

**FERC 2015/16 End of Year Report**

Presented to Council on:

April 7th, 2016

Ben Ger – FERC Coordinator

Ben Ger

# Introduction & Brief Summary:

Since the passing of the Ethical Investment Plan (EIP), the Financial Ethics Research Committee (FERC) has been in charge of bi-annual reviews of SSMU’s Investment portfolio. These investments are run through a set of screens, and dependent on the outcome, a recommendation for further research, maintaining the holding, or immediate divestment will be made to SSMU council. The screens include:

1. Any involvement in **Tar Sands,**
2. **Tobacco/Gambling/Pornography,**
3. **Armaments Manufacturing,**
4. **Companies that do business without consent on native land,**
5. **Companies that lobby to do business without consent on native land.**

The committee does recognize a fourth recommendation option entitled “Shareholders Advocacy” that investments may also be labeled as if they violate one or more of the screens, but still display promising behavior otherwise. In these cases the FERC would be mandated to contact the company and express their concerns, to which a following decision on divestment would be made based on those discussions. However, no holdings listed in this 2015/2016 report were labeled as such.

The portfolio currently consist of 56 holdings, all together valued at ~ $3 million ($2,966,734.44). The portfolio experienced some substantial growth since last semesters $2,770,717.47. However, this report will only be documenting & reviewing 40 of those 49, since 7 of these holdings are in different parts of the same company. The duplicate investments are as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Bell | Cominar | Corus Entertainment | Sirius | Direct Cash | Laurentian Bank | Quebecore Media Inc |
| **BELL CANADA** | **COMINAR REIT** | **CORUS ENT RGS** | **SIRUS CB17** | **DIREC144A C16** | **LBC MTN C15** | **QUE 144A RST** |
| **BELL CDA M32** | **COMINAR S1** | **CORUS ENTERTAINMENT-B NV** | **SIRUS XM CDA HLDGS INC** | **DIRECT CASH PAYMENTS INC** | **LBC SR DEP NT** | **QUEBECOR C16** |
| **BELL CDA M36** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** |
| **BCE INC** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** |

The subsequent reviews are done considering information from previous years reports, as well as new research done by the 2015/2016 FERC committee members in the Midyear Report:

Justin Chisholm, Zacheriah Houston, Jimmy Huang, Buland Junenjo, Gabe Miller, Kristen Perry, and Marina Smailes.

# Preliminary Numbers:

Socially Responsible Investments: 46

Divestment Recommended: 1

More Research Needed: 2

No Information Found: 0

# Growth & Change in the Portfolio:

**Socially Responsible Investments**

There has been as 13% *increase* in percentage of the portfolio made up by, and number the holding labeled as socially responsible investments since last semester (67% in 2014/15, 75% in 2015/16, and now 92% in Winter 2016).

FERC – Investment Portfolio Holdings Analysis 1

*Research Credited to Justin Chisholm*

INNERGEX RENEWABLE ENERGY (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*Innergex Renewable Energy is a publically traded company and so information on performance and social responsiblity were readily available through their website if not already through media coverage and independent reports.*

Brief Background Information:

* Innergex Renewable Energy (INE) is an independent power production company that was founded in Quebec and has since spread its business across Canada. INE headquarters are located in Longueuil, Quebec.
* INE invests in four reportable segments of the renewable energy sector: hydroelectric production (26 facilities), wind power production (six farms), solar power production (one farm), and site development and management (Numbers represents installed capacity as of April 2015).
* INE’s stock today sits at about the midpoint between its low and high trading values this year. It is currently nearly unchanged over the last year to date.
  + -2.99%
  + [Acquired Cloudworks Energy Inc in 2011](http://www.fasken.com/en/cloudworks-energy-acquired-by-innergex-renewable-energy-in-187-million-transaction/)
* INE’s stock today sits at about the midpoint between its low and high trading values this year. It is currently nearly unchanged over the last year to date.
  + Founded in 1990 and headquarters in Montreal and Vancouver.

Recent Activity of Note:

March 2014

1. INE and Hydro-Quebec sign [$365 million deal](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/montreal/innergex-and-hydro-qu%C3%A9bec-pen-365m-deal-for-gasp%C3%A9-wind-farm-1.2584151) with 3 Mi’kmaq communities for Gaspe windfarm.

March 2015

1. [INE halts development](http://www.ammsa.com/publications/windspeaker/development-nodinosi-prospective-wind-project-stop) of the Nodinosi wind project citing that they “strongly believe in a collaborative approach to project development, because social acceptability is essential to a successful project” (Morin 2015).

April 17 2015

1. INE and Saik’uz First Nation of British Columbia sign [50-50 partnership](http://www.innergex.com/wp-content/uploads/saikuz_agreement_17_04_2015_en.pdf) to develop a wind energy project at Nulki Hills.

- "We have had a very positive relationship with Innergex to date and we are extremely pleased to enter into a partnership with them,” said Saik’uz First Nations Chief Stanley Thomas. “We are excited about the new opportunities the Nulki Hills project will bring for our community, and we are confident that they will take place in a manner that is respectful of the environment, our culture and our constitutional aboriginal rights, titles and interest” (Stanley Thomas, Saik’uz First Nation Chief).

FIRST CAP-K  (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*First Capital Reality (FIRST CAP-K) is publically traded on the TSX. The Brief Background, recent activity and subsequent ethical determination is based off the public information supplied by the company website and subsequent searches.*

Brief Background Information:

* Canada’s leading owner, developer and manager of, mostly grocery, urban properties
* Models long term growth through sustainable cash flow and property appreciation.
* Growth in this year to date is 4.77% and more recently has been given a [“consensus buy rating”](http://www.themarketbusiness.com/2015-10-15-first-capital-realty-given-consensus-recommendation-of-buy-by-analysts-tsefcr) by six analysts covering the firm.
* Subsidiary of Gazit-Globe Inc. (44.1% owned) which has subsidiaries in Germany and Brazil.
* Headquarters located in Toronto, ON.

Recent Activity of Note:

2014

1. Has been releasing annual “Corporate Responsiblity and Sustainability (CRS) Reports.” Most recently, recognized as the highest ranking Canadian real estate company and sixth company overall in [Corporate Knights Inaugural Future 40 Responsible Corporate Leaders in Canada](http://www.corporateknights.com/reports/2014-future-40/2014-future-40-results-14115583/).

GUARDIAN CAPITAL CORP (TO BE DECIDED)

*Guardian Capital Corporation (GUARDIAN CAPITAL CORP)  is publically traded on the TSX. The Brief Background, recent activity and subsequent ethical determination is based off the public information supplied by the company website and subsequent searches.*

Brief Background Information:

* Canadian financial services company that owns operates subsidiaries providing investment management, financial advisory, general corporate services, and reatil distribution of mutual funds and insurance.
* Growth in this year to date is -8.40% and its status was downgraded to [“hold”](http://business.financialpost.com/investing/trading-desk/guardian-capital-group-ltd-downgraded-to-hold) from “buy” in August of this year.
* Currently a [subsidiary](http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/bank-of-montreal-buys-guardian-fund-group-1.289826) of the Bank of Montreal (BMO), so its value is linked to that of BMO
* Headquarters located in Toronto, ON.
* Publically listed on the TSE as of 1969, founded in 1962

Recent Activity of Note:

March 29, 2016

1. Guardian Capital buys $135.8 Million shares in Pembina Pipeline Corp.
   1. The management company now owns 5,166,957 shares in PPC out of the available 375.91 million (1.37%).
   2. This is not enough to break the Conglomerate Divestment Threshold, but it is worth keeping on eye on GCC in case they decide to acquire more.

INPUT CAPITAL CORP (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*Input Capital Corporation (INPUT CAPITAL CORP)  is publically traded on the TSX. The Brief Background, recent activity and subsequent ethical determination is based off the public information supplied by the company website and subsequent searches.*

Brief Background Information:

* [Canadian agricultural commodity streaming company](http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/10/07/us-canada-canola-financing-idUSKCN0S12ER20151007?type=companyNews#p0LaK1RGTU6OJIq9.97) that enters commodity streaming, (mostly canola) contracts across western Canada. Pays farmers upfront amount for fixed amount of canola produced annually.
* Growth in this year to date is 22.73% and its status is listed as [“buy”](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-investor/markets/stocks/summary/?q=INP-X) according to seven analysts surveyed by Reuters.
* Headquarters located in Saskatchewan, SK.
* There is little historical background information on this company as most available information decribes how they do business today. This leads me to believe

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

GFL ENV RGS (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*Green For Life Corporation (GFL)  is publically traded on the TSX. The Brief Background, recent activity and subsequent ethical determination is based off the public information supplied by the company website and subsequent searches. However, trading information on this company was not readily available at the time of this report.*

Brief Background Information:

* Green For Life Corporation is a company that operates in liquid and solid waste management that ranges from industrial/commercial/insitutional (ICI) to municipal and residential.
* Growth in this year to date is ???
* Headquarters located in Vaughan, ON.

Recent Activity of Note:

2014

* Previously working out of central Canada but in 2014 made six acquisitions, from Atlantic Canada to Alberta, totalling [$200 million.](http://business.financialpost.com/news/fp-street/sp-gives-gfl-environmental-a-one-notch-downgrade) Further solidifying its commitment to [growing](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-magazine/business-is-picking-up-at-garbage-upstart-green-for-life/article22759312/) its waste disposal business across Canada.

I/R-EMERA CV (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*Emera Inc. (EMA)  is publically traded on the TSX. The Brief Background, recent activity and subsequent ethical determination is based off the public information supplied by the company website and subsequent searches.*

Brief Background Information:

* Emera Inc. is an energy and services company that owns and invests in electricity generation, transmission and distribution, gas transmission, utility services, energy marketing and trading services, and other energy-related management services.
* Growth in this year to date is 11.21%
* Headquarters located in Halifax, NS.

Recent Activity of Note:

2014

1. Previously working out of central Canada but in 2014 made six acquisitions, from Atlantic Canada to Alberta, totalling [$200 million.](http://business.financialpost.com/news/fp-street/sp-gives-gfl-environmental-a-one-notch-downgrade) Further solidifying its commitment to [growing](http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-magazine/business-is-picking-up-at-garbage-upstart-green-for-life/article22759312/) its waste disposal business across Canada.

FERC – Investment Portfolio Holdings Analysis 2

*Research Credited to Ben Ger*

## SHAW COMM (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Provides broadcast cable television, Internet, and satellite services.
* Located in Calgary Canada.

Recent Activity of Note:

March, 11, 2015

1. Shaw Communications underpaid at least two employees by declaring them independent contractors when they should have been full-time employees.

## CAPSTONE CV (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Precious and base metals mining company
* Projects in Canada, Mexico, and Chile
* Head office is located in Vancouver, Canada
* Owns the following companies:
  + Pinto Valley Copper Mining
    - Previously owned by BHP’s Billiton Ltd.
  + Far West Mining
    - In partnership with Korea Resources Corporation
  + Nevada Copper Corp

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity from Capstone or any of its subsidiaries.

## BLACKSTONE VENTURES (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Mineral exploitations company
  + Only owns asset in Sulphite Nickel mines
  + 100% of them are located Northern Sweden
* Based out of Vancouver, BC.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity from Capstone or any of its subsidiaries.

## RONA CB (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Provides “home improvement” and gardening tools to commercial and residential customers.
* Headquarters located in Quebec.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## VIDEOTRON (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Owned by **Quebecor Media**
  1. Broadcasting company that also operates in the following fields:
     1. Publishing, distribution, multimedia, and broadcasting
* **Videotron** works in the communications sector
  1. Cable TV
  2. Internet Services
  3. Telephone Services

Recent Activity of Note:

September 16th, 2015

1. Subsidiary *Videotron* to spent $40 million to build Montreal data centre
   1. <http://www.quebecor.com/en/comm/videotron-spend-40-million-build-montréal-data-centre>

## SANDVINE CORP (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Based out of Waterloo, ON
* Develop and market broadband network management tools for internet service providers.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## VERESEN INC (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Based out of Calgary, AL
* Owns and operates energy infrastructure assets across North America
* Currently has numerous projects in wind farm, natural gas extraction, and natural gas pipelines.
* Though one member of its board comes from a background in oil-sands extraction, none the its companies projects or investments are in tar sands, or coal burning power plants.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## SAVARIA CORPORATION (SIS) (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Based out of Laval, QC
* Designs, manufactures, and distributes equipment for people with special needs.
  1. Vertical Lifts
  2. Inclined Lifts
  3. Stairlifts
  4. Wheelchair accessible vans
  5. Residential (home) & commercial elevators
* They current sell to both Canadian and American markets.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## CLC INDUSTRIES(SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Based out of Bloomingdale, IL
* Electrical contractor, providing
  1. Lighting solutions
  2. High Voltage Installations
  3. Outdoor Lighting
  4. Maintenance
  5. Servicing Electrical systems

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

FERC – Investment Portfolio Holdings Analysis 3

*Research Credited to Jimmy Huang*

## CORUS ENTERTAINMENT (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Headquartered in Toronto.
* Corus Entertainment is a public media and broadcasting company known for Canadian specialty television primarily for children
* Corus owns:
  + YTV
  + Teletoon
  + Nelvana animation studio
  + Kids Can Press book publisher
  + Localized versions of Nickelodeon, Cartoon Network, and Disney Channel
  + Operate 39 Canadian radio stations
* It is to be noted that while the Shaw family own majority control of both Corus as well as Shaw Communications, and Corus was formed from Shaw Communications’ media assets, they are both independent public companies with different management teams though they do seem to have a close relationship.
* For full information on corporate structure: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca/ownership/eng/cht032c.pdf>
* Corus Entertainment has been doing fairly poorly:
  + From $25 to $13.3 stock price decline within the past year (partly due to declining cable demand)
  + Ad revenue fell 11 percent compared to last year’s third quarter (July 2015)
  + Subscriber revenue fell 3 percent and radio revenue fell 7 percent

Recent Activity of Note:

2015

1. Some specialty television subsidiaries of Corus Entertainment regularly encourage cultural diversity, equity, and educational programs for children.
2. The Kids Can Press book publisher is very responsible when it comes to diversity and equity.

March, 11, 2015

1. Shaw Communications underpaid at least two employees by declaring them independent contractors when they should have been full-time employees.
2. Since Shaw Communications have close relations with Corus Entertainment I’ve included this event, however, it is to be noted that they are completely different companies with different management and directors.

## COMINAR (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

*As a large REIT with over 6100 customers, it is not a guarantee that all of Cominar’s leasees practice social responsibility. This report isolates Cominar’s actions from the actions of its leasees as long as Cominar does not encourage any leasee actions that fail our screens.*

Brief Background Information:

* Cominar REIT is an unincorporated, closed-end REIT with publically traded units started by Jules Dallaire in Quebec City
* Cominar REIT was created in 1998 by acquiring Cominar Inc.’s commercial real estate portfolio and integrating all of Cominar Inc.’s staff to Cominar REIT
* The third largest diversified REIT in Canada with 564 retail, office, and industrial properties
* Has $8.3 billion in assets located in Ontario, Quebec, Atlantic Provinces, and Western Canada

Recent Activity of Note:

August, 16, 2014

1. Cominar REIT acquired 15 properties in Quebec and Ontario for $1.527 billion from Ivanhoe Cambridge Inc.

## DIRECTCASH PAYMENTS INC (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* DirectCash Payments Inc. is a full service provider of payment processing and ATM solutions; they deploy, operate, and service ATMs
* Provides transaction-processing services for financial institutions, corporations, retailers, and the government.
* Their operations are segmented in Canada/Mexico, Australia/New Zealand, and Europe.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## EQUITABLE GROUP INC (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* Equitable Group Inc. is a financial services company that wholly owns and operates through the federally regulated and Toronto-based schedule 1 bank, Equitable Bank.
* Started in 1970 as The Equitable Trust Company, Equitable Bank gained approval to form a Schedule 1 bank in 2013
* Equitable Bank provides mortgage loans to commercial borrowers as well as families and businesses. They usually use brokers to target high-risk borrowers like new immigrant families at higher interest rates to compensate for the added risk.
* Equitable Bank also provides savings accounts and GICs.

Recent Activity of Note:

September 15, 2011

1. In one of the biggest cases of mortgage lending fraud in Canada, Manzoor Moorshed Khan (president of Channel Property Management) borrowed money against condo residents without their knowledge.
   1. In the following suit, it has been alleged that Khan faked a bylaw without the board’s knowledge and falsified a series of legal documents in order to obtain the loans. Misappropriation of funds is estimated by lawyers to exceed $20 million.
   2. Equitable Trust lent money to Khan through 4 different loans tied to Channel Properties that totaled to approximately $14 million. One of the condo corporations is taking action to sue Khan and several other financing firms, including Equitable Trust for $3.1 million. (NEEDS MORE SOURCES)
   3. Many immigrant families that bought those condos were left with exuberant management fees after the fraud and low property value.
   4. Though Equitable Trust may also be a victim, they also have a fiduciary responsibility. By lending, Equitable Trust’s alleged involvement in the fraud seems to be at its best oversight and at its worst complicity.

## FAIRFAX FINANCIAL (NOT SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*As a large financial holdings company with approximately $31.7 billion in assets, it is not a guarantee that all of Fairfax’s subsidiaries and investments are socially responsible. This report attempts to determine, to a reasonable degree, whether Fairfax Financial and its direct subsidiaries actively engage in socially irresponsible actions.*

Brief Background Information:

* A financial holdings company based in Toronto with total assets of approximately $31.7 billion.
* Fairfax Financial through its subsidiaries engages in life, casualty, and property insurance. They also engage in investment management and insurance claims management.
* Fairfax owns:
  + Odyssey Re (which in turn also owns 4.8% of the Jordan Kuwait Bank)
  + Northbridge Financial
  + Crum & Forster
  + Zenith Insurance Company
  + Falcon Insurance
  + First Capital
  + The U.S. runoff group
  + The European runoff group
  + Cunningham Lindsey
  + MFXchange
  + Group Re
  + ICICI Lombard
* Fairfax and its subsidiaries are also invested in a host of other companies and common stocks (including Jordan Kuwait Bank (4.8%), CanWest Global Communications (22.41%), Intel Corp, etc.)
* Because Fairfax now owns more than 30% of AbitibiBowater (see recent activity, below), the FERC recommends divestment from this stock.

Recent Activity of Note:

May 15, 2014

1. Fairfax, the second largest shareholder in Blackberry Ltd., sells 5.2 million Blackberry shares. It now has 46.7 million shares (or 8.9% stake) in Blackberry.

May 31, 2008

1. Fairfax made a $350 million investment into AbitibiBowater Inc., which is now known as Resolute Forest Products.
   1. This equates to 35 million of AbitibiBowater’s 89.6 million available shares (or 39.06% of the company)
2. Resolute Forest Products is a pulp and paper manufacturer company that has been criticized by Greenpeace for advanced logging and road building in endangered species’ habitat in Ontario and Quebec. The Forest Stewardship Council in 2013 found Resolute violating principles relating to indigenous People’s rights, environmental impacts, and forest benefits.

## FP NEWSPAPERS INC (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

Brief Background Information:

* FP Newspapers Inc. owns securities entitling it to approximately 49% of the distributable cash of FP Canadian Newspapers Limited Partnership (FPLP).
* FPLP owns:
  + The Winnipeg Free Press
  + The Brandon Sun
  + The Canstar Community news station
  + Derksen Printers
* The Winnipeg Free Press and the Brandon Sun are newspaper companies in Manitoba. Derksen printers is a printing and publishing company.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

FERC – Investment Portfolio Holdings Analysis 4

*Research Credited to Buland Junejo*

## SIRIUS (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

[*http://www.siriusxm.ca/what-is-siriusxm/*](http://www.siriusxm.ca/what-is-siriusxm/)

*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sirius\_XM\_Holdings#Post-merger*

Brief Background Information:

* SiriusXM Holdings is an American broadcasting company (headquarters New York) that provides three satellite radio services opertating in the USA, Sirius satellite radio, XM satellite radio and Sirius XM radio. The company also has a Canadian subsidiary called Sirius XM Canada, an affiliate company that provides Sirius and XM service in Canada.
* There vision is to be the leading premium digital audio entertainment and information service provider in Canada. Our strategy is founded on the principles of acquiring subscribers in a cost effective manner, retaining subscribers through enhancing the value proposition and improving business efficiencies. Satellite Radio in Canada offers 120 – 130 channels, including commercial-free music as well as news, talk, sports and children’s programming.
* Annual revenue went up to $303.5million in 2014 from $288.9million in 2013.
* On april 11th 2011 the Canadian radio television and telecommunications commission (CRTC) approved the merger of Sirius and XM’s Canadian affiliates in Sirius XM Canada.
* After coming close to filing for [Chapter 11](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chapter_11) only months after the 2008 merger, going so far as to hire lawyers to prepare a possible bankruptcy filing, Sirius XM was able to avoid declaring bankruptcy with the assistance of a $530 million loan from [Liberty Media](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberty_Media) in February 2009, which Mel Karmazin negotiated in exchange for a 40% equity stake in Sirius XM.
* Founded on may 17th 1990.
* Sirius XM Canada a subsidiary was founded in 2011.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## TELUS CORP (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*http://ar.telus.com/investor-overview/2014-results-at-a-glance/#/intro*

Brief Background Information:

* The company is based in Vancouver, British Columbia. Was originally based in Edmonton, Alberta before is merger with BCTel in 1999.
* Telus is a Canadian national telecommunications company that provides a wide range of telecommunication products and services including Internet access, voice, entertainment, healthcare, video, satellite and IPTV television.
* Have they been doing well?
  + There was a positive annual growth as there was increase in the EBITDA, operating revenues and total assets from the year 2012 – 2014,
  + In 1995, it acquired Edmonton Telephones Corporation (Ed Tel) from the City of Edmonton making Telus the sole provider of telephone service in the province. In 1998, Telus and BCTel announced a proposed merger. The merger was completed in 1999, with the corporate name slightly modified to Telus Corporation. While the merged company chose to retain the Telus name, it moved its headquarters from Edmonton to Vancouver.
  + Have not be acquired but have been merged.
* Founded in 1990 in Edmonton, alberta.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## TEN PEAKS COFFEE (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

Brief Background Information:

* The head office of Ten Peaks Coffee Company Inc. is located in Burnaby, British Columbia.
* Ten Peaks Coffee Company Inc. (Ten Peaks) owns all of the interests of the [Swiss Water Decaffeinated Coffee Company Inc.](http://www.swisswater.com/) (SWDCC), a premium green coffee decaffeinator located in Burnaby, BC. It also owns and operates Seaforth Supply Chain Solutions Inc. (Seaforth), a green coffee handling and storage business located in Metro Vancouver. Ten Peaks is listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange and trades under the symbol (TPK).
* Have they been doing well?
  + Durng 2015, our second quarter sales totaled $20.2 million, an increase of $4.2million, or 27%, over the same period in 2014. They have had an increase in the quarterly sales reports as compared to the years before.
* Formerly the Swiss Water Decaffeinated Coffee Income Fund (the Fund), Ten Peaks became a publicly traded company on January 1, 2011 through an arrangement agreement with Swiss Water Decaffeinated Coffee Company. Under the arrangement, the Fund was converted to a corporation, with unitholders of the Fund receiving one common share of Ten Peaks in exchange for each unit of the Fund held at the time of conversion.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## TSO3 (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

[*http://www.tso3.com/*](http://www.tso3.com/)

Brief Background Information:

* They are active in both Canada and the united states of America, their headquarters are in quebec city.
* TSO3 has developed innovative, low-temperature sterilization systems to eliminate microbial contaminants that cause infection. Particularly effective in high-traffic hospital or clinical settings, sterilization technologies such as the STERIZONE® Sterilizers, create limitless capacity for sterilizing simple and complex medical devices for today and tomorrow.
* Have they been doing well?
  + There growth was slow from 2012 to 2013 however they had better growth as compared to 2013 In 2014.
* Founded in 1998, TSO3 originally developed a unique sterilization process based on only ozone as the sterilizing agent. It offered major savings over competing low-temperature sterilization methods, greater safety for both users and patients, and was considered a “green” technology.

Recent Activity of Note:

\*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

## TVA GROUP INC (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

[*https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TVA\_Group*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TVA_Group)

[*http://www.quebecor.com/en/content/history-tvagroup*](http://www.quebecor.com/en/content/history-tvagroup)

*http://groupetva.ca/*

Brief Background Information:

* Based in Montreal, QC
* **TVA Group, Inc.** (French: Groupe TVA Inc.) is a Canadian communications company with operations in broadcasting, publishing and production. Quebecor Media holds voting control of the company through near-complete control of TVA Group's Class A shares; only the non-voting Class B shares are currently publicly traded.
* Groupe TVA owns and operates TVA Network, the largest private French language television network in Canada. It also operates eight specialty channels, available via cable and satellite across Canada.
* Have they been doing well?
  + TVA and its specialty channels have a 69% share of revenue in the French speaking market. The total value of the private Francophone sector is $361 million of which **$249** million goes to TVA
  + Have three subsidiaries, TVA films, TVA productions, and TVA publishing.
  + Parent company is Quebecor media (99.97% voting interest)
* TVA Group Inc. was founded in 1960 under the name Télé-Métropole Inc. Today, it is the largest private producer and broadcaster of French-language entertainment, news and public affairs programming in the Americas.

Recent Activity of Note:

* \*\*Nothing relevant in terms of “good” or “bad” activity.

FERC – Investment Portfolio Holdings Analysis 5

*Research Credited to Gabe Miller*

## COMINAR REIT (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*Information from: Bloomberg, the Motley Fool*

Brief Background Information:

* Located in Vanier, Quebec
* Unincorporated closed-end investment trust
  + Hold office, retail. Industrial, and mixed use properties that produces income
* Management:
  + Michel Dallaire: CEO
  + Gilles Hamel: CFO
* Services:
  + PWC LLP: auditor
  + National Bank Trust: transfer agent

Key Financial Data

* ~170,000,000 shares outstanding, at a price of $16.14/share
  + Total market cap: $2.7bn
    - Net income up by 15% to 230m
    - Revenue and operating income have grown year over year and projected to continue to rise
    - Net income expected to be 301M – highest since 2012

Recent Activity of Note:

September 30, 2015

1. Sale of 8400- 8500 Décarie Boulevard, in the Town of Mont-Royal, and 2105 23rd Avenue, in the City of Montréal, Province of Quebec for an aggregate consideration, paid in cash, of 98 million dollars to pay off debt

September 30th 2014

1. Acquired a real estate portfolio from Ivanhoé Cambridge Inc., the real estate subsidiary of Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, for an aggregate purchase price of approximately $1.35 billion. The acquired portfolio, comprising a total of approximately 5.0 million square feet of gross leasable area, consists of 10 shopping mall (4.2 million square feet), three office properties (0.7 million square feet) including one property under development, and one industrial and mixed-use property (0.1 million square feet).
   1. Ivanhoe’s assets are held through multiple subsidiaries and located mainly in Canada, the United States, Europe, Brazil and Asia
   2. Cominar holds 80% of its property in Quebec, the rest in Ontario and in the prairies

## BELL CANADA (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

*Information from: Bloomberg, Globe and Mail*

Brief Background Information:

* Located in Montreal, Canada
* Provide a variety of internet, home phone, television, and other subscription services
* George Cope: CEO
* Glen Leblanc: CFO

Key Financial Data

* Market Cap: $49bn, 850m shares outstanding \* $58.22/share
* 2,83bn net income last year, projected to fall to 2.771bn
* Gross profit however (before subtracting business expenses) expected to rise from $8.5bn to $15bn

Recent Activity of Note:

2014 Corporate Sustainability Report

1. There is reason to believe that the 2015 edition of the report will demonstrate continued commitments to sustainability goals (e-billing), qualifications, community investments, responsible procurement, and new health & safety policies
2. Report can be found here: <http://www.bce.ca/assets/responsibility/corporate-responsibility/2014-cr-report/2014-csr-report.pdf>
3. Featured as one of MacLean’s 50 socially responsible companies for 2014, and the joint winner of the telecom/electronics category
4. TELUS won the telecom/electronics category for the 2015 edition of the report, however Bell was still mentioned as a “top company” (note: MacLean’s no longer awards multiple winners in 2015, just one)
5. The overwhelming amount of ethical practices that bell engages in, and well as their commitment to improving their operations to reduce their impact on the environment should not be over-shadowed by the two lawsuits below. They have resolved both issues promptly and have been commended for their co-operation in both dilemmas

October 14th 2015

1. Agreed to pay $1.25 CDN for encouraging its employees to post positive reviews and ratings of the company’s online applications. Agreement was filed with the Competition Bureau, which violated the misleading representation provisions.
2. Bell has agreed to enhance its corporate compliance program by amending its social media guidelines to prohibit public posting of ratings, rankings, or reviews of bell products or apps by employees.
3. Will sponsor a workshop on promoting and enhancing Canadian consumers’ trust in the digital economy.
4. Bell was very co-operative in the process, and senior management quickly dealt with the issue.

# April 17th, 2015

# Bell faces $750-million lawsuit over tracking of customer’s cellphone Internet usage

# It seeks $750 million in damages for breach of privacy, breach of contract and breach of the Telecommunications Act. A similar lawsuit has also been launched in Quebec, counsel for the plaintiffs, Charney Lawyers and Sutts, Strosberg LLP, said in a statement issued Thursday. However, the privacy commissioner said Bell should not assume because customers didn’t opt out that they were consenting to having vast amounts of their personal information used in this way. In addition to cancelling the program, Bell said earlier that it would delete all customer profiles created under it.

## ASIAN TELEVISION NETWORK INTERNATIONAL LMT (TO BE DECIDED)

Information from: Bloomberg, Sedar, Corporate Website

Brief Background Information:

* Started in 1997 - television network provider that operates 54 television channels specializing in South Asian programming
* Headquarters in Markham, ON
* Run by Shan Chandrasekar, selected as EY entrepreneur of the year
* Selected as a TSX Venture 50 company

Key Financial Data

* Trading at $2.09 per share (ex-ante) 🡪 paying a dividend of $0.02 on October 31st
* Net income for 6 months as of June 30th was $883,272.9, down 25% from last year’s 6 months

## BMO (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

*Information from: Bloomberg, BMO website, WSJ*

Brief Background Information:

* Founded in 1817 in Montreal, Canada’s oldest bank
* HQ in Montreal/Toronto
* William Downe: CEO
* Ranked 131 on the Forbes global 2000 list, top 20 investment banks by size in the world

Key Financial Data

* Currently trades at $77.70 per share, -0.4.48% on the year
* Market cap of $50.339bn

Recent Activity of Note:

BMO First Principles

1. Annual document outlining the standards and ethics that BMO expects its employees to adhere to, promoting the documentation and reporting of concerns and unethical behavior
   1. Report can be found here: <https://www.bmo.com/home/about/banking/corporate-info/codeofconduct/keybusinessconduct>

BMO ESG Scorecard

<https://www.bmo.com/cr/images/BMO_ESGscorecard2014en.pdf>

1. Annual report that documents the environmental, social and growth goals of BMO
2. Improved on all of their metrics including but not limited to:
   1. Greater percentage of women, minorities, and those with disabilities in the workforce
   2. Increasing renewable energy purchases (new 3 year commitment)
   3. Reduce footprint by an additional 10% by 2017
3. In 2014, the charitable efforts of BMO employees in Montreal earned a Solidaire award for Best Employee Campaign of 1000+ Employees from Centraide
4. he award recognizes employee workplace campaigns that exemplify leadership commitment, effective awareness building, organizational best practices and other success factors.
5. Actively involved in the community with regards to local business, promotion of the arts, and charitable causes

July 16th 2015

1. Agreed to pay 16million in settlement tied to a Ponzi scheme led by Tom Petters and the M&I Bank f Minnesota (acquired by BMO) that stole billions from investors
2. Bank was purchased after the fraud was discovered – not indicative of BMO’s practices
3. Similar event happened when Lehman collapsed in 2008; it was acquired by Barclays and outstanding lawsuits against Lehman were transferred to Barclays
4. Ongoing relationship with WSG (world financial group) 🡪 have to explore
   1. Sells mutual funds and insurance through independent salesmen
   2. Pyramid scheme that influenced people to take a massive line of credit for a mortgage and pay the interest off each month, and invest the principal through them in the market

FERC – Investment Portfolio Holdings Analysis 6

*Research Credited to Kristen Perry*

## PRISM MEDICAL (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

[*http://www.prismmedicalltd.com*](http://www.prismmedicalltd.com)

Brief Background Information:

* Based in Concord, ON and St. Louis, MO
* Founded in 1996, one of the “oldest ceiling lift manufacturers in the industry”
* They manufacture products intended to improve mobility safety in homecare, acute care and long-term care
* Mission: “save the health care system money and improve the quality of life of the mobility challenged and their caregivers”
* Market under multiple brand names: Prism Medical, ErgoSafe, Waverly Glen and Nightingale
* Acquired Angel Accessibility Solutions Ltd, represents strengthening of Canadian services (based in BC)
  + <http://www.prismmedicalltd.com/01-09-15-angel-accessibility-and-beka-hospitec-acquisition.html>
  + Focusing on an acquisition strategy

Recent Activity of Note:

1. *(October 16th, 2015)* Recall on ceiling hoists due to manufacturing flaws: “free-fall protection system did not work properly in three devices”
   1. <http://www.ibtimes.com/prism-medical-p300-c300-ceiling-hoists-recalled-over-manufacturing-flaws-2143635>
2. *(June 18th, 2015)* Top investment pick by Stephen Takacsy, chief investment officer and portfolio manager at Lester Asset Management
   1. <http://www.bnn.ca/News/2015/6/18/Top-Picks-from-Stephen-Takacsy-Savaria-Prism-Medical-and-Ag-Growth.aspx>

## PLAZA RETAIL (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*Disclosure of where information came from (websites, databases, etc.), and what information you assume might be missing (aka “This company is fully private and, though still valid, the information is based on limited resources.”)*

Brief Background Information:

* Real Estate Investment Trust that develops, owns and manages retail properties in Atlantic Canada, ON and QC
* Based in Fredericton
* 95% of units are occupied
* 19 projects being (re/)developed

Recent Activity of Note:

1. *(September 29th, 2015)* Will invest $13M in 8 projects (redevelopments and expansions” to “further diversify our asset base and increase our cash flows”
   1. <http://plaza.mediaroom.com/2015-09-29-Plaza-Retail-REIT-to-Invest-13-Million-in-8-Projects>
2. *(June 4th, 2015)* Announced joint venture (with DewCor) to build a shopping centre in St. John’s
   1. <http://plaza.mediaroom.com/2015-06-04-DewCor-and-Plaza-Retail-REIT-announce-joint-venture-to-develop-large-format-retail-shopping-centre-in-St-Johns-NL>

## PARC LAWN CORP (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

[*http://parklawncorp.com*](http://parklawncorp.com)

Brief Background Information:

* Based in Toronto, ON
* A cemetery, cremation and funeral business
* Operates 6 cemeteries in the GTA, as well as the Brampton Crematorium and Visitation Centre
* Owns 50% of Amety Ltd, which operates Tubman and Cadieux Funeral Homes in Ottawa and Western Quebec.
* Harmonia business, based in Quebec City, Saint-Apollinaire, Gatineau and St. Georges, is under license

Recent Activity of Note:

1. *(July 9th, 2015)* Announcement of Mausoleum expansion at the Park Lawn Cemetery, to be constructed 2015-2017 – addition of 20 years worth of crypts and 30 years of niches
   1. <http://www.marketwired.com/press-release/park-lawn-corporation-announces-mausoleum-expansion-at-park-lawn-cemetery-tsx-venture-plc-2037293.htm>
2. *(October 13th, 2015)* “death rate is expected to significantly rise in the next few decades as the population ages”
   1. <http://business.financialpost.com/investing/buy-sell/when-everything-goes-pear-shaped-investors-can-always-count-on-death-and-taxes>
3. Stock price since start of 2015 is trending downwards
   1. <http://parklawncorp.com/content/9/investor>

## LOGITECH (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

[*http://www.logitech.com/en-ca/home*](http://www.logitech.com/en-ca/home)

Brief Background Information:

* Operates at offices around the world, distributes products in more than 100 countries
* Manufacture “personal peripherals… with special emphasis on products for PC navigation, gaming, Internet communications, digital music and home-entertainment control”
  + <http://www.logitech.com/en-ca/about/logitech-story>
* Lifesize is a subsidiary of Logitech
  + <http://www.lifesize.com>

Recent Activity of Note:

1. *(October 21st, 2015)* Logitech Q2 Delivers Best Retail Sales Growth Since 2010
   1. <http://www.logitech.com/en-ca/press/press-releases/12100>
2. *(October 22nd, 2015)* Logitech profit falls nearly 50% from year earlier
   1. <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/logitech-profit-falls-nearly-50-from-year-earlier-2015-10-22>
3. *(September 29th, 2015)* Logitech G Unveils Tenkeyless Mechanical Gaming Keyboard
   1. <http://www.logitech.com/en-ca/press/press-releases/12072>
   2. <http://www.androidpolice.com/2015/10/28/logitech-k380-keyboard-review-one-keyboard-to-rule-them-all-at-least-in-theory/>
   3. <http://www.theverge.com/2015/9/29/9411181/logitech-gaming-mechanical-keyboard-g410>

## LAURENTIAN BANK (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

<https://www.laurentianbank.ca>

Brief Background Information:

* A Canadian bank that was founded over 168 years ago
* Head office is located in Montreal
* 215 service points across Canada, including 152 bank branches, 28 commercial banking centres and 18 brokerage offices
* Provides a range of personal and business financial products and services

Recent Activity of Note:

1. *(2014)* Produced a corporate social responsibility report detailing their responsible governance, community support and environmental stewardship
   1. [*https://www.laurentianbank.ca/en/about\_lbc/my\_bank/social\_responsibility.html*](https://www.laurentianbank.ca/en/about_lbc/my_bank/social_responsibility.html)

## MANULIFE FINANCIAL (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

<https://www.manulife.ca/>

Brief Background Information:

* Operates in Canada, Asia and the US
* Offers financial services, as well as insurance and investment products
* Has been in operation for over 125 years

Recent Activity of Note:

November 12th, 2015

1. Manulife Financial Corp profit falls 43% as oil slump hurts energy investments
   1. <http://business.financialpost.com/news/fp-street/manulife-financial-corp-profit-falls-43-as-oil-slump-hurts-energy-investments>
   2. <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/manulife-earnings-1.3315913>
   3. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-11-12/manulife-profit-slides-43-as-oil-slump-hurts-energy-investments>

November 15th, 2015

1. Manulife begins program to scrutinize coverage of pricey drugs
   1. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/manulife-launched-drugwatch-program-to-scrutinize-coverage-of-pricey-drugs/article27265898/>

## QUEBECOR MEDIA (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

<http://www.quebecor.com>

Brief Background Information:

* Founded in 1950
* A Canadian company specializing in integrated communications
* Headquartered in Quebec
* Owns a number of subsidiaries
  + Videotron
  + <http://www.quebecor.com/en/content/communications-giant>

Recent Activity of Note

October 20th, 2015

1. Quebecor Media signs major partnership with meltygroup, a French company with a global reach
   1. <http://www.quebecor.com/en/comm/quebecor-media-signs-major-partnership-meltygroup-french-company-global-reach>
   2. <http://mediaincanada.com/2015/10/21/quebecor-pacts-with-french-co-to-reach-younger-audiences/>

October 5th, 2015

1. Québecor Groupe Média announces the creation of Goji, a talent collective serving online video content
   1. <http://www.quebecor.com/en/comm/québecor-groupe-média-launches-goji-talent-collective-serving-online-video-content-creators>

FERC – Investment Portfolio Holdings Analysis 7

*Research Credited to Marina Smailes*

## AG GROWTH INTERNATION INC (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE)

*Publicly traded company on the Toronto Stock Exchange under AFN and launched their IPO in May, 2004.*

Brief Background Information:

* AGI is a leading manufacturer of grain handling, conditioning and storage equipment.
* It is a holding company established in 1996.
* Since 2004, have acquired Grain Guard, Keho, Hi Roller, Twister, Union Iron, Applegate, Mepu, Franklin Enterprises, Tramco, Airlanco, REM GrainVac product line, and Westeel. (<http://www.aggrowth.com/history>)
* Companies mentioned above create products for all aspects of grain, seed and fertilizer handling.
* In 2014, 81% of sales were in North America and 21% overseas (Annual Information Form, March 2015)
* June 2009 the company changed structure from an income trust structure to a business corporation.

Recent Activity of Note:

April 2010

1. AGI had first offshore acquisition of Mepu (Ylane, Finland). This is the first foothold in international business.

May 2015

1. AGI announces completion of Westeel acquisition, which solidifies global foothold in agriculture grain handling. (<http://www.aggrowth.com/news/345/1-agi-announces-completion-of-westeel-acquisition?return=press-releases&page=0>)

## ALTUS GROUP (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

*Altus Group is a public company traded on the TSX as AIF. Information was found on the Altus Group website unless specifically mentioned below.*

Brief Background Information:

* Company started in 2005 as an income trust and assembled commercial real estate consultants.
* Now an International company that has over 40 acquisitions since it started 10 years ago.
* Main services of the firm include valuation, cost consulting, project management and tax practices.
* Provides quarterly dividend payments of $0.15 per share.

Recent Activity of Note:

January 5th, 2015

1. 5th Annual ARGUS Software University Challenge was started. Over $60,000 in prize money and several hundred thousand dollars in software is given to university students.
2. ARGUS provides software endowments and professional training and certification to students.

July 2nd, 2015

1. Acquired Integris Real Estate Counsellors, a real estate litigation and dispute resolution firm
2. Strengthens service offering in this area of expertise

August 28th, 2015

1. A subsidiary of Altus Group, ARGUS Software Inc. passed a 1,000-customer milestone for its flagship ARGUS Enterprise platform (a comprehensive asset and investment management software for commercial real estate).
2. This shows a critical mass of customers using this software and suggests further growth and value added to the company.
3. Helps alleviate previous investing fears about taking on debt to pay for ARGUS Software (<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/streetwise/ceo-of-altus-group-gone-amid-debt-worries/article619302/>)
4. Shares doubled in 2012 and 2013 due to Argus Sofware improvement (<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2014-07-11/altus-says-talking-with-canada-banks-on-real-estate-risk>)

## ANDREW PELLER LTD (SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT)

*The company is publicly traded as ADW.A and ADW.B on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Information on the company is mainly sourced from their website and press releases unless otherwise stated.*

Brief Background Information:

* Producer and marketer of wines in Canada, originally started as Andrés Wines Ltd. In 1961.
* Andrew Peller has wineries in BC, ON and NS
* Wholly-owned subsidiary Global Vintners Inc. produces and markets wine globally in the United States, Australia, China, Canada, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.
* Shows strong growth in 2015 with a 1-year return of 22.86% (<http://www.bloomberg.com/quote/ADW/A:CN>)

Recent Activity of Note:

October 7th, 2015

1. Andrew Peller Ltd.’s subsidiary Global Vintners Inc. is one of the Top 15 Projects recognized by Clean50 for their environmental sustainability
2. Used Enviro-Stewards Engineers to reduce its environmental footprint inputs such as water, electricity, natural gas as well as reducing the number of hectares of vineyard used to create the same quantity of finished product.
3. Environmentally friendly and profitable.

2014

1. Peller Estates named 2014 Winery of the Year at the 2014 WineAlign National Wine Awards of Canada.
2. Good sign for brand recognition and increased sales.

# Previous Semester’s Recommendations:

After the FERC had concluded its research, these seven (7) holdings were recommended for divestment:

1. Aliment
2. Great Canadian Gaming
3. Sherritt
   1. SHERRITT
   2. SHERRITT S1 C17
4. Superior
5. Algonquin Power & Utilities
6. Glacier Media Inc.

As well, the following seven (7) holdings required more research to determine whether or not they were fit for divestment:

1. Altus Group
2. Fairfax Financial
   1. \*\*This is the second year in a row Fairfax has required more research
3. Emerg Inc.
4. AG Growth International Inc.
5. Asian TV Network International Limited
6. Equitable Group Inc.

# End of Year Recommendations:

The FERC further recommends that the SSMU divests from the following one (1) holding:

1. Fairfax Financial

# Re: Post-Note on Incomplete Action:

Last semester, despite the 2014/2015 FERC’s recommendations to divest from the following list of holdings, we had noticed no action had been taken so we reached out to Lester. The FERC would like to follow up on this issue and report that the following holdings have officially been divested from:

*For further information as to why, please reference the FERC’s 2014/2015 End of Year Report*

1. Transglobe
2. Parkland
3. Canadian Western Bank
4. Veland Inc.
5. Newalta TA Corp.
6. Badger Daylighting
7. Com Dev International