Financial Institutions Reporter

June 2020



Federal Financial Institutions Legislative and Regulatory Reporter

The Reporter provides a monthly summary of Canadian federal legislative and regulatory developments of relevance to federally regulated financial institutions. It does not address Canadian provincial financial services legislative and regulatory developments, although this information is tracked by BLG and can be provided on request. In addition, purely technical and administrative changes (such as changes to reporting forms) are not covered.

June 2020

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Financial Action	June 30, 2020	Public consultation on FATF's Recommendation 1 and its Interpretive Note.	Consultation is active
Task Force (FATF)		The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is considering proposals for amendments to Recommendation 1, and its Interpretive Note, to require countries and the private sector to identify, and assess the risks of potential breaches, non-implementation or evasion of the targeted financial sanctions (TFS) related to proliferation financing, (as contained in FATF Recommendation 7), and to take action to mitigate these risks. The draft text of proposals for amendments is available here . Proposed amendments are in redline.	
		The FATF is consulting all affected stakeholders before finalising these amendments. The full version of the FAT Recommendations is available here .	F

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Bank of Canada	June 29, 2020	Operational details for upcoming secondary market purchases of Government of Canada securities (July 6-17)	The GBPP is active
		As previously announced, on April 1, 2020 the Bank of Canada (the Bank) launched a program to purchase Government of Canada securities in the secondary market – the Government Bond Purchase Program (GBPP). The GBPP operations for the two-week period that began on July 6 are below.	
		The Bank conducted the following purchase operations the week of July 6:	
		Monday, July 6 in the 30-year sector.	
		 Tuesday, July 7 in the short-end sector (less than 2-year). 	
		Wednesday, July 8 in the 2-year sector.	
		Thursday, July 9 in the 10-year sector.	
		Friday, July 10 in the 5-year sector.	
		The Bank conducted the following purchase operations the week of July 13:	
		Monday, July 13 in the 30-year sector.	
		 Tuesday, July 14 in the short-end sector (less than two year). 	
		Wednesday, July 15 in the two-year sector.	
		Thursday, July 16 in the five-year sector.	
		Friday, July 17 in the 10-year sector.	
		NOTE: all operations will have a T+2 settlement unless otherwise stated.	
		The secondary market purchases conducted by the Bank should settle with the Bank (CUID: BOCB) and not the Government of Canada.	
		The Bank continues to monitor market developments closely and remains committed to supporting the liquidi and efficient functioning of the Government of Canada bond market.	ty

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Financial Stability	June 28, 2020	Evaluation of the effects of too-big-to-fail reforms: consultation report.	Consultation is active
Board (FSB)		This report, for public consultation, provides an evaluation of too-big-to-fail (TBTF) reforms for systemically important banks. These reforms were endorsed by the G20 in the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis and have been implemented in FSB jurisdictions over the past decade. The evaluation examines the extent to which the reforms are reducing the systemic and moral hazard risks associated with systemically important banks, as well as their broader effects on the financial system.	
		The reforms being evaluated include:	
		 Standards for additional loss absorbency through capital surcharges and total loss-absorbing capacity requirements; 	1
		Recommendations for enhanced supervision and heightened supervisory expectations; and	
		 Policies to put in place effective resolution regimes and resolution planning to improve the resolvability of banks. 	/
		In particular, the evaluation found that:	
		TBTF reforms have made banks more resilient and resolvable;	
		The benefits of the reforms significantly outweigh the costs; and	
		There are still gaps that need addressing.	
		The evaluation was conducted before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, drawing on a broad range of information sources and is based on numerous empirical analyses and extensive stakeholder feedback.	
		The FSB has also published a <u>technical appendix</u> to the evaluation, which provides the detailed empirical evidence for the conclusions reached. Estimates of the <u>social costs and benefits</u> of the TBTF reforms and a <u>Resolution Reform Index</u> were also published.	
		Responses to the public consultation should be sent to fsb@fsb.org by September 30, 2020 with "TBTF consultation" in the subject line. All responses will be published on the FSB website unless respondents request otherwise.	

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Financial Action	June 24, 2020	FATF Plenary, June 24 2020	
Task Force (FATF)		The third and final Plenary meeting under the Chinese Presidency of Xiangmin Liu took place on June 24, 2020. Due to COVID-19, the Plenary met virtually. At this challenging and unprecedented time, when millions of people around the world continue to struggle with the impact of the virus, the FATF is continuing its important work to stop money laundering and terrorist financing. Among the important issues on the Plenary agenda were:	
		 The publication of an FATF report on money laundering from the illegal wildlife trade; 	
		 The publication of a report on the 12-month review of the implementation of FATF's requirements on virtual assets and virtual asset service providers, which apply to the fast expanding cryptocurrency industry; 	I
		The publication of a report to the G20 on so-called "stablecoins";	
		Developments in the financing of ISIL, Al-Qaeda and Affiliates; and	
		The priorities under the incoming German Presidency of the FATF.	
		The Plenary agenda reflects the FATF's decision in April this year, to extend its assessment and follow-up process deadlines.	
Office of the	June 23, 2020	OSFI's Domestic Stability Buffer level remains at 1 per cent	
Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI)		OSFI announced that the Domestic Stability Buffer (DSB) will remain at 1 per cent of total risk-weighted assets, unchanged from the level set on March 13, 2020 as part of OSFI's response to COVID-19.	
		This decision reflects OSFI's assessment that the current DSB level remains effective in supporting the resilience of the Canadian banking system and the overall economy. The DSB requires Canada's six largest banks to set aside a portion of their capital during good times so they can draw down on that reserve in times of economic stress.	
		OSFI reviews and sets the level of the Domestic Stability Buffer in a <u>letter to industry</u> on a semi-annual basis (June and December), based on its ongoing monitoring of federally regulated financial institutions as well as system-wide and sectoral developments. Decisions on the calibration of the buffer are based on OSFI supervisory judgement, informed by its monitoring and analytical work on a range of vulnerabilities, and are made in consultation with OSFI's federal financial regulatory partners.	

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Bank of Canada	May 28, 2020	Bank of Canada asks retailers to continue accepting cash	
		The Bank encourages Canadians to use the method of payment that they are the most comfortable. However, the Bank strongly advocates that retailers continue to accept cash to ensure Canadians have access to the goods and services they need. Those refusing cash purchases outright will put an undue burden on those who depend on cash and have limited payment options. The Bank is working with financial institutions to ensure that there is no disruption to the cash supply during this exceptional time, so Canadians can continue to have access to cash when they need it.	
International	May 28, 2020	The IAIS Executive Committee Dialogue event was held June 25, 2020.	
Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS)		With the cancellation of its June in- person Global Seminar, the Executive Committee leadership invited stakeholders to join a virtual dialogue on June 25, 2020.	
		The dialogue focused on COVID-19, updated stakeholders on the IAIS' current Roadmap activities and provided stakeholders with an opportunity to ask questions to leadership and share their perspectives and views.	
		If you have any questions, please contact <u>IAIS@bis.org</u> .	
Joint Publication:	May 26, 2020	Financial policymakers discuss responses to COVID-19 with the private sector	
Financial Stability Board; IAIS; BIS; International Organization of Securities Commissions		Financial policymakers and international standard setters met virtually with private sector executives to discurrent international policy responses to COVID-19. The meeting explored the effectiveness of prudential and other financial policy measures taken to date, including experiences with their implementation. Participants also discussed policy issues going forward, notably how financial institutions can better cope with the challenges resulting from rising solvency risks, and exchanged views on potential areas that may warrant further policy coordination.	SS

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Bank of Canada	May 26, 2020	Parliamentary Appearance by the Governor and the Senior Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada	
		On May 26, 2020, Stephen S. Poloz, Governor of the Bank of Canada, and Carolyn A. Wilkins, Senior Deputy Governor, appeared by videoconference before the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance.	
		The Opening Statement before the Senate National Finance Committee is available here.	
Bank of Canada	May 19, 2020	Operational details for the Corporate Bond Purchase Program	
		As <u>announced on April 15, 2020</u> , the Bank of Canada launched its Corporate Bond Purchase Program (CBPP) on May 26, 2020. The CBPP will support the liquidity and proper functioning of the corporate debt market, by purchasing bonds in the secondary market through a tender offer process.	
		Additional operational details on the CBPP including the term sheet are available here . All information on this program, including program size, duration, pricing, reporting, eligibility of assets and a list of eligible issuers is available on the CBPP webpage.	
		The Bank's purchases of corporate bonds will aim to reflect a reference portfolio based on sectoral shares of eligible bonds outstanding. Actual holdings will depend on market conditions and what bonds are offered to the Bank.	

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Financial Stability	May 8, 2020	FSB compensation workshop 2019: Key takeaways	
Board (FSB)		This <u>note</u> provides key takeaways from a November 2019 workshop with banks, insurance and asset management firms, trade associations and academia on the implementation of compensation reforms. As part of its work to monitor implementation of its <i>Principles for Sound Compensation Practices and their Implementation Standards</i> , the FSB engages regularly with firms across financial sectors to assess the extent to which the standards are implemented effectively.	
		This workshop focused on:	
		3. Assessing the effectiveness of compensation policies – the discussion considered the steps firms are to assess the effectiveness of compensation policies and practices they have established and impler	ŭ
		 Use of data by firms as part of compensation practices – participants considered how firms use data to implement compensation policies and practices. 	
		5. Regulatory and legal issues – the discussion focused on the extent to which legal barriers and conflicts between elements of the Principles and Standards and regulatory frameworks exist, and possible steps to address these.	
		6. Developments on compensation and risk alignment research – participants discussed academic research and empirical evidence on the effectiveness of compensation and risk alignment.	
		The takeaways from the workshop are an input into the FSB's ongoing work to assess effective compensation practices.	

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Bank for International Settlements (BIS)	April 29, 2020	Progress in adopting the Principles for effective risk data aggregation and risk reporting	
		The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision published its <u>latest progress report</u> on banks' implementation of the <u>Principles for effective risk data aggregation and reporting. Issued in January 2013</u> , the Principles aim to strengthen banks' risk data aggregation and risk reporting with a view to improving their risk management, decision-making processes and resolvability.	
Financial		Update to reporting suspicious transactions to FINTRAC	Effective June 1, 2020
Transactions and		This guidance provides information on the following topics:	
Reports Analysis Centre of Canada		7. When must a suspicious transaction be reported?	
(FINTRAC)		8. Service provider agreements	
		9. How to submit STRs	
		10. Review and validation of reports by FINTRAC	
		11. Completing the STR form	
		12. Field completion instructions	
		This guidance will came into force on June 1, 2020.	
Financial Action	April 28, 2020	FATF extends its assessment and follow-up deadlines in response to COVID-19	
Task Force (FATF)		The FATF Plenary has agreed to temporarily postpone all remaining FATF mutual evaluations and follow-up deadlines. The new mutual evaluation schedule is available here .	
		Likewise, the FATF has decided on a general pause in the review process for the list of high-risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action and jurisdictions subject to increased monitoring, by granting jurisdictions an additional four months for deadlines. Thus, the FATF did not review them in June. Mongolia and Iceland however requested not to extend their deadlines, and continue on their current schedule. In light of this request, and the limited number of their remaining action plan items, their follow-up deadlines have not been postponed and the FATF issued updated statements on them in June. The FATF is closely monitoring the situation as it evolves and will review the deadlines where necessary.	

Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
April 24, 2020	Re: Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 2, Order in Council, PC Number: 2020-0274	Effective April 30, 2020
	Her Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Finance, pursuant to subsection 351(1) of the <i>Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 2</i> , chapter 27 of the Statutes of Canada, 2018, fixes April 30, 2020 as the day on which sections 331, 332, 337 and 338, subsection 342(2) and sections 344 to 347 and 350 of that Act come into force.	
April 24, 2020	Bank of Canada Announces Further Enhancements to its Standing Term Liquidity Facility (STLF)	
	Following the <u>launch</u> of the Bank of Canada's new Standing Term Liquidity Facility (STLF), the <u>terms and conditions</u> have been revised to include term of up to 90 days. Renewal and early repayment are at the Bank of Canada's discretion. Under the STLF, the Bank can provide loans to eligible financial institutions in need of temporary liquidity support and where the Bank has no concerns about their financial soundness.	
	The Bank of Canada continues to monitor closely global and domestic market developments and remains committed to providing all the liquidity the financial system needs so that it can continue to serve Canadians.	
April 20, 2020	Effective Practices for Cyber Incident Response and Recovery: Consultative document	
	This <u>consultative document</u> provides a toolkit of effective practices to assist financial institutions before, during and after a cyber-incident.	
April 17, 2020	Statement from the Superintendent on Canadian bank capital and dividends	
	The current economic instability caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has raised questions around the world about how best to approach bank capital requirements and the resulting implications for bank dividend policies. This statement provides an overview of the existing regime in Canada.	
	April 24, 2020 April 24, 2020 April 20, 2020 April 17, 2020	April 24, 2020 Re: Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 2, Order in Council, PC Number: 2020-0274 Her Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Finance, pursuant to subsection 351(1) of the Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 2, chapter 27 of the Statutes of Canada, 2018, fixes April 30, 2020 as the day on which sections 331, 332, 337 and 338, subsection 342(2) and sections 344 to 347 and 350 of that Act come into force. April 24, 2020 Bank of Canada Announces Further Enhancements to its Standing Term Liquidity Facility (STLF) Following the launch of the Bank of Canada's new Standing Term Liquidity Facility (STLF), the terms and conditions have been revised to include term of up to 90 days. Renewal and early repayment are at the Bank of Canada's discretion. Under the STLF, the Bank can provide loans to eligible financial institutions in need of temporary liquidity support and where the Bank has no concerns about their financial soundness. The Bank of Canada continues to monitor closely global and domestic market developments and remains committed to providing all the liquidity the financial system needs so that it can continue to serve Canadians. April 20, 2020 Effective Practices for Cyber Incident Response and Recovery: Consultative document This consultative document provides a toolkit of effective practices to assist financial institutions before, during and after a cyber-incident. April 17, 2020 Statement from the Superintendent on Canadian bank capital and dividends The current economic instability caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has raised questions around the world about how best to approach bank capital requirements and the resulting implications for bank dividend policies.

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Bank of Canada	April 15, 2020	Bank of Canada to Introduce a Provincial Bond Purchase Program	
		The Bank of Canada announced its intention to introduce a <u>Provincial Bond Purchase Program</u> (<u>PBPP</u>) to further support the liquidity and efficiency of provincial government funding markets.	
		This program will supplement the already-implemented Provincial Money Market Purchase Program. The aim of both these programs is to maintain well-functioning provincial funding markets in the face of significant demands for funding as governments implement their emergency measures, and businesses and households seek to bridge this difficult period.	
		The PBPP will purchase eligible securities in the secondary market. Eligible securities are made up of Canadian-dollar denominated bonds issued by all provinces and fully-guaranteed provincial agencies with remaining terms-to-maturity up to ten years. The program size will be capped at \$50 billion. The program will remain active for a period of 12 months. The program's parameters may be expanded if conditions warrant.	
		The Bank will conduct a targeted competitive process to select an asset manager to run this program. As previously announced, the Bank has retained BlackRock Financial Markets Advisory to provide advisory services and CIBC Mellon to serve as custodian.	
Bank of Canada	April 15, 2020	Monetary Policy Report – April 2020	
		Canada's economy faces two significant shocks—the plunge in global oil prices and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. See Monetary Policy Report – April 2020.	

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Financial	April 14, 2020	Addressing the regulatory, supervisory and oversight challenges raised by	
Stability		"global stablecoin" arrangements: Consultative document	
Board (FSB)		This <u>consultation document</u> sets out 10 high-level recommendations to address the regulatory, supervisory and oversight challenges raised by "global stablecoin" arrangements. The FSB's recommendations call for regulation, supervision and oversight that is proportionate to the risks, and stress the need for flexible, efficient, inclusive, and multi-sectoral cross-border cooperation, coordination and information sharing arrangements that take into account the evolution of "global stablecoin" arrangements and the risks they may pose over time. They apply the principle of 'same business – same risks – same rules,' independent of the underlying technology.	
		The report also highlights key international financial regulatory standards from the Basel Committee, the Financial Action Task Force, the Committee of Payments and Market Infrastructures and the International Organization of Securities Commissions that could apply to "global stablecoins." The recommendations respond to a call by the G20 to examine regulatory issues raised by "global stablecoin" arrangements and t advise on multilateral responses as appropriate, taking into account the perspective of emerging market and developing economies. They build on a comprehensive stock-take of FSB and non-FSB jurisdictions' existing regulatory, supervisory and oversight approaches.	d

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Bank of Canada	April 9, 2020	Temporary changes to the Government of Canada securities auction	Effective April 13, 2020
		The Bank of Canada announced temporary changes to standard terms for auctions of Government of Canada securities to support the liquidity and well-functioning of financial markets. These terms will be temporarily amended as follows:	
		BIDDING LIMITS: To support auction coverage, the maximum share of an auction that all Primary Dealer (PD) will be able to submit on a competitive basis will increase to 40 per cent and the aggregate limit - which includes bids submitted on behalf of customers - will be increased from 40 to 50 per cent. PD Net Position Report (NPR) will permit 40 per cent, in order to align with the auction limit increase. It is important to note that minimum bidding requirements remain unchanged at 50 per cent of the PD's formula calculation, which takes into account market shares in the primary and secondary Government of Canada securities markets.	
		BIDDING RANGES: Given challenges in trading in volatile market conditions, the maximum price range within which PDs must meet their minimum level of bidding obligations will increase from 10 to 20 basis point from the highest yield accepted.	
		These temporary changes apply to auctions of Treasury bills, nominal bonds and real return bonds, and will remain in effect until further notice.	
Financial	April 9, 2020	Enhancing Cross-border Payments: Stage 1 report to the G20	·· ··· ·········
Stability Board (FSB)		An assessment of existing arrangements and challenges of cross-border payments. Stage 1 report <u>here</u> and technical background report <u>here</u> .	
Office of the	April 9, 2020	OSFI announces continued regulatory flexibility measures to support COVID-19 efforts.	
Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI)		The Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) announced further regulatory adjustments to support the financial and operational resilience of federally regulated banks and insurance companies. The measures focus primarily on capital adequacy requirements for these institutions as well as changes in their reporting requirements. The announcement includes key measures announced for banks, insurers, and regulatory reporting.	

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Bank of Canada	April 6, 2020	Release of Canadian Survey of Consumer Expectations	
		The Canadian Survey of Consumer Expectations (CSCE) focuses on respondents' views on inflation, the labour market and household finances. The survey for the first quarter of 2020 was conducted between Jan. 29 and Feb. 19, 2020. Results were obtained before COVID19 became a major concern for Canadians and affected their outlook. This is the second quarterly publication of the results of the CSCE. Data collection began in the fourth quarter of 2014.	
		See Canadian Survey of Consumer Expectations—First Quarter of 2020	
Bank of Canada	April 3, 2020	Bank of Canada Announces Activation of the Contingent Term Repo Facility	Effective April 6, 2020
		Following the previous announcement regarding Additional Measures to Support Market Functioning, the Bank is announcing that it is activating the <u>Contingent Term Repo Facility</u> (CTRF) effective Monday April 6, 2020 and that it will remain open for the next 12 months.	
		The CTRF offers Canadian dollar funding for a 1-month term to eligible counterparties on a standing, bilateral basis against securities issued or guaranteed by the Government of Canada or a provincial government.	
		Pricing for the facility will be set at the overnight index swap (OIS) rate of the maturity of the operation plus the higher of (1) 35 bps, (2) the highest spread over the OIS rate on the most recent term repo with the closest tenor, or (3) as otherwise determined by the Bank at the time of the transaction. Detailed terms and conditions are found on the Bank of Canada's website.	
Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI)	April 3, 2020	COVID-19 Measures – FAQs for Federally Regulated Private Pension Plans	
		Following OSFI's announcement on March 27, 2020 to address issues stemming from COVID-19, OSFI prepared a series of questions and answers regarding the measures taken to protect pension plan members, former members and other beneficiaries and to allow plan administrators to focus their efforts on addressing the many challenges posed by this crisis.	

Institution	Published	Title and Brief Summary	Status
Bank for International Settlements (BIS)	April 3, 2020	Margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives	
		The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) have revised the framework for margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives	
		Relative to the <u>2019 framework</u> the revision extend by one year the final two implementation phaVses of the margin requirements. With this extension, the final implementation phase will take place on September 1, 2022. This extended timeline will provide additional operational capacity for firms to respond to the immediate impact of the COVID-19 and at the same time, facilitate covered entities to act diligently to compl with the requirements by the revised deadline.	y
Bank for International Settlements (BIS)	April 3, 2020	Measures to reflect the impact of COVID-19	
	5)	The <u>document</u> sets out technical guidance related to: (i) the exceptional measures introduced by governments and banks to alleviate the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19); and (ii) expected credit loss (ECL) accounting. The guidance seeks to ensure that banks reflect the risk-reducing effect of the exceptional measures when calculating their capital requirements. It also sets out the amended transitional arrangements for the regulatory capital treatment of ECL accounting, which will provide jurisdictions with greater flexibility in how to phase in the impact of ECL on regulatory capital.	
Financial Stability Board (FSB)	April 2, 2020	FSB members take action to ensure continuity of critical financial services functions	
		The FSB Plenary met telephonically on March 30, 2020 to review the numerous actions taken to support market functioning and maintain the provision of credit to households and businesses.	
		The FSB's overall COVID-19 work includes:	
		 Regularly sharing information on evolving financial stability threats and on the policy measures that financial authorities are taking; 	al
		 Assessing financial risks and vulnerabilities in the current environment; and 	
		 Coordinating policy responses to maintain global financial stability, keep markets open and functioning, an preserve the financial system's capacity to serve households and businesses confronting COVID-19, an thereby finance the resumption of growth. 	
		In addition, the FSB is re-prioritising its work programme for 2020 to maximise the value of FSB work during the current crisis and to use members' resources effectively. Further information on the FSB's actions taken in response to COVID-19 is available on the <u>FSB website</u> .	
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Financial Stability Board (FSB)	April 2, 2020	The 17th meeting of the FSB MENA group discusses regional financial stability and the impact of COVID-19	
		The Financial Stability Board (FSB) Regional Consultative Group (RCG) for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) held its 17th RCG MENA meeting via a conference call to discuss recent macroeconomic and financial market developments, including the financial stability implications from COVID-19.	

Disclaimer

This Reporter is prepared as a service for our clients. It is not intended to be a complete statement of the law or an opinion on any subject. Although we endeavour to ensure its accuracy, no one should act upon it without a thorough examination of the law after the facts of a specific situation are considered.

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