

Concise summary of how the disclosure of substantial holdings and takeovers are regulated under Canadian law	
Requirement	Canadian law
Takeover bids	<p>In Canada, takeover bids are regulated primarily by securities law. Persons making an offer to acquire securities that, together with the offeror's securities (and those held by joint actors), constitute in aggregate 20% or more of the outstanding securities of the company at the time of the offer are required to extend the offer to all securityholders whose registered address is in Canada. The takeover bid rules require, among other things, the mailing of a takeover bid circular to shareholders of the target company and extensive disclosure requirements, beginning with 'early warning' disclosure required when an acquirer crosses a 10% ownership threshold with further disclosure required for additional purchases or dispositions of 2% or more.</p> <p>Takeover bids must treat all shareholders alike and must not involve any collateral agreements, with certain exceptions for employment compensation arrangements. Takeover bids must remain open for a minimum of 105 days, subject to abridgement to no less than 35 days with the agreement of the target company in a friendly transaction or where another abridged bid or going-private transaction has been announced from the date of the mailing of the takeover bid circular, after which time all securities deposited under the offer may be taken up.</p> <p>A takeover bid is subject to a mandatory tender condition that a minimum of more than 50% of all outstanding target securities owned or held by persons other than the bidder and its joint actors be tendered and not withdrawn before the bidder can take up any securities under the takeover bid.</p> <p>For the protection of target shareholders, the takeover bid rules contain various additional requirements, such as restrictions applicable to conditional offers, and the withdrawal, amendment or suspension of offers. Securities regulators also retain a general 'public interest jurisdiction' to regulate takeovers and may intervene to halt or prevent activity that is abusive. Issuer bids are regulated similarly to takeover bids.</p> <p>There are extensive disclosure requirements associated with takeover bids, beginning with 'early warning' disclosure required when an acquirer crosses the 10% ownership threshold. Generally, further disclosure is required for additional purchases or dispositions of 2% or more of the outstanding securities for which such early warning disclosure is required. Purchases outside the bid before, during and after the bid are also restricted.</p> <p>The BCBCA contains compulsory acquisition provisions, which allow a person who acquired at least 90% of a company's shares to acquire the remaining shares, within 5 months after the date of a takeover bid, if the bid was accepted by holders of not less than 90% of the company's shares.</p> <p>Aside from the compulsory acquisition provisions of the BCBCA, second step transactions following a bid, which allow the acquirer to bring its percentage ownership to 100%, are governed by MI 61-101. No shareholder approval for a second step transaction of the acquisition would be required if the acquirer obtained 90% of the outstanding securities owned by minority shareholders during the bid. Otherwise, a meeting must be called and associated regulations complied with for an acquisition, including obtaining a two-thirds majority approval. The acquirer is generally permitted to vote the shares acquired pursuant to the bid at such meeting. Appraisal (or dissent) rights are available for objecting shareholders who fulfil certain procedural requirements.</p> <p>Under Canadian securities laws certain exemptions to the formal bid requirements, on specified conditions, are allowed. For example, private agreements to purchase securities from up to five persons are permitted</p>

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	<p>if the purchase price does not exceed 115% of the prevailing market price. Under the normal course purchase exception, the offeror (together with any joint offerors) may acquire up to 5% of a class of securities within a 12-month period if there is a published market for the relevant class and the consideration paid does not exceed the market price at the date of acquisition.</p>
<b>Takeover bid defences</b>	<p>In Canada, defensive tactics may be taken by a board of directors in a genuine attempt to obtain a better bid. However, the Canadian securities regulatory authorities have recognised the possibility that the interests of management of the target company will differ from those of its shareholders. The securities regulators may take action in certain cases where target company defensive tactics may be abusive of shareholder rights, deny shareholders the ability to make a fully formed decision or frustrate an open takeover bid process.</p> <p>Defensive tactics that may come under scrutiny during or immediately before a bid (if there is reason to believe that a bid might be imminent) include granting an option on securities representing a significant percentage of the target company's outstanding securities, including introduction of a shareholders' rights plan, a sale, acquisition, optioning, or agreement to sell or acquire material assets or other corporate action other than in the normal course of business. Shareholder approval of defensive tactics may be a factor in the regulatory authorities' decision as to whether the tactics are appropriate.</p>