Check Before You Invest

Although most financial advisers are honest and working in your best interest, you still need to carefully choose who you deal with. Being an informed investor is your best defence against investment fraud. Before investing, follow these four simple steps. Use the worksheet on the back to record your search results.

Step 1—Check Registration

A person's registration is more important than their title because it tells you the type of products or services they are qualified to sell or provide advice on. Registration helps protect investors because the New Brunswick Securities Commission (NBSC) will only register firms and individuals if they are properly qualified and meet a certain standard.

To verify if a firm or individual is registered, visit the NBSC's website **www.nbsc-cvmnb.ca/registrationcheck** or you can contact the NBSC directly, toll free in New Brunswick, at 1 866 933-2222.

Step 2—Check Disciplinary History

If the advisor you are thinking of working with was ever disciplined for bad practices, you'll be able to find a record of what they did and the discipline they received by searching the *Investor*, *Enforcement* and *News* sections online with the following organizations:

- New Brunswick Securities Commission—**www.nbsc-cvmnb.ca**
- Canadian Securities Administrators—**www.securities-administrators.ca**
- Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada—**www.iiroc.ca**
- Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada—**www.mfda.ca**

Step 3—Check the Company's History

Check that the company is incorporated or registered to do business in your province. Make sure that the people you are speaking with really represent the company, and find out where their head office is located.

Step 4—Check the News and Search the Internet

You can find information about a company or individual in the news. The news can also tell you about court cases and be a source for hearing rumours that you should investigate further.

The term 'financial adviser' is not an official category of registration. For the purposes of this document it includes: securities dealers; advisers; dealing representatives; advising representatives; or other registrants.

Adviser's Name _____

Firm / Employer _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

STEP 1: Check Registration *www.nbsc-cvmnb.ca/registrationcheck*

Is the firm registered? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the adviser registered? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is their registration active? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If the registration isn't active or they are suspended, choose another person to work with.

STEP 2: Check Disciplinary History *www.nbsc-cvmnb.ca/enforcement*

For what violations? *Check all that apply*	**What sanctions?** *Check all that apply*	**Until when? (or permanent)**
☐ N/A	☐ Director / Officer ban	_____
☐ Acting contrary to the public interest	☐ Trading ban	_____
☐ Breach of order	☐ Completion of training	_____
☐ Failure to file insider reports	☐ Investor relations ban	_____
☐ Fraud	☐ Fine	_____
☐ Illegal or unregistered distribution	☐ Specific undertaking	_____
☐ Misrepresentations	☐ Registration ban	_____
☐ Unregistered activities	☐ Other	_____
☐ Unregistered or illegal trading		
☐ Other		

If penalty/payment agreed or ordered, how much? $ _____

Have they been disciplined by the Ontario Securities Commission? (www.osc.gov.on.ca) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are they on the IIROC List of Enforcement Actions? (www.iiroc.ca) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have they been disciplined by the MFDA? (www.mfda.ca) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are they on the CSA's Disciplined Persons List? (www.securities-administrators.ca ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you comfortable with the history of the company? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you want to work with this individual and company? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Connect with us for more information about informed investing or to report suspicious investment activity.

We're here for you.

www.InvestInKnowingMore.ca

1 866 933-2222

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