
**NOVA SCOTIA SECURITIES COMMISSION CAUTIONS INVESTORS ABOUT
FIRMS USING SIMILAR NAMES TO FORMER REGISTRANTS**

Halifax, May 5, 2009 – The Nova Scotia Securities Commission is urging investors to be cautious if approached by firms using names similar to current or former market registrants. Two examples causing concern are:

- Lehman Brothers & Associates Corp.
- Peterson & Rothschild Associates

Lehman Brothers & Associates Corp. is not related to the U.S. merchant bank Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc., which filed for bankruptcy protection in September 2008.

These firms, which claim to be operating in the mergers and acquisitions industry, have allegedly solicited investors by telephone, primarily residents in the U.K. and Denmark. Residents in Saskatchewan have also been solicited by representatives of Lehman Brothers & Associates Corp. The firms have proposed to buy their low-value shares for far more than their market value. To complete the transaction, investors are asked to deposit a "refundable" fee via electronic funds transfer. Once the transfer is completed, both the representatives and the money disappear.

The firms referred to in this warning mention that their offices are located in Montréal, which is not the case according to research conducted by *Autorité des marchés financiers* (AMF). The AMF is currently working in co-operation with the Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission in the matter of Lehman Brothers & Associates Corp.

At this point, it is not known whether Nova Scotian investors were contacted. The firms are not registered with the Nova Scotia Securities Commission to carry on business as a securities dealer or adviser and are therefore not authorized to solicit investors in Nova Scotia. The Commission reminds investors that they should always check that the person or firm they are dealing with is registered in Nova Scotia. Registration can be checked on the Commission's website, or by telephone.

"Be wary if someone offers to buy your shares for more than they are actually worth, especially if you are asked to pay a fee up front," said Natalie MacLellan, investor education officer with the Nova Scotia Securities Commission. "In several similar cases, investors have their deposits and never received the money they were promised," she added.

For further information, read ***Protecting Your Money***, which can be downloaded or ordered from the Commission's website. It will help you recognize several types of illegal tactics, and provides tips to keep you on guard against fraud artists.

If you believe you have been approached by one of these firms, contact the Nova Scotia Securities Commission.