontario, and recognition in Quebec and the United States, and conditional, pursuant to Article 11.1 of the Plan, upon the following steps:
  - (a) the granting of the sanction order sanctioning the Plan including the terms of the Ernst & Young Settlement and the Ernst & Young Release (which preclude any right to contribution or indemnity against Ernst & Young);
  - (b) the issuance of the Settlement Trust Order;
  - (c) the issuance of any other orders necessary to give effect to the Ernst & Young Settlement and the Ernst & Young Release, including the Chapter 15 Recognition Order;
  - (d) the fulfillment of all conditions precedent in the Ernst & Young Settlement; and
  - (e) all orders being final orders not subject to further appeal or challenge.
- On December 6, 2012, Kim Orr filed a notice of appearance in the CCAA proceedings on behalf of three Objectors: Invesco, Northwest and Bâtirente. These Objectors opposed the sanctioning of the Plan, insofar as it included Article 11, during the Plan sanction hearing on December 7, 2012.
- At the Plan sanction hearing, SFC's counsel made it clear that the Plan itself did not embody the Ernst & Young Settlement, and that the parties' request that the Plan be sanctioned did not also cover approval of the Ernst & Young Settlement. Moreover, according to the Plan and minutes of settlement, the Ernst & Young Settlement would not be consummated (*i.e.* money paid and releases effective) unless and until several conditions had been satisfied in the future.
- 30 The Plan was sanctioned on December 10, 2012 with Article 11. The Objectors take the position that the Funds' opposition was dismissed as premature and on the basis that nothing in the sanction order affected their rights.
- On December 13, 2012, the court directed that its hearing on the Ernst & Young Settlement would take place on January 4, 2013, under both the CCAA and the *Class Proceedings Act*, 1992, S.O. 1992, c. 6 ("CPA"). Subsequently, the hearing was adjourned to February 4, 2013.
- On January 15, 2013, the last day of the opt-out period established by orders of Perell J. and Émond J., six institutional investors represented by Kim Orr filed opt-out forms. These institutional investors are Northwest and Bâtirente, who were two of the three institutions represented by Kim Orr in the Carriage Motion, as well as Invesco, Matrix, Montrusco and Gestion Ferique (all of which are members of the Pöyry Settlement Class).
- According to the opt-out forms, the Objectors held approximately 1.6% of SFC shares outstanding on June 30, 2011 (the day the Muddy Waters report was released). By way of contrast, Davis Selected Advisors and Paulson and Co., two of many institutional investors who support the Ernst & Young Settlement, controlled more than 25% of SFC's shares at this time. In addition, the total number of outstanding objectors constitutes approximately 0.24% of the 34,177 SFC beneficial shareholders as of April 29, 2011.

# Law and Analysis

# Court's Jurisdiction to Grant Requested Approval

- 34 The Claims Procedure Order of May 14, 2012, at paragraph 17, provides that any person that does not file a proof of claim in accordance with the order is barred from making or enforcing such claim as against any other person who could claim contribution or indemnity from the Applicant. This includes claims by the Objectors against Ernst & Young for which Ernst & Young could claim indemnity from SFC.
- 35 The Claims Procedure Order also provides that the Ontario Plaintiffs are authorized to file one proof of claim in respect of the substance of the matters set out in the Ontario class action, and that the Quebec Plaintiffs are similarly authorized to file one proof of claim in respect of the substance of the matters set out in the Quebec class action. The Objectors did not object to, or oppose, the Claims Procedure Order, either when it was sought or at any time thereafter. The Objectors did not file an independent proof of claim and, accordingly, the Canadian Claimants were authorized to and did file a proof of claim in the representative capacity in respect of the Objectors' claims.
- The Ernst & Young Settlement is part of a CCAA plan process. Claims, including contingent claims, are regularly compromised and settled within CCAA proceedings. This includes outstanding litigation claims against the debtor and third parties. Such compromises fully and finally dispose of such claims, and it follows that there are no continuing procedural or other rights in such proceedings. Simply put, there are no "opt-outs" in the CCAA.
- 37 It is well established that class proceedings can be settled in a CCAA proceeding. See *Robertson v. ProQuest Information & Learning Co.*, 2011 ONSC 1647 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) [*Robertson*].
- As noted by Pepall J. (as she then was) in *Robertson*, para. 8:

When dealing with the consensual resolution of a CCAA claim filed in a claims process that arises out of ongoing litigation, typically no court approval is required. In contrast, class proceedings settlements must be approved by the court. The notice and process for dissemination of the settlement agreement must also be approved by the court.

- 39 In this case, the notice and process for dissemination have been approved.
- The Objectors take the position that approval of the Ernst & Young Settlement would render their opt-out rights illusory; the inherent flaw with this argument is that it is not possible to ignore the CCAA proceedings.
- In this case, claims arising out of the class proceedings are claims in the CCAA process. CCAA claims can be, by definition, subject to compromise. The Claims Procedure Order establishes that claims as against Ernst & Young fall within the CCAA proceedings. Thus, these claims can also be the subject of settlement and, if settled, the claims of all creditors in the class can also be settled.
- In my view, these proceedings are the appropriate time and place to consider approval of the Ernst & Young Settlement. This court has the jurisdiction in respect of both the CCAA and the CPA.

## Should the Court Exercise Its Discretion to Approve the Settlement

Having established the jurisdictional basis to consider the motion, the central inquiry is whether the court should exercise its discretion to approve the Ernst & Young Settlement.

## **CCAA Interpretation**

The CCAA is a "flexible statute", and the court has "jurisdiction to approve major transactions, including settlement agreements, during the stay period defined in the Initial Order". The CCAA affords courts broad jurisdiction to make orders and "fill in the gaps in legislation so as to give effect to the objects of the CCAA." [Nortel Networks Corp., Re, 2010 ONSC

1708 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]), paras. 66-70 ("Re Nortel")); Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadienne de la Croix-Rouge, Re (1998), 5 C.B.R. (4th) 299, 72 O.T.C. 99 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]), para. 43]

- 45 Further, as the Supreme Court of Canada explained in *Ted Leroy Trucking Ltd.*, Re, 2010 SCC 60 (S.C.C.), para. 58:
  - CCAA decisions are often based on discretionary grants of jurisdiction. The incremental exercise of judicial discretion in commercial courts under conditions one practitioner aptly described as "the hothouse of real time litigation" has been the primary method by which the CCAA has been adapted and has evolved to meet contemporary business and social needs (internal citations omitted). ...When large companies encounter difficulty, reorganizations become increasingly complex. CCAA courts have been called upon to innovate accordingly in exercising their jurisdiction beyond merely staying proceedings against the Debtor to allow breathing room for reorganization. They have been asked to sanction measures for which there is no explicit authority in the CCAA.
- It is also established that third-party releases are not an uncommon feature of complex restructurings under the CCAA [ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., 2008 ONCA 587 (Ont. C.A.) ("ATB Financial"); Nortel Networks Corp., Re, supra; Robertson, supra; Muscletech Research & Development Inc., Re (2007), 30 C.B.R. (5th) 59, 156 A.C.W.S. (3d) 22 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) ("Muscle Tech"); Grace Canada Inc., Re (2008), 50 C.B.R. (5th) 25 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]); Allen-Vanguard Corp., Re, 2011 ONSC 5017 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List])].
- The Court of Appeal for Ontario has specifically confirmed that a third-party release is justified where the release forms part of a comprehensive compromise. As Blair J. A. stated in *ATB Financial*, *supra*:
  - 69. In keeping with this scheme and purpose, I do not suggest that any and all releases between creditors of the debtor company seeking to restructure and third parties may be made the subject of a compromise or arrangement between the debtor and its creditors. Nor do I think the fact that the releases may be "necessary" in the sense that the third parties or the debtor may refuse to proceed without them, of itself, advances the argument in favour of finding jurisdiction (although it may well be relevant in terms of the fairness and reasonableness analysis).
  - 70. The release of the claim in question must be justified as part of the compromise or arrangement between the debtor and its creditors. In short, there must be a reasonable connection between the third party claim being compromised in the plan and the restructuring achieved by the plan to warrant inclusion of the third party release in the plan ...
  - 71. In the course of his reasons, the application judge made the following findings, all of which are amply supported on the record:
    - a) The parties to be released are necessary and essential to the restructuring of the debtor;
    - b) The claims to be released are rationally related to the purpose of the Plan and necessary for it;
    - c) The Plan cannot succeed without the releases;
    - d) The parties who are to have claims against them released are contributing in a tangible and realistic way to the Plan; and
    - e) The Plan will benefit not only the debtor companies but creditor Noteholders generally.
  - 72. Here, then as was the case in T&N there is a close connection between the claims being released and the restructuring proposal. The tort claims arise out of the sale and distribution of the ABCP Notes and their collapse in value, just as do the contractual claims of the creditors against the debtor companies. The purpose of the restructuring is to stabilize and shore up the value of those notes in the long run. The third parties being released are making separate contributions to enable those results to materialize. Those contributions are identified earlier, at para. 31 of these reasons. The application judge found that the claims being released are not independent of or unrelated to the claims that the Noteholders have

against the debtor companies; they are closely connected to the value of the ABCP Notes and are required for the Plan to succeed ...

73. I am satisfied that the wording of the CCAA — construed in light of the purpose, objects and scheme of the Act and in accordance with the modern principles of statutory interpretation — supports the court's jurisdiction and authority to sanction the Plan proposed here, including the contested third-party releases contained in it.

. . .

78. ... I believe the open-ended CCAA permits third-party releases that are reasonably related to the restructuring at issue because they are encompassed in the comprehensive terms "compromise" and "arrangement" and because of the double-voting majority and court sanctioning statutory mechanism that makes them binding on unwilling creditors.

. . .

- 113. At para. 71 above I recited a number of factual findings the application judge made in concluding that approval of the Plan was within his jurisdiction under the CCAA and that it was fair and reasonable. For convenience, I reiterate them here with two additional findings because they provide an important foundation for his analysis concerning the fairness and reasonableness of the Plan. The application judge found that:
  - a) The parties to be released are necessary and essential to the restructuring of the debtor;
  - b) The claims to be released are rationally related to the purpose of the Plan and necessary for it;
  - c) The Plan cannot succeed without the releases;
  - d) The parties who are to have claims against them released are contributing in a tangible and realistic way to the Plan;
  - e) The Plan will benefit not only the debtor companies but creditor Noteholders generally;
  - f) The voting creditors who have approved the Plan did so with knowledge of the nature and effect of the releases; and that,
  - g) The releases are fair and reasonable and not overly broad or offensive to public policy.
- 48 Furthermore, in *ATB Financial*, *supra*, para. 111, the Court of Appeal confirmed that parties are entitled to settle allegations of fraud and to include releases of such claims as part of the settlement. It was noted that "there is no legal impediment to granting the release of an antecedent claim in fraud, provided the claim is in the contemplation of the parties to the release at the time it is given".

### Relevant CCAA Factors

- 49 In assessing a settlement within the CCAA context, the court looks at the following three factors, as articulated in *Robertson*, *supra*:
  - (a) whether the settlement is fair and reasonable;
  - (b) whether it provides substantial benefits to other stakeholders; and
  - (c) whether it is consistent with the purpose and spirit of the CCAA.
- Where a settlement also provides for a release, such as here, courts assess whether there is "a reasonable connection between the third party claim being compromised in the plan and the restructuring achieved by the plan to warrant inclusion of

the third party release in the plan". Applying this "nexus test" requires consideration of the following factors: [ATB Financial, supra, para. 70]

- (a) Are the claims to be released rationally related to the purpose of the plan?
- (b) Are the claims to be released necessary for the plan of arrangement?
- (c) Are the parties who have claims released against them contributing in a tangible and realistic way? and
- (d) Will the plan benefit the debtor and the creditors generally?

## **Counsel Submissions**

- The Objectors argue that the proposed Ernst & Young Release is not integral or necessary to the success of Sino-Forest's restructuring plan, and, therefore, the standards for granting thirdparty releases in the CCAA are not satisfied. No one has asserted that the parties require the Ernst & Young Settlement or Ernst & Young Release to allow the Plan to go forward; in fact, the Plan has been implemented prior to consideration of this issue. Further, the Objectors contend that the \$117 million settlement payment is not essential, or even related, to the restructuring, and that it is concerning, and telling, that varying the end of the Ernst & Young Settlement and Ernst & Young Release to accommodate opt-outs would extinguish the settlement.
- The Objectors also argue that the Ernst & Young Settlement should not be approved because it would vitiate opt-out rights of class members, as conferred as follows in section 9 of the CPA: "Any member of a class involved in a class proceeding may opt-out of the proceeding in the manner and within the time specified in the certification order." This right is a fundamental element of procedural fairness in the Ontario class action regime [Fischer v. IG Investment Management Ltd., 2012 ONCA 47 (Ont. C.A.), para. 69], and is not a mere technicality or illusory. It has been described as absolute [Durling v. Sunrise Propane Energy Group Inc., 2011 ONSC 266 (Ont. S.C.J.)]. The opt-out period allows persons to pursue their self-interest and to preserve their rights to pursue individual actions [Mangan v. Inco Ltd. (1998), 16 C.P.C. (4th) 165, 38 O.R. (3d) 703 (Ont. Gen. Div.)].
- Based on the foregoing, the Objectors submit that a proposed class action settlement with Ernst & Young should be approved solely under the CPA, as the Pöyry Settlement was, and not through misuse of a third-party release procedure under the CCAA. Further, since the minutes of settlement make it clear that Ernst & Young retains discretion not to accept or recognize normal opt-outs if the CPA procedures are invoked, the Ernst & Young Settlement should not be approved in this respect either.
- Multiple parties made submissions favouring the Ernst & Young Settlement (with the accompanying Ernst & Young Release), arguing that it is fair and reasonable in the circumstances, benefits the CCAA stakeholders (as evidenced by the broadbased support for the Plan and this motion) and rationally connected to the Plan.
- Ontario Plaintiffs' counsel submits that the form of the bar order is fair and properly balances the competing interests of class members, Ernst & Young and the non-settling defendants as:
  - (a) class members are not releasing their claims to a greater extent than necessary;
  - (b) Ernst & Young is ensured that its obligations in connection to the Settlement will conclude its liability in the class proceedings;
  - (c) the non-settling defendants will not have to pay more following a judgment than they would be required to pay if Ernst & Young remained as a defendant in the action; and
  - (d) the non-settling defendants are granted broad rights of discovery and an appropriate credit in the ongoing litigation, if it is ultimately determined by the court that there is a right of contribution and indemnity between the co-defendants.
- SFC argues that Ernst & Young's support has simplified and accelerated the Plan process, including reducing the expense and management time otherwise to be incurred in litigating claims, and was a catalyst to encouraging many parties, including

the Underwriters and BDO, to withdraw their objections to the Plan. Further, the result is precisely the type of compromise that the CCAA is designed to promote; namely, Ernst & Young has provided a tangible and significant contribution to the Plan (notwithstanding any pitfalls in the litigation claims against Ernst & Young) that has enabled SFC to emerge as Newco/NewcoII in a timely way and with potential viability.

57 Ernst & Young's counsel submits that the Ernst & Young Settlement, as a whole, including the Ernst & Young Release, must be approved or rejected; the court cannot modify the terms of a proposed settlement. Further, in deciding whether to reject a settlement, the court should consider whether doing so would put the settlement in "jeopardy of being unravelled". In this case, counsel submits there is no obligation on the parties to resume discussions and it could be that the parties have reached their limits in negotiations and will backtrack from their positions or abandon the effort.

# **Analysis and Conclusions**

- The Ernst & Young Release forms part of the Ernst & Young Settlement. In considering whether the Ernst & Young Settlement is fair and reasonable and ought to be approved, it is necessary to consider whether the Ernst & Young Release can be justified as part of the Ernst & Young Settlement. See *ATB Financial*, *supra*, para. 70, as quoted above.
- 59 In considering the appropriateness of including the Ernst & Young Release, I have taken into account the following.
- Firstly, although the Plan has been sanctioned and implemented, a significant aspect of the Plan is a distribution to SFC's creditors. The significant and, in fact, only monetary contribution that can be directly identified, at this time, is the \$117 million from the Ernst & Young Settlement. Simply put, until such time as the Ernst & Young Settlement has been concluded and the settlement proceeds paid, there can be no distribution of the settlement proceeds to parties entitled to receive them. It seems to me that in order to effect any distribution, the Ernst & Young Release has to be approved as part of the Ernst & Young Settlement.
- Secondly, it is apparent that the claims to be released against Ernst & Young are rationally related to the purpose of the Plan and necessary for it. SFC put forward the Plan. As I outlined in the Equity Claims Decision, the claims of Ernst & Young as against SFC are intertwined to the extent that they cannot be separated. Similarly, the claims of the Objectors as against Ernst & Young are, in my view, intertwined and related to the claims against SFC and to the purpose of the Plan.
- Thirdly, although the Plan can, on its face, succeed, as evidenced by its implementation, the reality is that without the approval of the Ernst & Young Settlement, the objectives of the Plan remain unfulfilled due to the practical inability to distribute the settlement proceeds. Further, in the event that the Ernst & Young Release is not approved and the litigation continues, it becomes circular in nature as the position of Ernst & Young, as detailed in the Equity Claims Decision, involves Ernst & Young bringing an equity claim for contribution and indemnity as against SFC.
- Fourthly, it is clear that Ernst & Young is contributing in a tangible way to the Plan, by its significant contribution of \$117 million.
- 64 Fifthly, the Plan benefits the claimants in the form of a tangible distribution. Blair J.A., at paragraph 113 of *ATB Financial*, *supra*, referenced two further facts as found by the application judge in that case; namely, the voting creditors who approved the Plan did so with the knowledge of the nature and effect of the releases. That situation is also present in this case.
- Finally, the application judge in *ATB Financial*, *supra*, held that the releases were fair and reasonable and not overly broad or offensive to public policy. In this case, having considered the alternatives of lengthy and uncertain litigation, and the full knowledge of the Canadian plaintiffs, I conclude that the Ernst & Young Release is fair and reasonable and not overly broad or offensive to public policy.
- In my view, the Ernst & Young Settlement is fair and reasonable, provides substantial benefits to relevant stakeholders, and is consistent with the purpose and spirit of the CCAA. In addition, in my view, the factors associated with the *ATB Financial* nexus test favour approving the Ernst & Young Release.

- In Nortel Networks Corp., Re, supra, para. 81, I noted that the releases benefited creditors generally because they "reduced the risk of litigation, protected Nortel against potential contribution claims and indemnity claims and reduced the risk of delay caused by potentially complex litigation and associated depletion of assets to fund potentially significant litigation costs". In this case, there is a connection between the release of claims against Ernst & Young and a distribution to creditors. The plaintiffs in the litigation are shareholders and Noteholders of SFC. These plaintiffs have claims to assert against SFC that are being directly satisfied, in part, with the payment of \$117 million by Ernst & Young.
- In my view, it is clear that the claims Ernst & Young asserted against SFC, and SFC's subsidiaries, had to be addressed as part of the restructuring. The interrelationship between the various entities is further demonstrated by Ernst & Young's submission that the release of claims by Ernst & Young has allowed SFC and the SFC subsidiaries to contribute their assets to the restructuring, unencumbered by claims totalling billions of dollars. As SFC is a holding company with no material assets of its own, the unencumbered participation of the SFC subsidiaries is crucial to the restructuring.
- 69 At the outset and during the CCAA proceedings, the Applicant and Monitor specifically and consistently identified timing and delay as critical elements that would impact on maximization of the value and preservation of SFC's assets.
- Counsel submits that the claims against Ernst & Young and the indemnity claims asserted by Ernst & Young would, absent the Ernst & Young Settlement, have to be finally determined before the CCAA claims could be quantified. As such, these steps had the potential to significantly delay the CCAA proceedings. Where the claims being released may take years to resolve, are risky, expensive or otherwise uncertain of success, the benefit that accrues to creditors in having them settled must be considered. See *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re*, *supra*, paras. 73 and 81; and *Muscletech*, *supra*, paras. 19-21.
- Implicit in my findings is rejection of the Objectors' arguments questioning the validity of the Ernst & Young Settlement and Ernst & Young Release. The relevant consideration is whether a proposed settlement and third-party release sufficiently benefits all stakeholders to justify court approval. I reject the position that the \$117 million settlement payment is not essential, or even related, to the restructuring; it represents, at this point in time, the only real monetary consideration available to stakeholders. The potential to vary the Ernst & Young Settlement and Ernst & Young Release to accommodate opt-outs is futile, as the court is being asked to approve the Ernst & Young Settlement and Ernst & Young Release as proposed.
- I do not accept that the class action settlement should be approved solely under the CPA. The reality facing the parties is that SFC is insolvent; it is under CCAA protection, and stakeholder claims are to be considered in the context of the CCAA regime. The Objectors' claim against Ernst & Young cannot be considered in isolation from the CCAA proceedings. The claims against Ernst & Young are interrelated with claims as against SFC, as is made clear in the Equity Claims Decision and Claims Procedure Order.
- Figure 173 Even if one assumes that the opt-out argument of the Objectors can be sustained, and optout rights fully provided, to what does that lead? The Objectors are left with a claim against Ernst & Young, which it then has to put forward in the CCAA proceedings. Without taking into account any argument that the claim against Ernst & Young may be affected by the claims bar date, the claim is still capable of being addressed under the Claims Procedure Order. In this way, it is again subject to the CCAA fairness and reasonable test as set out in *ATB Financial*, *supra*.
- Moreover, CCAA proceedings take into account a class of creditors or stakeholders who possess the same legal interests. In this respect, the Objectors have the same legal interests as the Ontario Plaintiffs. Ultimately, this requires consideration of the totality of the class. In this case, it is clear that the parties supporting the Ernst & Young Settlement are vastly superior to the Objectors, both in number and dollar value.
- Although the right to opt-out of a class action is a fundamental element of procedural fairness in the Ontario class action regime, this argument cannot be taken in isolation. It must be considered in the context of the CCAA.
- The Objectors are, in fact, part of the group that will benefit from the Ernst & Young Settlement as they specifically seek to reserve their rights to "opt-in" and share in the spoils.

2013 ONSC 1078, 2013 CarswellOnt 3361, 100 C.B.R. (5th) 30, 227 A.C.W.S. (3d) 930...

- It is also clear that the jurisprudence does not permit a dissenting stakeholder to opt-out of a restructuring. [Sammi Atlas Inc., Re (1998), 3 C.B.R. (4th) 171 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List])).] If that were possible, no creditor would take part in any CCAA compromise where they were to receive less than the debt owed to them. There is no right to opt-out of any CCAA process, and the statute contemplates that a minority of creditors are bound by the plan which a majority have approved and the court has determined to be fair and reasonable.
- SFC is insolvent and all stakeholders, including the Objectors, will receive less than what they are owed. By virtue of deciding, on their own volition, not to participate in the CCAA process, the Objectors relinquished their right to file a claim and take steps, in a timely way, to assert their rights to vote in the CCAA proceeding.
- Further, even if the Objectors had filed a claim and voted, their minimal 1.6% stake in SFC's outstanding shares when the Muddy Waters report was released makes it highly unlikely that they could have altered the outcome.
- Finally, although the Objectors demand a right to conditionally opt-out of a settlement, that right does not exist under the CPA or CCAA. By virtue of the certification order, class members had the ability to opt-out of the class action. The Objectors did not opt-out in the true sense; they purported to create a conditional opt-out. Under the CPA, the right to opt-out is "in the manner and within the time specified in the certification order". There is no provision for a conditional opt-out in the CPA, and Ontario's single opt-out regime causes "no prejudice...to putative class members". [CPA, section 9; *Osmun v. Cadbury Adams Canada Inc.* (2009), 85 C.P.C. (6th) 148 (Ont. S.C.J.), paras. 43-46; and *Eidoo v. Infineon Technologies AG*, 2012 ONSC 7299 (Ont. S.C.J.).]

#### Miscellaneous

For greater certainty, it is my understanding that the issues raised by Mr. O'Reilly have been clarified such that the effect of this endorsement is that the Junior Objectors will be included with the same status as the Ontario Plaintiffs.

#### **Disposition**

82 In the result, for the foregoing reasons, the motion is granted. A declaration shall issue to the effect that the Ernst & Young Settlement is fair and reasonable in all the circumstances. The Ernst & Young Settlement, together with the Ernst & Young Release, is approved and an order shall issue substantially in the form requested. The motion of the Objectors is dismissed.

Motion granted.

**End of Document** 

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# **TAB 12**

# 2015 CarswellOnt 6975 Ontario Superior Court of Justice [Commercial List]

Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada (Trustees of) v. Sino-Forest Corp.

2015 CarswellOnt 6975, 253 A.C.W.S. (3d) 763

# In the Matter of the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as Amended

In the Matter of a Plan of Comprise or Arrangement of Sino-Forest Corporation

The Trustees of the Labourers' Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, The Trustees of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 793 Pension Plan for Operating Engineers in Ontario, Sjunde Ap-Fonden, David Grant, Robert Wong, Davis New York Venture Fund, Inc. and Davis Selected Advisers L.P., Plaintiffs and Sino-Forest Corporation, Ernst & Young LLP, BDO Limited (formerly known as BDO McCabe Lo Limited), Allen T.Y. Chan, W. Judson Martin, Kai Kit Poon, David J. Horsley, William E. Ardell, James P. Bowland, James M.E. Hyde, Edmund Mak, Simon Murray, Peter Wang, Garry J. West, Poyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited, Credit Suisse Securities (Canada), Inc., TD Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation, RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., Canaccord Financial Ltd., Maison Placements Canada Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (successor by merger to Banc of America Securities LLC) Proceeding under the Class Proceedings Act, 1992, Defendants

Morawetz R.S.J.

Judgment: May 11, 2015 Docket: CV-12-9667-00CL, CV-11-431153-00CP

Counsel: Counsel — not provided

Subject: Insolvency

# **Table of Authorities**

#### Cases considered by *Morawetz R.S.J.*:

Labourer's Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada (Trustees of) v. Sino-Forest Corp. (2015), 2015 CarswellOnt 1308 (Ont. S.C.J.) — referred to

# **Statutes considered:**

Class Proceedings Act, 1992, S.O. 1992, c. 6 Generally — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36 Generally — referred to

# Rules considered:

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Rules of Civil Procedure, R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 194
R. 7.04(1) — referred to
R. 7.08(4) — referred to
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MOTION by Ad Hoc Committee of Purchasers of applicant's securities for order giving effect to Dealers Release and Dealers Settlement, as provided for in s. 11.2 of Plan of Compromise and Reorganization of applicant under *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*.

#### Morawetz R.S.J.:

- THIS MOTION, made by the Ad Hoc Committee of Purchasers of the Applicant's Securities, including the plaintiffs in the action commenced against Sino-Forest Corporation (the "Applicant" or "Sino-Forest", which term shall include all affiliate and subsidiary corporations or business organizations in whatever form and all their predecessor and successor corporations or business organizations in whatever form) in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, bearing (Toronto) Court File No, CV-11-431153-00CP (the "Ontario Plaintiffs" and the "Action", respectively) in their own and proposed representative capacities, for an order giving effect to the Dealers Release and the Dealers Settlement, and as provided for in section 11.2 of the Plan of Compromise and Reorganization of the Applicant under the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act ("CCAA") dated December 3, 2012 (the "Plan"), such Plan having been approved by this Honourable Court by Order dated December 10, 2012 (the "Sanction Order"), was heard on May 11, 2015, at the Court House, 393 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario;
- WHEREAS the Ontario Plaintiffs and Credit Suisse Securities (Canada) Inc., TD Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Ltd., RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., Canaccord Financial Ltd. (now known as Canaccord Genuity Corp.), Maison Placements Canada Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, successor by merger to Banc of America Securities LLC (the "Dealers", as more particularly defined in Appendix "A") entered into Minutes of Settlement dated December 22, 2014;
- 3 *AND WHEREAS* this Honourable Court issued the Sanction Order approving the Plan containing the framework and providing for the implementation of a Named Third Party Defendant Settlement and a Named Third Party Defendant Release pursuant to Section 11.2 of the Plan;
- 4 AND WHEREAS the Dealers are Named Third Party Defendants pursuant to the Plan;
- 5 AND WHEREAS the Ontario Plaintiffs and the Dealers wish to effect a settlement pursuant to section 11.2 of the Plan;
- 6 AND WHEREAS this Honourable Court approved the form of notice to Securities Claimants and others of this Motion, and the plan for distribution of such notice to Securities Claimants and others potentially affected by the relief sought therein (the "Notice Program") by Order dated January 29, 2015 Labourer's Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada (Trustees of) v. Sino-Forest Corp., 2015 CarswellOnt 1308 (Ont. S.C.J.) (the "Notice Order");
- 7 ON READING the Ontario Plaintiffs' Motion Record seeking settlement approval of a settlement between the Dealers and the Ontario Plaintiffs ("Dealers' Settlement"), including the affidavits of Charles Wright and the exhibits thereto, the affidavit Stephen Goudge, the affidavit of Garth Myers and the exhibits thereto, and the affidavit of Heather Palmer and the exhibits thereto; on the Court's granting its approval of the Dealers' Settlement; and on hearing the submissions of counsel:

#### **Notice and Definitions**

8

1. THIS COURT ORDERS that capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this order shall have the meanings attributed to those terms in *Appendix "A"*.

2. THIS COURT FINDS that all applicable parties have adhered to and acted in accordance with the Notice Order and that the procedures provided in the Notice Order have provided good and sufficient notice of the hearing of this Motion and that all Persons shall be and are hereby forever barred from objecting to the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release.

#### Representation

9

- 3. *THIS COURT ORDERS* that the Ontario Plaintiffs are hereby recognized and appointed as representatives on behalf of the Securities Claimants in these insolvency proceedings in respect of the Applicant (the "CCAA Proceedings") and in the Action, including for the purposes of and as contemplated by section 11.2 of the Plan, and more particularly the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release.
- 4. THIS COURT ORDERS that Koskie Minsky LLP, Siskinds LLP and Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP are hereby recognized and appointed as counsel for the Securities Claimants for all purposes in these proceedings and as contemplated by section 11.2 of the Plan, and more particularly the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release ("CCAA Representative Counsel").
- 5. THIS COURT ORDERS that the steps taken by CCAA Representative Counsel pursuant to the Orders of this Court dated May 8, 2012 (the "Claims Procedure Order") and July 25, 2012 (the "Mediation Order") are hereby approved, authorized and validated as of the date thereof and that CCAA Representative Counsel is and was authorized to negotiate and support the Plan on behalf of the Securities Claimants, to negotiate the Dealers Settlement, to bring this motion before this Honourable Court to approve the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release and to take any other necessary steps to effectuate and implement the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release, including bringing this Motion and any other necessary motion before the court, and as contemplated by section 11.2 of the Plan.

#### Compliance with Section 11.2 of the Plan

10

- 6. THIS COURT ORDERS that this Order (the "the Dealers Settlement Order") is a Named Third Party Defendant Settlement Order for the purpose of and as contemplated by Section 11.2 of the Plan.
- 7. *THIS COURT ORDERS* that the Dealers Settlement is a Named Third Party Defendant Settlement for the purpose of and as contemplated by Section 11.2 of the Plan.
- 8. *THIS COURT ORDERS* that the Dealers Release is a Named Third Party Defendant Release for the purpose of and as contemplated by Section 11.2 of the Plan.

# **Approval of the Settlement & Release**

11

- 9. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release are fair and reasonable in all the circumstances and for the purposes of the proceedings under both the CCAA and the Class Proceedings Act, 1992.
- 10. *THIS COURT ORDERS* that the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release be and hereby are approved for all purposes and as contemplated by section 11.2 of the Plan and paragraph 41 of the Sanction Order and shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, this Order, the Plan and the Sanction Order.
- 11. *THIS COURT ORDERS* that this Order, the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release are binding upon each and every Person or entity having a Dealers Claim against the Dealers, including those Persons who are under disability, and any requirements of rules 7.04(1) and 7.08(4) of the *Rules of Civil Procedures* are dispensed with.

# Release and Discharge

12

- 12. THIS COURT ORDERS that upon satisfaction of all the conditions specified in section 11.2(b) of the Plan, the Monitor shall deliver to the Dealers the Monitor's Dealers Settlement Certificate substantially in the form attached hereto as Appendix "B". The Monitor shall thereafter file the Monitor's Dealers Settlement Certificate with the Court.
- 13. THIS COURT ORDERS that pursuant to the provisions of section 11.2(c) of the Plan, on the Dealers Settlement Date:
  - (a) any and all of the Dealers Claims shall be, by virtue of this order, with no need or requirement for any further order, fully, finally, irrevocably, forever and for all purposes compromised, released, discharged, cancelled, barred and deemed satisfied and extinguished as against the Dealers in accordance with section 11.2(c) of the Plan;
  - (b) the Dealers Release shall be binding according to its terms on any Person;
  - (c) section 7.3 of the Plan shall apply to the Dealers and the Dealers Claims mutatis mutandis;
  - (d) none of the parties in the Action or other Class Actions or any other actions in which the Dealers Claims have been or could have been asserted shall be permitted to claim from any of the other defendants that portion of any damages, restitutionary award or disgorgement of profits that corresponds with the liability of the Dealers proven at trial or otherwise as may be agreed, that is subject of the Dealers Settlement ("the Dealers Proportionate Liability"); and
  - (e) the Action shall be dismissed against the Dealers.
- 14. THIS COURT ORDERS that nothing in this order shall fetter the discretion of any court to determine the Dealers Proportionate Liability at the trial or other disposition of an action (including the Action or the other Class Actions), whether or not the Dealers appears at the trial or other disposition and the Dealers Proportionate Liability shall be determined as if the Dealers were a party to the action and any determination by a court in respect of the Dealers Proportionate Liability shall only apply in that action or actions to the proportionate liability of the remaining defendants in those proceedings and shall not be binding on the Dealers for any purpose whatsoever and shall not constitute a finding against the Dealers for any purpose in any other proceeding.

#### Use of the Settlement Fund

13

- 15. THIS COURT ORDERS that, save and except for the payment of legal fees, disbursements, administrative expenses and taxes approved by this Court, the Class Settlement Fund shall be held by the Ontario Plaintiffs in the Settlement Trust until such later date that the Ontario Plaintiffs have a Plan of Allocation approved by this Court whereby those funds will be distributed to Securities Claimants. Any process for allocation and distribution will be established by CCAA Representative Counsel and approved by further order of this Court (the "Claims and Distribution Protocol"). The Plan of Allocation shall allocate CDN \$22,500,000 of the Class Settlement Fund to share purchasers and CDN \$10,000,000 to note purchasers, with accrued interest divided among share and note purchasers on a pro rata basis.
- 16. THIS COURT ORDERS that notwithstanding paragraph 15 above, the following Securities Claimants shall not be entitled to any allocation or distribution of the Class Settlement Fund: the Litigation Trust, any Person or entity that is a named defendant to any of the Class Actions, their past and present subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, senior employees, partners, legal representatives, heirs, predecessors, successors and assigns, and any individual who is a member of the immediate family of the following Persons: Allen T.Y. Chan a.k.a. Talc Yuen Chan, W. Judson Martin, Kai Kit Poon, David J. Horsley, William E. Ardell, James P. Boland, James M.E. Hyde, Edmund Mak, Simon Murray, Peter Wang,

Garry J. West, Albert Ip, Alfred C.T. Hung, George Ho and Simon Yeung. For greater certainty, the Dealers Release shall apply to the Securities Claimants described above.

### Recognition, Enforcement and Further Assistance

14

- 17. THIS COURT ORDERS that this Court shall retain an ongoing supervisory role for the purposes of implementing, administering and enforcing the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release and matters related to the Settlement Trust including any disputes about the allocation of the Class Settlement Fund from the Settlement Trust. Any disputes arising with respect to the performance or effect of, or any other aspect of, the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release shall be determined by this Court, and that, except with leave of this Court first obtained, no Person or party shall commence or continue any proceeding or enforcement process in any other court or tribunal, with respect to the performance or effect of, or any other aspect of the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release.
- 18. THIS COURT ORDERS that each of the Applicant, the Monitor, CCAA Representative Counsel and the Dealers shall be at liberty and is hereby authorized and empowered to apply to any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body, wherever located, for the recognition of this order, or any further order as may be contemplated by Section 11.2 of the Plan or be otherwise required, and or assistance in carrying out the terms of such orders. Any actions previously taken in accordance with this paragraph 18 are hereby ratified by this Court.
- 19. THIS COURT HEREBY REQUESTS the aid and recognition of any court, tribunal, regulatory or administrative body having jurisdiction in Canada or the United States or elsewhere, to give effect to this order and to assist the Applicant, the Monitor, the CCAA Representative Counsel and the Dealers and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this order. All courts, tribunals, regulatory and administrative bodies are hereby respectfully requested to make such orders and to provide such assistance to the Applicant, the Monitor, the CCAA Representative Counsel and the Dealers as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this order, to grant representative status to the Applicant, the Monitor, the CCAA Representative Counsel and the Dealers in any foreign proceeding, or to assist the Applicant, the Monitor, the CCAA Representative Counsel and the Dealers and their respective agents in carrying out the terms of this Order.

Motion granted.

# Appendix "A" — Defined Terms

"Action" means the Ontario Superior Court of Justice action bearing Toronto court file number CV-11-431153-00CP.

"Causes of Action" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"CCAA" means the Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, RSC, 1985, c. C-36.

"Claims" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Minutes of Settlement.

"Class Actions" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Class Settlement Fund" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Dealers Settlement.

"Dealers" means Credit Suisse Securities (Canada) Inc., TD Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Ltd., RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Scotia Capital Inc., CIBC World Markets Inc., Merrill Lynch Canada Inc., Canaccord Financial Ltd. (now known as Canaccord Genuity Corp.), Maison Placements Canada Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, successor by merger to Banc of America Securities LLC. "Dealers" includes all parent, affiliate and subsidiary corporations or business organizations in whatever form and all their predecessor and successor corporations or business organizations in whatever form.

"Dealers Claims" means any and all demands, Claims, actions, Causes of Action (as defined in the Plan), counterclaims, cross claims, suits, debts, sums of money, accounts, covenants, damages, judgments, orders, including injunctive relief or specific performance and compliance orders, expenses, executions, Encumbrances (as defined in the Plan), and other amounts sought to be recovered on account of any claim, indebtedness, liability, obligation, demand or cause of action of whatever nature that any Person (as defined in the Plan), including any Person (as defined in the Plan) who may have a claim for contribution and/or indemnity against or from them, and including without limitation, all present and former officers or Directors of Sino-Forest, Newco (as defined in the Plan), Newco II (as defined in the Plan), Ernst & Young (as defined in the Plan), BDO Ltd., Poyry (Beijing) Consulting Company Limited (and its affiliates), the Noteholders (as defined in the Plan), any past, present or future holder of any direct or indirect equity interest in the SFC Companies (as defined in the Plan), any past, present or future direct or indirect security holder of the SFC Companies (as defined in the Plan), any indirect or direct security holder of Newco (as defined in the Plan) or Newco II (as defined in the Plan), the Trustees (as defined in the Plan), the Transfer Agent (as defined in the Plan), the Monitor (as defined in the Plan), and each and every present and former affiliate, partner, director, officer, associate, employee, servant, agent, contractor, insurer, heir and/or assign of each of the foregoing who may or could (at any time, past, present or future) be entitled to assert against the Dealers, and each and every present and former partner, director, officer, associate, employee, servant, agent, advisor, consultant contractor, insurer, heir and/or assign of each of Dealers, whether known or unknown, matured or unmatured, direct or derivative, foreseen or unforeseen, suspected or unsuspected, contingent, existing or hereafter arising, based on whole or in part on any act or omission, transaction, conduct, dealing or other occurrence existing or taking place on, prior to or after the date of this Release, relating to or arising out of or in connection with the SFC Companies (as defined by the Plan), the SFC Business (as defined by the Plan) and any and all other acts and omissions of the Dealers relating to the SFC Companies (as defined by the Plan) or the SFC Business (as defined by the Plan). Dealers Claims include, without limitation:

- 1. All Claims or Causes of Action (as defined in the Plan) arising from any acts or omissions of the Dealers, including in respect of, but not limited to any statutory or common law duties they may have owed, in connection with any share offering, debt offering or other offering, or any secondary market or other sale or trading of Securities and any statement in any of Sino-Forest's disclosure, including without limitation any document released to the public or filed on SEDAR;
- 2. All Claims or Causes of Action (as defined by the Plan) advanced or which could have been advanced in any or all of the Class Actions (as defined by the Plan), including any and all claims of fraud;
- 3. All Claims or Causes of Action (as defined by the Plan) advanced or which could have been advanced in any or all actions commenced in all jurisdictions as of the date of this Release;
- 4. All Noteholder Claims (as defined by the Plan), Litigation Trust Claims (as defined by the Plan), or any Claim by or on behalf of Sino-Forest or the SFC Companies (as defined in the Plan) or present, former or future holders of Securities of Sino-Forest regardless of who asserts such claims; and
- 5. All Claims or Causes of Action (as defined by the Plan) advanced or which could have been advanced by all present and former directors, officers or employees of Sino-Forest, and any and all agents, representatives, consultants, advisors, auditors or counsel to Sino-Forest, including for contribution, indemnity, damages, equitable relief or other monetary recovery.

"Dealers Release" means the Named Third Party Defendant Release described at section 11.2(c) of the Plan as applied to the Dealers Claims.

"Dealers Settlement" means the settlement as reflected in the Minutes of Settlement executed on December 22, 2014 between the Dealers and the Ontario Plaintiffs.

"Dealers Settlement Date" means the date that the Monitor's Dealers Settlement Certificate is delivered to the Dealers.

"Eligible Third Party Defendant" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Monitor's Dealers Settlement Certificate" is the Monitor's Named Third Party Certificate contemplated at section 11.2(b) of the Plan, applicable and with respect to the Dealers Settlement.

"Monitor's Named Third Party Settlement Certificate" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Named Third Party Defendant" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Named Third Party Defendant Settlement" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Named Third Party Defendant Settlement Order" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Named Third Party Defendant Release" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Person" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Plan.

"Securities" means common shares, notes or other securities defined in the Securities Act, RSO 1990, c. S.5, as amended, or that are securities at law.

"Securities Claimants" means all Person and entities, wherever they may reside, who acquired any Securities of Sino-Forest including Securities acquired in the primary, secondary, and over-the-counter markets.

"Settlement Trust" has the meaning ascribed to it in the Dealers Settlement.

# Appendix "B" — Monitor's Dealers Settlement Certificate

Court File No. CV-12-9667-00CL

#### **Ontario Superior Court of Justice Commercial List**

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED, AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPRISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF SINO-FOREST CORPORATION

Court File No.: CV-11-431153-00CP

BETWEEN:

#### **Ontario Superior Court of Justice**

THE TRUSTEES OF THE LABOURERS' PENSION FUND OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN CANADA, THE TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 793 PENSION PLAN FOR OPERATING ENGINEERS IN ONTARIO, SJUNDE AP-FONDEN, DAVID GRANT and ROBERT WONG Plaintiffs - and - SINO-FOREST CORPORATION, ERNST & YOUNG LLP, BDO LIMITED (formerly known as BDO MCCABE LO LIMITED), ALLEN T.Y. CHAN, W. JUDSON MARTIN, KAI KIT POON, DAVID J. THE DEALERS, WILLIAM E. ARDELL, JAMES P. BOWLAND, JAMES M.E. HYDE, EDMUND MAK, SIMON MURRAY, PETER WANG, GARRY J. WEST, POYRY (BEIJING) CONSULTING COMPANY LIMITED, CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (CANADA), INC., TD SECURITIES INC., DUNDEE SECURITIES CORPORATION, RBC DOMINION SECURITIES INC., SCOTIA CAPITAL INC., CIBC WORLD MARKETS INC., MERRILL LYNCH CANADA INC., CANACCORD FINANCIAL LTD., MAISON PLACEMENTS CANADA INC., CREDIT SUISSE SECURITIES (USA) LLC and MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED (successor by merger to Banc of America Securities LLC) Proceeding under the *Class Proceedings Act, 1992* Defendants

All capitalized, terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Order of the Court dated • (the "Dealers Settlement Order") which, among other things, approved the Dealers Settlement and the Dealers Release.

Pursuant to section 11.2 of the Plan and paragraph • of the Dealers Settlement Order, FTI Consulting Canada Inc. (the "Monitor") in its capacity as Court-appointed Monitor of SFC delivers to the Dealers this certificate and hereby certifies that:

- (a) each of the parties to the Dealers Settlement has confirmed that all conditions precedent thereto have been satisfied or waived;
- (b) all settlement funds have been paid and received; and
- (c) immediately upon the delivery of this Monitor's Dealers Settlement Certificate, the Dealers Release will be in full force and effect in accordance with the Plan.

DATED at Toronto this • day of • 2015

FTI CONSULTING CAN capacity	ADA INC., solely in its capacity as Monitor of Sino-Forest Corporation and not in its person	al
Name:		
Title:		
End of Document	Copyright @ Thomson Pautars Canada Limited or its licensors (avaluding individual court documents). All right	

reserved.

# **TAB 13**

# 2010 ONSC 1708 Ontario Superior Court of Justice [Commercial List]

Nortel Networks Corp., Re

2010 CarswellOnt 1754, 2010 ONSC 1708, 192 A.C.W.S. (3d) 368, 63 C.B.R. (5th) 44, 81 C.C.P.B. 56

# IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF NORTEL NETWORKS CORPORATION, NORTEL NETWORKS LIMITED, NORTEL NETWORKS GLOBAL CORPORATION, NORTEL NETWORKS INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION AND NORTEL NETWORKS TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION (Applicants)

#### Morawetz J.

Heard: March 3-5, 2010 Judgment: March 26, 2010 Docket: 09-CL-7950

Counsel: Derrick Tay, Jennifer Stam, Suzanne Wood for Applicants

Lyndon Barnes, Adam Hirsh for Nortel Directors

Benjamin Zarnett, Gale Rubenstein, C. Armstrong, Melaney Wagner for Monitor, Ernst & Young Inc.

Arthur O. Jacques for Nortel Canada Current Employees

Deborah McPhail for Superintendent of Financial Services (non-PBGF)

Mark Zigler, Susan Philpott for Former and Long-Term Disability Employees

Ken Rosenberg, M. Starnino for Superintendent of Financial Services in its capacity as Administrator of the Pension Benefit Guarantee Fund

S. Richard Orzy, Richard B. Swan for Informal Nortel Noteholder Group

Alex MacFarlane, Mark Dunsmuir for Unsecured Creditors' Committee of Nortel Networks Inc.

Leanne Williams for Flextronics Inc.

Barry Wadsworth for CAW-Canada

Pamela Huff for Northern Trust Company, Canada

Joel P. Rochon, Sakie Tambakos for Opposing Former and Long-Term Disability Employees

Robin B. Schwill for Nortel Networks UK Limited (In Administration)

Sorin Gabriel Radulescu for himself

Guy Martin for himself, Marie Josee Perrault

Peter Burns for himself

Stan and Barbara Arnelien for themselves

Subject: Insolvency; Corporate and Commercial; Civil Practice and Procedure

#### **Table of Authorities**

# Cases considered by *Morawetz J.*:

Air Canada, Re (2003), 2003 CarswellOnt 5296, 47 C.B.R. (4th) 163 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp. (2008), 2008 ONCA 587, 2008 CarswellOnt 4811, (sub nom. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Re) 240 O.A.C. 245, (sub nom. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Re) 296 D.L.R. (4th) 135, (sub nom. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Re) 92 O.R. (3d) 513, 45 C.B.R. (5th) 163, 47 B.L.R. (4th) 123 (Ont. C.A.) — considered

ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp. (2008), 2008 CarswellOnt 5432, 2008 CarswellOnt 5433, (sub nom. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp., Re) 390 N.R. 393 (note) (S.C.C.) — referred to

Calpine Canada Energy Ltd., Re (2007), 2007 CarswellAlta 1050, 2007 ABQB 504, 35 C.B.R. (5th) 1, 415 A.R. 196, 33 B.L.R. (4th) 68 (Alta. Q.B.) — referred to

*Calpine Canada Energy Ltd.*, *Re* (2007), 35 C.B.R. (5th) 27, 410 W.A.C. 25, 417 A.R. 25, 2007 ABCA 266, 2007 CarswellAlta 1097, 80 Alta. L.R. (4th) 60, 33 B.L.R. (4th) 94 (Alta. C.A. [In Chambers]) — referred to

Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadienne de la Croix-Rouge, Re (1998), 1998 CarswellOnt 3346, 5 C.B.R. (4th) 299, 72 O.T.C. 99 (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]) — considered

Grace Canada Inc., Re (2008), 50 C.B.R. (5th) 25, 2008 CarswellOnt 6284 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — considered

Grace Canada Inc., Re (2010), 2010 CarswellOnt 67, 2010 ONSC 161 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Nortel Networks Corp., Re (2009), 2009 CarswellOnt 3530, 55 C.B.R. (5th) 114, 75 C.C.P.B. 220 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — considered

Nortel Networks Corp., Re (2009), 2009 CarswellOnt 4467, 55 C.B.R. (5th) 229 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — considered

Nortel Networks Corp., Re (2009), 2009 CarswellOnt 8166 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Nortel Networks Corp., Re (2010), 2010 CarswellOnt 1044, 2010 ONSC 1096 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) — referred to

Stelco Inc., Re (2005), 204 O.A.C. 216, 78 O.R. (3d) 254, 2005 CarswellOnt 6283, 15 C.B.R. (5th) 288 (Ont. C.A.) — considered

Wandlyn Inns Ltd., Re (1992), 15 C.B.R. (3d) 316, 1992 CarswellNB 37 (N.B. Q.B.) — considered

#### **Statutes considered:**

Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. B-3 Generally — referred to

Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36

Generally — referred to

s. 5.1(2) [en. 1997, c. 12, s. 122] — referred to

s. 11(4) — referred to

Pension Benefits Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.8 Generally — referred to

MOTION by insolvent corporation for court approval of settlement agreement under Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act.

#### Morawetz J.:

#### Introduction

- On January 14, 2009, Nortel Networks Corporation ("NNC"), Nortel Networks Limited "(NNL"), Nortel Networks Global Corporation, Nortel Networks International Corporation and Nortel Networks Technology Corporation (collectively, the "Applicants") were granted a stay of proceedings pursuant to the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act* ("CCAA") and Ernst & Young Inc. was appointed as Monitor.
- 2 The Applicants have historically operated a number of pension, benefit and other plans (both funded and unfunded) for their employees and pensioners, including:
  - (i) Pension benefits through two registered pension plans, the Nortel Networks Limited Managerial and Non-Negotiated Pension Plan and the Nortel Networks Negotiated Pension Plan (the "Pension Plans"); and
  - (ii) Medical, dental, life insurance, long-term disability and survivor income and transition benefits paid, except for survivor termination benefits, through Nortel's Health and Welfare Trust (the "HWT").
- 3 Since the CCAA filing, the Applicants have continued to provide medical, dental and other benefits, through the HWT, to pensioners and employees on long-term disability ("Former and LTD Employees") and active employees ("HWT Payments") and have continued all current service contributions and special payments to the Pension Plans ("Pension Payments").
- Pension Payments and HWT Payments made by the Applicants to the Former and LTD Employees while under CCAA protection are largely discretionary. As a result of Nortel's insolvency and the significant reduction in the size of Nortel's operations, the unfortunate reality is that, at some point, cessation of such payments is inevitable. The Applicants have attempted to address this situation by entering into a settlement agreement (the "Settlement Agreement") dated as of February 8, 2010, among the Applicants, the Monitor, the Former Employees' Representatives (on their own behalf and on behalf of the parties they represent), the LTD Representative (on her own behalf and on behalf of the parties she represents), Representative Settlement Counsel and the CAW-Canada (the "Settlement Parties").
- 5 The Applicants have brought this motion for approval of the Settlement Agreement. From the standpoint of the Applicants, the purpose of the Settlement Agreement is to provide for a smooth transition for the termination of Pension Payments and HWT Payments. The Applicants take the position that the Settlement Agreement represents the best efforts of the Settlement Parties to negotiate an agreement and is consistent with the spirit and purpose of the CCAA.
- 6 The essential terms of the Settlement Agreement are as follows:
  - (a) until December 31, 2010, medical, dental and life insurance benefits will be funded on a pay-as-you-go basis to the Former and LTD Employees;
  - (b) until December 31, 2010, LTD Employees and those entitled to receive survivor income benefits will receive income benefits on a pay-as-you-go basis;
  - (c) the Applicants will continue to make current service payments and special payments to the Pension Plans in the same manner as they have been doing over the course of the proceedings under the CCAA, through to March 31, 2010, in the

aggregate amount of \$2,216,254 per month and that thereafter and through to September 30, 2010, the Applicants shall make only current service payments to the Pension Plans, in the aggregate amount of \$379,837 per month;

- (d) any allowable pension claims, in these or subsequent proceedings, concerning any Nortel Worldwide Entity, including the Applicants, shall rank *pari passu* with ordinary, unsecured creditors of Nortel, and no part of any such HWT claims shall rank as a preferential or priority claim or shall be the subject of a constructive trust or trust of any nature or kind;
- (e) proofs of claim asserting priority already filed by any of the Settlement Parties, or the Superintendent on behalf of the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund are disallowed in regard to the claim for priority;
- (f) any allowable HWT claims made in these or subsequent proceedings shall rank *pari passu* with ordinary unsecured creditors of Nortel;
- (g) the Settlement Agreement does not extinguish the claims of the Former and LTD Employees;
- (h) Nortel and, *inter alia*, its successors, advisors, directors and officers, are released from all future claims regarding Pension Plans and the HWT, provided that nothing in the release shall release a director of the Applicants from any matter referred to in subsection 5.1(2) of the CCAA or with respect to fraud on the part of any Releasee, with respect to that Releasee only;
- (i) upon the expiry of all appeals and rights of appeal in respect thereof, Representative Settlement Counsel will withdraw their application for leave to appeal the decision of the Court of Appeal, dated November 26, 2009, to the Supreme Court of Canada on a with prejudice basis; <sup>1</sup>
- (j) a CCAA plan of arrangement in the Nortel proceedings will not be proposed or approved if that plan does not treat the Pension and HWT claimants *pari passu* to the other ordinary, unsecured creditors ("Clause H.1"); and
- (k) if there is a subsequent amendment to the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* ("BIA") that "changes the current, relative priorities of the claims against Nortel, no party is precluded by this Settlement Agreement from arguing the applicability" of that amendment to the claims ceded in this Agreement ("Clause H.2").
- The Settlement Agreement does *not* relate to a distribution of the HWT as the Settlement Parties have agreed to work towards developing a Court-approved distribution of the HWT corpus in 2010.
- 8 The Applicants' motion is supported by the Settlement Parties and by the Board of Directors of Nortel.
- 9 The Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Nortel Networks Inc. ("UCC"), the informal Nortel Noteholder Group (the "Noteholders"), and a group of 37 LTD Employees (the "Opposing LTD Employees") oppose the Settlement Agreement.
- 10 The UCC and Noteholders oppose the Settlement Agreement, principally as a result of the inclusion of Clause H.2.
- The Opposing LTD Employees oppose the Settlement Agreement, principally as a result of the inclusion of the third party releases referenced in [6h] above.

# The Facts

# A. Status of Nortel's Restructuring

- Although it was originally hoped that the Applicants would be able to restructure their business, in June 2009 the decision was made to change direction and pursue sales of Nortel's various businesses.
- 13 In response to Nortel's change in strategic direction and the impending sales, Nortel announced on August 14, 2009 a number of organizational updates and changes including the creation of groups to support transitional services and management during the sales process.

- 14 Since June 2009, Nortel has closed two major sales and announced a third. As a result of those transactions, approximately 13,000 Nortel employees have been or will be transferred to purchaser companies. That includes approximately 3,500 Canadian employees.
- Due to the ongoing sales of Nortel's business units and the streamlining of Nortel's operations, it is expected that by the close of 2010, the Applicants' workforce will be reduced to only 475 employees. There is a need to wind-down and rationalize benefits and pension processes.
- Given Nortel's insolvency, the significant reduction in Nortel's operations and the complexity and size of the Pension Plans, both Nortel and the Monitor believe that the continuation and funding of the Pension Plans and continued funding of medical, dental and other benefits is not a viable option.

### B. The Settlement Agreement

- On February 8, 2010 the Applicants announced that a settlement had been reached on issues related to the Pension Plans, and the HWT and certain employment related issues.
- Recognizing the importance of providing notice to those who will be impacted by the Settlement Agreement, including the Former Employees, the LTD Employees, unionized employees, continuing employees and the provincial pension plan regulators ("Affected Parties"), Nortel brought a motion to this Court seeking the approval of an extensive notice and opposition process.
- On February 9, 2010, this Court approved the notice program for the announcement and disclosure of the Settlement (the "Notice Order").
- As more fully described in the Monitor's Thirty-Sixth, Thirty-Ninth and Thirty-Ninth Supplementary Reports, the Settlement Parties have taken a number of steps to notify the Affected Parties about the Settlement.
- In addition to the Settlement Agreement, the Applicants, the Monitor and the Superintendent, in his capacity as administrator of the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund, entered into a letter agreement on February 8, 2010, with respect to certain matters pertaining to the Pension Plans (the "Letter Agreement").
- The Letter Agreement provides that the Superintendent will not oppose an order approving the Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Approval Order"). Additionally, the Monitor and the Applicants will take steps to complete an orderly transfer of the Pension Plans to a new administrator to be appointed by the Superintendent effective October 1, 2010. Finally, the Superintendent will not oppose any employee incentive program that the Monitor deems reasonable and necessary or the creation of a trust with respect to claims or potential claims against persons who accept directorships of a Nortel Worldwide Entity in order to facilitate the restructuring.

#### Positions of the Parties on the Settlement Agreement

# The Applicants

- The Applicants take the position that the Settlement is fair and reasonable and balances the interests of the parties and other affected constituencies equitably. In this regard, counsel submits that the Settlement:
  - (a) eliminates uncertainty about the continuation and termination of benefits to pensioners, LTD Employees and survivors, thereby reducing hardship and disruption;
  - (b) eliminates the risk of costly and protracted litigation regarding Pension Claims and HWT Claims, leading to reduced costs, uncertainty and potential disruption to the development of a Plan;
  - (c) prevents disruption in the transition of benefits for current employees;

- (d) provides early payments to terminated employees in respect of their termination and severance claims where such employees would otherwise have had to wait for the completion of a claims process and distribution out of the estates;
- (e) assists with the commitment and retention of remaining employees essential to complete the Applicants' restructuring; and
- (f) does not eliminate Pension Claims or HWT Claims against the Applicants, but maintains their quantum and validity as ordinary and unsecured claims.
- Alternatively, absent the approval of the Settlement Agreement, counsel to the Applicants submits that the Applicants are not required to honour such benefits or make such payments and such benefits could cease immediately. This would cause undue hardship to beneficiaries and increased uncertainty for the Applicants and other stakeholders.
- The Applicants state that a central objective in the Settlement Agreement is to allow the Former and LTD Employees to transition to other sources of support.
- In the absence of the approval of the Settlement Agreement or some other agreement, a cessation of benefits will occur on March 31, 2010 which would have an immediate negative impact on Former and LTD Employees. The Applicants submit that extending payments to the end of 2010 is the best available option to allow recipients to order their affairs.
- Counsel to the Applicants submits that the Settlement Agreement brings Nortel closer to finalizing a plan of arrangement, which is consistent with the sprit and purpose of the CCAA. The Settlement Agreement resolves uncertainties associated with the outstanding Former and LTD Employee claims. The Settlement Agreement balances certainty with clarity, removing litigation risk over priority of claims, which properly balances the interests of the parties, including both creditors and debtors.
- Regarding the priority of claims going forward, the Applicants submit that because a deemed trust, such as the HWT, is not enforceable in bankruptcy, the Former and LTD Employees are by default *pari passu* with other unsecured creditors.
- In response to the Noteholders' concern that bankruptcy prior to October 2010 would create pension liabilities on the estate, the Applicants committed that they would not voluntarily enter into bankruptcy proceedings prior to October 2010. Further, counsel to the Applicants submits the court determines whether a bankruptcy order should be made if involuntary proceedings are commenced.
- Further, counsel to the Applicants submits that the court has the jurisdiction to release third parties under a Settlement Agreement where the releases (1) are connected to a resolution of the debtor's claims, (2) will benefit creditors generally and (3) are not overly broad or offensive to public policy. See *ATB Financial v. Metcalfe & Mansfield Alternative Investments II Corp.* (2008), 92 O.R. (3d) 513 (Ont. C.A.), [*Metcalfe*] at para. 71, leave to appeal refused, (S.C.C.) and *Grace Canada Inc.*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) [*Grace 2008*] at para. 40.
- The Applicants submit that a settlement of the type put forward should be approved if it is consistent with the spirit and purpose of the CCAA and is fair and reasonable in all the circumstances. Elements of fairness and reasonableness include balancing the interests of parties, including any objecting creditor or creditors, equitably (although not necessarily equally); and ensuring that the agreement is beneficial to the debtor and its stakeholders generally, as per *Air Canada*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) [*Air Canada*]. The Applicants assert that this test is met.

#### The Monitor

The Monitor supports the Settlement Agreement, submitting that it is necessary to allow the Applicants to wind down operations and to develop a plan of arrangement. The Monitor submits that the Settlement Agreement provides certainty, and does so with input from employee stakeholders. These stakeholders are represented by Employee Representatives as mandated by the court and these Employee Representatives were given the authority to approve such settlements on behalf of their constituents.

- The Monitor submits that Clause H.2 was bargained for, and that the employees did give up rights in order to have that clause in the Settlement Agreement; particularly, it asserts that Clause H.1 is the counterpoint to Clause H.2. In this regard, the Settlement Agreement is fair and reasonable.
- The Monitor asserts that the court may either (1) approve the Settlement Agreement, (2) not approve the Settlement Agreement, or (3) not approve the Settlement but provide practical comments on the applicability of Clause H.2.

# Former and LTD Employees

- The Former Employees' Representatives' constituents number an estimated 19,458 people. The LTD Employees number an estimated 350 people between the LTD Employee's Representative and the CAW-Canada, less the 37 people in the Opposing LTD Employee group.
- 36 Representative Counsel to the Former and LTD Employees acknowledges that Nortel is insolvent, and that much uncertainty and risk comes from insolvency. They urge that the Settlement Agreement be considered within the scope of this reality. The alternative to the Settlement Agreement is costly litigation and significant uncertainty.
- 37 Representative Counsel submits that the Settlement Agreement is fair and reasonable for all creditors, but especially the represented employees. Counsel notes that employees under Nortel are unique creditors under these proceedings, as they are not sophisticated creditors and their personal welfare depends on receiving distributions from Nortel. The Former and LTD Employees assert that this is the best agreement they could have negotiated.
- Representative Counsel submits that bargaining away of the right to litigate against directors and officers of the corporation, as well at the trustee of the HWT, are examples of the concessions that have been made. They also point to the giving up of the right to make priority claims upon distribution of Nortel's estate and the HWT, although the claim itself is not extinguished. In exchange, the Former and LTD Employees will receive guaranteed coverage until the end of 2010. The Former and LTD Employees submit that having money in hand today is better than uncertainty going forward, and that, on balance, this Settlement Agreement is fair and reasonable.
- In response to allegations that third party releases unacceptably compromise employees' rights, Representative Counsel accepts that this was a concession, but submits that it was satisfactory because the claims given up are risky, costly and very uncertain. The releases do not go beyond s. 5.1(2) of the CCAA, which disallows releases relating to misrepresentations and wrongful or oppressive conduct by directors. Releases as to deemed trust claims are also very uncertain and were acceptably given up in exchange for other considerations.
- 40 The Former and LTD Employees submit that the inclusion of Clause H.2 was essential to their approval of the Settlement Agreement. They characterize Clause H.2 as a no prejudice clause to protect the employees by not releasing any future potential benefit. Removing Clause H.2 from the Settlement Agreement would be not the approval of an agreement, but rather the creation of an entirely new Settlement Agreement. Counsel submits that without Clause H.2, the Former and LTD Employees would not be signatories.

# **CAW**

- 41 The CAW supports the Settlement Agreement. It characterizes the agreement as Nortel's recognition that it has a moral and legal obligation to its employees, whose rights are limited by the laws in this country. The Settlement Agreement temporarily alleviates the stress and uncertainty its constituents feel over the winding up of their benefits and is satisfied with this result.
- The CAW notes that some members feel they were not properly apprised of the facts, but all available information has been disclosed, and the concessions made by the employee groups were not made lightly.

#### **Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of Nortel supports the Settlement Agreement on the basis that it is a practical resolution with compromises on both sides.

### Opposing LTD Employees

- 44 Mr. Rochon appeared as counsel for the Opposing LTD Employees, notwithstanding that these individuals did not opt out of having Representative Counsel or were represented by the CAW. The submissions of the Opposing LTD Employees were compelling and the court extends it appreciation to Mr. Rochon and his team in co-ordinating the representatives of this group.
- The Opposing LTD Employees put forward the position that the cessation of their benefits will lead to extreme hardship. Counsel submits that the Settlement Agreement conflicts with the spirit and purpose of the CCAA because the LTD Employees are giving up legal rights in relation to a \$100 million shortfall of benefits. They urge the court to consider the unique circumstances of the LTD Employees as they are the people hardest hit by the cessation of benefits.
- The Opposing LTD Employees assert that the HWT is a true trust, and submit that breaches of that trust create liabilities and that the claim should not be released. Specifically, they point to a \$37 million shortfall in the HWT that they should be able to pursue.
- 47 Regarding the third party releases, the Opposing LTD Employees assert that Nortel is attempting to avoid the distraction of third party litigation, rather than look out for the best interests of the Former and LTD Employees. The Opposing LTD Employees urge the court not to release the only individuals the Former and LTD Employees can hold accountable for any breaches of trust. Counsel submits that Nortel has a common law duty to fund the HWT, which the Former and LTD Employees should be allowed to pursue.
- Counsel asserts that allowing these releases (a) is not necessary and essential to the restructuring of the debtor, (b) does not relate to the insolvency process, (c) is not required for the success of the Settlement Agreement, (d) does not meet the requirement that each party contribute to the plan in a material way and (e) is overly broad and therefore not fair and reasonable.
- 49 Finally, the Opposing LTD Employees oppose the *pari passu* treatment they will be subjected to under the Settlement Agreement, as they have a true trust which should grant them priority in the distribution process. Counsel was not able to provide legal authority for such a submission.
- A number of Opposing LTD Employees made in person submissions. They do not share the view that Nortel will act in their best interests, nor do they feel that the Employee Representatives or Representative Counsel have acted in their best interests. They shared feelings of uncertainty, helplessness and despair. There is affidavit evidence that certain individuals will be unable to support themselves once their benefits run out, and they will not have time to order their affairs. They expressed frustration and disappointment in the CCAA process.

#### **UCC**

- The UCC was appointed as the representative for creditors in the U.S. Chapter 11 proceedings. It represents creditors who have significant claims against the Applicants. The UCC opposes the motion, based on the inclusion of Clause H.2, but otherwise the UCC supports the Settlement Agreement.
- Clause H.2, the UCC submits, removes the essential element of finality that a settlement agreement is supposed to include. The UCC characterizes Clause H.2 as a take back provision; if activated, the Former and LTD Employees have compromised nothing, to the detriment of other unsecured creditors. A reservation of rights removes the finality of the Settlement Agreement.
- The UCC claims it, not Nortel, bears the risk of Clause H.2. As the largest unsecured creditor, counsel submits that a future change to the BIA could subsume the UCC's claim to the Former and LTD Employees and the UCC could end up with nothing at all, depending on Nortel's asset sales.

#### Noteholders

- The Noteholders are significant creditors of the Applicants. The Noteholders oppose the settlement because of Clause H.2, for substantially the same reasons as the UCC.
- Counsel to the Noteholders submits that the inclusion of H.2 is prejudicial to the non-employee unsecured creditors, including the Noteholders. Counsel submits that the effect of the Settlement Agreement is to elevate the Former and LTD Employees, providing them a payout of \$57 million over nine months while everyone else continues to wait, and preserves their rights in the event the laws are amended in future. Counsel to the Noteholders submits that the Noteholders forego millions of dollars while remaining exposed to future claims.
- The Noteholders assert that a proper settlement agreement must have two elements: a real compromise, and resolution of the matters in contention. In this case, counsel submits that there is no resolution because there is no finality in that Clause H.2 creates ambiguity about the future. The very object of a Settlement Agreement, assert the Noteholders, is to avoid litigation by withdrawing claims, which this agreement does not do.

#### Superintendent

57 The Superintendent does not oppose the relief sought, but this position is based on the form of the Settlement Agreement that is before the Court.

#### Northern Trust

Northern Trust, the trustee of the pension plans and HWT, takes no position on the Settlement Agreement as it takes instructions from Nortel. Northern Trust indicates that an oversight left its name off the third party release and asks for an amendment to include it as a party released by the Settlement Agreement.

#### Law and Analysis

### A. Representation and Notice Were Proper

- It is well settled that the Former Employees' Representatives and the LTD Representative (collectively, the "Settlement Employee Representatives") and Representative Counsel have the authority to represent the Former Employees and the LTD Beneficiaries for purposes of entering into the Settlement Agreement on their behalf: *see Grace 2008, supra* at para 32.
- The court appointed the Settlement Employee Representatives and the Representative Settlement Counsel. These appointment orders have not been varied or appealed. Unionized employees continue to be represented by the CAW. The Orders appointing the Settlement Employee Representatives expressly gave them authority to represent their constituencies "for the purpose of settling or compromising claims" in these Proceedings. Former Employees and LTD Employees were given the right to opt out of their representation by Representative Settlement Counsel. After provision of notice, only one former employee and one active employee exercised the opt-out right.

#### B. Effect of the Settlement Approval Order

- In addition to the binding effect of the Settlement Agreement, many additional parties will be bound and affected by the Settlement Approval Order. Counsel to the Applicants submits that the binding nature of the Settlement Approval Order on all affected parties is a crucial element to the Settlement itself. In order to ensure all Affected Parties had notice, the Applicants obtained court approval of their proposed notice program.
- Even absent such extensive noticing, virtually all employees of the Applicants are represented in these proceedings. In addition to the representative authority of the Settlement Employee Representatives and Representative Counsel as noted

above, Orders were made authorizing a Nortel Canada Continuing Employees' Representative and Nortel Canada Continuing Employees' Representative Counsel to represent the interests of continuing employees on this motion.

- I previously indicated that "the overriding objective of appointing representative counsel for employees is to ensure that the employees have representation in the CCAA process": *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) at para 16. I am satisfied that this objective has been achieved.
- The Record establishes that the Monitor has undertaken a comprehensive notice process which has included such notice to not only the Former Employees, the LTD Employees, the unionized employees and the continuing employees but also the provincial pension regulators and has given the opportunity for any affected person to file Notices of Appearance and appear before this court on this motion.
- 65 I am satisfied that the notice process was properly implemented by the Monitor.
- I am satisfied that Representative Counsel has represented their constituents' interests in accordance with their mandate, specifically, in connection with the negotiation of the Settlement Agreement and the draft Settlement Approval Order and appearance on this Motion. There have been intense discussions, correspondence and negotiations among Representative Counsel, the Monitor, the Applicants, the Superintendent, counsel to the Board of the Applicants, the Noteholder Group and the Committee with a view to developing a comprehensive settlement. NCCE's Representative Counsel have been apprised of the settlement discussions and served with notice of this Motion. Representatives have held Webinar sessions and published press releases to inform their constituents about the Settlement Agreement and this Motion.

### C. Jurisdiction to Approve the Settlement Agreement

- The CCAA is a flexible statute that is skeletal in nature. It has been described as a "sketch, an outline, a supporting framework for the resolution of corporate insolvencies in the public interest". *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) at paras. 28-29, citing *Metcalfe*, *supra*, at paras. 44 and 61.
- 68 Three sources for the court's authority to approve pre-plan agreements have been recognized:
  - (a) the power of the court to impose terms and conditions on the granting of a stay under s. 11(4) of the CCAA;
  - (b) the power of the court to make an order "on such terms as it may impose" pursuant to s. 11(4) of the CCAA; and
  - (c) the inherent jurisdiction of the court to "fill in the gaps" of the CCAA in order to give effect to its objects: see *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) at para. 30, citing *Canadian Red Cross Society / Société Canadianne de la Croix-Rouge*, *Re* (Ont. Gen. Div. [Commercial List]) [Canadian Red Cross] at para. 43; *Metcalfe*, *supra* at para. 44.
- In *Stelco Inc.*, *Re* (2005), 78 O.R. (3d) 254 (Ont. C.A.), the Ontario Court of Appeal considered the court's jurisdiction under the CCAA to approve agreements, determining at para. 14 that it is not limited to preserving the *status quo*. Further, agreements made prior to the finalization of a plan or compromise are valid orders for the court to approve: *Grace 2008*, *supra* at para. 34.
- In these proceedings, this court has confirmed its jurisdiction to approve major transactions, including settlement agreements, during the stay period defined in the Initial Order and prior to the proposal of any plan of compromise or arrangement: see, for example, *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]); *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) and *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re*, 2010 ONSC 1096 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]).
- I am satisfied that this court has jurisdiction to approve transactions, including settlements, in the course of overseeing proceedings during a CCAA stay period and prior to any plan of arrangement being proposed to creditors: see *Calpine Canada Energy Ltd.*, *Re* (Alta. C.A. [In Chambers]) [*Calpine*] at para. 23, affirming (Alta. Q.B.); *Canadian Red Cross, supra*; *Air Canada, supra*; *Grace 2008, supra*, and *Grace Canada Inc.*, *Re* (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]) [*Grace 2010*], leave to appeal to the C.A. refused February 19, 2010; *Nortel Networks Corp.*, *Re*, 2010 ONSC 1096 (Ont. S.C.J. [Commercial List]).

# D. Should the Settlement Agreement Be Approved?

- Having been satisfied that this court has the jurisdiction to approve the Settlement Agreement, I must consider whether the Settlement Agreement *should* be approved.
- A Settlement Agreement can be approved if it is consistent with the spirit and purpose of the CCAA and is fair and reasonable in all circumstances. What makes a settlement agreement fair and reasonable is its balancing of the interests of all parties; its equitable treatment of the parries, including creditors who are not signatories to a settlement agreement; and its benefit to the Applicant and its stakeholders generally.
- i) Sprit and Purpose
- The CCAA is a flexible instrument; part of its purpose is to allow debtors to balance the conflicting interests of stakeholders. The Former and LTD Employees are significant creditors and have a unique interest in the settlement of their claims. This Settlement Agreement brings these creditors closer to ultimate settlement while accommodating their special circumstances. It is consistent with the spirit and purpose of the CCAA.
- ii) Balancing of Parties' Interests
- 75 There is no doubt that the Settlement Agreement is comprehensive and that it has support from a number of constituents when considered in its totality.
- There is, however, opposition from certain constituents on two aspects of the proposed Settlement Agreement: (1) the Opposing LTD Employees take exception to the inclusion of the third party releases; (2) the UCC and Noteholder Groups take exception to the inclusion of Clause H.2.

# Third Party Releases

- Representative Counsel, after examining documentation pertaining to the Pension Plans and HWT, advised the Former Employees' Representatives and Disabled Employees' Representative that claims against directors of Nortel for failing to properly fund the Pension Plans were unlikely to succeed. Further, Representative Counsel advised that claims against directors or others named in the Third Party Releases to fund the Pension Plans were risky and could take years to resolve, perhaps unsuccessfully. This assisted the Former Employees' Representatives and the Disabled Employees' Representative in agreeing to the Third Party Releases.
- The conclusions reached and the recommendations made by both the Monitor and Representative Counsel are consistent. They have been arrived at after considerable study of the issues and, in my view, it is appropriate to give significant weight to their positions.
- 79 In *Grace 2008*, *supra*, and *Grace 2010*, *supra*, I indicated that a Settlement Agreement entered into with Representative Counsel that contains third party releases is fair and reasonable where the releases are necessary and connected to a resolution of claims against the debtor, will benefit creditors generally and are not overly broad or offensive to public policy.
- 80 In this particular case, I am satisfied that the releases are necessary and connected to a resolution of claims against the Applicants.
- The releases benefit creditors generally as they reduces the risk of litigation against the Applicants and their directors, protect the Applicants against potential contribution claims and indemnity claims by certain parties, including directors, officers and the HWT Trustee; and reduce the risk of delay caused by potentially complex litigation and associated depletion of assets to fund potentially significant litigation costs.

82 Further, in my view, the releases are not overly broad or offensive to public policy. The claims being released specifically relate to the subject matter of the Settlement Agreement. The parties granting the release receive consideration in the form of both immediate compensation and the maintenance of their rights in respect to the distribution of claims.

#### Clause H.2

- 83 The second aspect of the Settlement Agreement that is opposed is the provision known as Clause H.2. Clause H.2 provides that, in the event of a bankruptcy of the Applicants, and notwithstanding any provision of the Settlement Agreement, if there are any amendments to the BIA that change the current, relative priorities of the claims against the Applicants, no party is precluded from arguing the applicability or non-applicability of any such amendment in relation to any such claim.
- The Noteholders and UCC assert that Clause H.2 causes the Settlement Agreement to not be a "settlement" in the true and proper sense of that term due to a lack of certainty and finality. They emphasize that Clause H.2 has the effect of undercutting the essential compromises of the Settlement Agreement in imposing an unfair risk on the non-employee creditors of NNL, including NNI, after substantial consideration has been paid to the employees.
- This position is, in my view, well founded. The inclusion of the Clause H.2 creates, rather than eliminates, uncertainty. It creates the potential for a fundamental alteration of the Settlement Agreement.
- 86 The effect of the Settlement Agreement is to give the Former and LTD Employees preferred treatment for certain claims, notwithstanding that priority is not provided for in the statute nor has it been recognized in case law. In exchange for this enhanced treatment, the Former Employees and LTD Beneficiaries have made certain concessions.
- The Former and LTD Employees recognize that substantially all of these concessions could be clawed back through Clause H.2. Specifically, they acknowledge that future Pension and HWT Claims will rank *pari passu* with the claims of other ordinary unsecured creditors, but then go on to say that should the BIA be amended, they may assert once again a priority claim.
- 88 Clause H.2 results in an agreement that does not provide certainty and does not provide finality of a fundamental priority issue.
- The Settlement Parties, as well as the Noteholders and the UCC, recognize that there are benefits associated with resolving a number of employee-related issues, but the practical effect of Clause H.2 is that the issue is not fully resolved. In my view, Clause H.2 is somewhat inequitable from the standpoint of the other unsecured creditors of the Applicants. If the creditors are to be bound by the Settlement Agreement, they are entitled to know, with certainty and finality, the effect of the Settlement Agreement.
- It is not, in my view, reasonable to require creditors to, in effect, make concessions in favour of the Former and LTD Employees today, and be subject to the uncertainty of unknown legislation in the future.
- One of the fundamental purposes of the CCAA is to facilitate a process for a compromise of debt. A compromise needs certainty and finality. Clause H.2 does not accomplish this objective. The inclusion of Clause H.2 does not recognize that at some point settlement negotiations cease and parties bound by the settlement have to accept the outcome. A comprehensive settlement of claims in the magnitude and complexity contemplated by the Settlement Agreement should not provide an opportunity to re-trade the deal after the fact.
- 92 The Settlement Agreement should be fair and reasonable in all the circumstances. It should balance the interests of the Settlement Parties and other affected constituencies equitably and should be beneficial to the Applicants and their stakeholders generally.
- 93 It seems to me that Clause H.2 fails to recognize the interests of the other creditors of the Applicants. These creditors have claims that rank equally with the claims of the Former Employees and LTD Employees. Each have unsecured claims against the Applicants. The Settlement Agreement provides for a transfer of funds to the benefit of the Former Employees and LTD

Employees at the expense of the remaining creditors. The establishment of the Payments Charge crystallized this agreed upon preference, but Clause H.2 has the effect of not providing any certainty of outcome to the remaining creditors.

- I do not consider Clause H.2 to be fair and reasonable in the circumstances.
- 95 In light of this conclusion, the Settlement Agreement cannot be approved in its current form.
- Counsel to the Noteholder Group also made submissions that three other provisions of the Settlement Agreement were unreasonable and unfair, namely:
  - (i) ongoing exposure to potential liability for pension claims if a bankruptcy order is made before October 1, 2010;
  - (ii) provisions allowing payments made to employees to be credited against employees' claims made, rather than from future distributions or not to be credited at all; and
  - (iii) lack of clarity as to whether the proposed order is binding on the Superintendent in all of his capacities under the *Pension Benefits Act* and other applicable law, and not merely in his capacity as Administrator on behalf of the Pension Benefits Guarantee Fund.
- The third concern was resolved at the hearing with the acknowledgement by counsel to the Superintendent that the proposed order would be binding on the Superintendent in all of his capacities.
- With respect to the concern regarding the potential liability for pension claims if a bankruptcy order is made prior to October 1, 2010, counsel for the Applicants undertook that the Applicants would not take any steps to file a voluntary assignment into bankruptcy prior to October 1, 2010. Although such acknowledgment does not bind creditors from commencing involuntary bankruptcy proceedings during this time period, the granting of any bankruptcy order is preceded by a court hearing. The Noteholders would be in a position to make submissions on this point, if so advised. This concern of the Noteholders is not one that would cause me to conclude that the Settlement Agreement was unreasonable and unfair.
- Finally, the Noteholder Group raised concerns with respect to the provision which would allow payments made to employees to be credited against employees' claims made, rather than from future distributions, or not to be credited at all. I do not view this provision as being unreasonable and unfair. Rather, it is a term of the Settlement Agreement that has been negotiated by the Settlement Parties. I do note that the proposed treatment with respect to any payments does provide certainty and finality and, in my view, represents a reasonable compromise in the circumstances.

#### Disposition

- I recognize that the proposed Settlement Agreement was arrived at after hard-fought and lengthy negotiations. There are many positive aspects of the Settlement Agreement. I have no doubt that the parties to the Settlement Agreement consider that it represents the best agreement achievable under the circumstances. However, it is my conclusion that the inclusion of Clause H.2 results in a flawed agreement that cannot be approved.
- I am mindful of the submission of counsel to the Former and LTD Employees that if the Settlement Agreement were approved, with Clause H.2 excluded, this would substantively alter the Settlement Agreement and would, in effect, be a creation of a settlement and not the approval of one.
- In addition, counsel to the Superintendent indicated that the approval of the Superintendent was limited to the proposed Settlement Agreement and would not constitute approval of any altered agreement.
- In *Grace 2008*, *supra*, I commented that a line-by-line analysis was inappropriate and that approval of a settlement agreement was to be undertaken in its entirety or not at all, at para. 74. A similar position was taken by the New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench in *Wandlyn Inns Limited (Re)* (1992), 15 C.B.R. (3d) 316 (N.B. Q.B.). I see no reason or basis to deviate from this position.

- 104 Accordingly, the motion is dismissed.
- In view of the timing of the timing of the release of this decision and the functional funding deadline of March 31, 2010, the court will make every effort to accommodate the parties if further directions are required.
- Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to all counsel and in person parties for the quality of written and oral submissions.

Motion dismissed.

#### Footnotes

On March 25, 2010, the Supreme Court of Canada released the following: *Donald Sproule et al. v. Nortel Networks Corporation et al.* (Ont.) (Civil) (By Leave) (33491) (The motions for directions and to expedite the application for leave to appeal are dismissed. The application for leave to appeal is dismissed with no order as to costs./La requête en vue d'obtenir des directives et la requête visant à accélérer la procédure de demande d'autorisation d'appel sont rejetées. La demande d'autorisation d'appel est rejetée; aucune ordonnance n'est rendue concernant les dépens.): <a href="http://scc.lexum.umontreal.ca/en/news\_release/2010/10-03-25.3a/10-03-25.3a/10-03-25.3a.html">http://scc.lexum.umontreal.ca/en/news\_release/2010/10-03-25.3a/10-03-25.3a.html</a>

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Court File No: CV-12-9667-00CL; CV-11-431153-00CP

# ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

Proceeding commenced at TORONTO

# BOOK OF AUTHORITIES OF THE MOVING PARTY, DAVID HORSLEY

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