



News release

Media contacts:

Tony Williams (604) 647-3232
Tony.williams@pbactuarial.ca

PBI becomes a signatory of the UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment

Vancouver and Montréal, November 14, 2012 – PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd (PBI) is pleased to announce that they have become a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). Following the acquisition of ACBA, an organization that adhered to Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd. decided to become a signatory. The PRI were devised by the investment community in a process that was coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative and the UN Global Compact. They reflect the view that environmental, social and corporate governance issues can affect the performance of investment portfolios and therefore must be given appropriate consideration by investors and investment consultants.

At this time, there are over 1100 signatories across the world. In Canada, there are 45 signatories: 16 assets owners, 24 investment managers and 5 professional service partners, including PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd. We hope that our decision to become a signatory will help lead the way in Canada's actuarial and investment consulting industry with more consultants providing services to help their clients integrate environmental, social and governance issues into their investment policies and governance practices.

The decision to become a signatory has been made easier by the fact that the PRI were already in accord with PBI's values. The PRI are also in agreement with many of our clients' values. At PBI, we understand that as signatories of the PRI, our responsibilities as investment consultants to pension and group benefits plans, endowment and settlement trusts will be to:

- Educate the stakeholders to the fact that pension funds and endowment funds are long-term investors.
- Advise the Committee/Board to follow the PRI in the creation or review of investment policies, in particular with regards to the voting rights.
- Encourage Committees and Boards of Trustees to become signatories of the PRI.
- Support signatories in the implementation of the PRI through appropriate manager research and monitoring.

We understand that becoming a signatory of the PRI is only the initial step and we trust that PBI's acceptance of the principles and of the values behind them will greatly facilitate their implementation. We plan to review our implementation of the PRI on an annual basis in order to continuously research new ways to apply the Principles to our activities as actuarial and investment consultants.

PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd. is an actuarial pension, benefits and investment consulting firm providing innovative, actuarially sound and cost-effective integrated solutions to fulfill our clients' pension and benefits needs. PBI has extensive experience in plan design, funding, administration, documentation and regulatory issues, investment policy, implementation, and risk monitoring and management. www.pbiactuarial.ca