

SAPUTO INC.

MANAGEMENT PROXY CIRCULAR

This Circular is furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Management of SAPUTO INC. (the “Company”) of proxies which will be used to vote at the Annual and Special Meeting (the “Meeting”) of the holders of common shares of the Company (the “Common Shares”) to be held on August 1, 2001, at the time and place and for the purposes set forth in the foregoing Notice and at any adjournment thereof.

The solicitation of proxies will be made primarily by mail. However, the management of the Company may solicit proxies at a nominal cost by telephone, telecopier or by personal interview. The Company will pay brokers and other persons holding shares for others their reasonable expenses for sending proxy material to beneficial owners in order to obtain voting instructions. The Company will bear all expenses in connection with the solicitation of proxies.

PROXIES

In order to be voted at the Meeting, a proxy must be received by the Secretary of the Company at least 48 hours prior to the Meeting. A proxy may be revoked at any time by the person giving it to the extent that it has not been exercised. A proxy may be revoked by filing a written notice with the Secretary of the Company if this notice is received no later than the business day preceding the Meeting. The powers of the proxy holders may also be revoked if the holder of Common Shares attends the Meeting in person and so requests.

The persons whose names are printed on the enclosed form of proxy are directors and executive officers of the Company. **Every holder of Common Shares has the right to appoint a person (who need not be a shareholder) other than those whose names are printed on the form of proxy to act on his behalf at the Meeting. To exercise this right, the holder of Common Shares must insert his nominee’s name in the blank space provided for such purpose in the form of proxy or prepare another proxy in proper form.**

The persons whose names are printed on the enclosed form of proxy will vote all the shares in respect of which they are appointed to act in accordance with the instructions indicated on the form of proxy. **If the form of proxy does not provide for any instructions, these persons will vote in favour of the proposals made by Management.**

Every proxy given to any of the persons named in the form of proxy confers discretionary authority with respect to amendments or variations to the matters identified in the Notice and with respect to any other matter that may properly come before the Meeting.

VOTING SHARES AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS OF VOTING SHARES

The Common Shares are the only securities of the share capital of the Company which carry voting rights. As at June 1, 2001, the Company had 51,291,047 Common Shares outstanding. Each Common Share entitles its holder to one vote.

Only holders of Common Shares of record at 5:00 p.m. on June 22, 2001 will be entitled to receive the Notice. They will also be entitled to vote at the Meeting and at any adjournment thereof unless their Common Shares have been transferred and the transferee has produced properly endorsed certificate(s) representing the transferred Common Shares or has otherwise established ownership of the transferred Common Shares and has requested, at least 10 days before the Meeting, that such transferee's name be duly entered on the list of shareholders of the Company, in which case the transferee shall exercise the voting rights attached to the Common Shares.

In connection with the Company's initial public offering in October 1997 (the "Initial Public Offering"), the initial shareholders of the Company, being Gestion Jolina Inc., a holding company controlled by Mr. Emanuele (Lino) Saputo, and the holding companies owned and controlled by Emanuele (Lino) Saputo's brothers and sisters and their families and G. De Lucia Holdings Inc. (collectively, the "Saputo Shareholders") entered into an agreement governing their relationship as shareholders of the Company. Under this agreement, Gestion Jolina Inc. has been granted by all other Saputo Shareholders a power of attorney to vote all of the Common Shares held by them at the time of the Initial Public Offering, which combined with the 20,525,304 shares held by Gestion Jolina Inc. represented, as of June 1, 2001, 33,800,037 Common Shares or 66% of all of the outstanding Common Shares. The agreement will terminate on the earlier of December 31, 2007 or the day on which Mr. Saputo ceases to control Gestion Jolina Inc.

To the knowledge of the Company's directors and executive officers, on June 1, 2001, the only persons or companies who or which owned of record or beneficially, directly or indirectly, or exercised control or direction over 10% or more of the issued and outstanding Common Shares were the following:

Name and municipality of residence	Type of ownership	Number of Common Shares	Percentage of class
Gestion Jolina Inc.	of record	20,525,304 ⁽¹⁾	40.0 %
Montréal, Québec	proxy	8,947,186 ⁽²⁾	17.4 %
Placements Italcant Inc.	of record	5,314,307 ⁽²⁾	10.4 %
Laval, Québec			

(1) Includes 3,811,137 Common Shares held by Jolina Capital Inc., the sole shareholder of Gestion Jolina Inc.

(2) 4,327,547 of these 5,314,307 Common Shares are voted by proxy by Gestion Jolina Inc. in addition to the 8,947,186 Common Shares indicated above.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

For fiscal 2002, Management proposes that the Board of Directors be composed of eight members. **Except where the authority to vote in favour of the directors is withheld, the persons whose names are printed on the form of proxy intend to vote FOR the election of the eight nominees whose names are set forth in the following table.** Each director elected will hold office until the next annual meeting or until that director's successor is duly elected, unless the office is vacated earlier in accordance with the relevant provisions of the applicable laws.

The following table sets forth, for each person nominated by Management for election as a director, his name and municipality of residence, the year in which he first became a director, the principal occupation of each nominee and the number of Common Shares beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, or over which control or direction was exercised by each nominee as at June 1, 2001.

Name and municipality of residence	Director since	Principal occupation	Common Shares beneficially owned or over which control or direction was exercised
EMANUELE (LINO) SAPUTO ⁽²⁾ Senneville, Québec	1992	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company	33,800,037 ⁽¹⁾
ANDRÉ BÉRARD ⁽²⁾ Verdun, Québec	1997	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of a Canadian Chartered Bank	2,500
CLAUDE BLANCHET ⁽³⁾ Ile-Bizard, Québec	2000	Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of Société générale de financement du Québec	--
PIERRE BOURGIE ⁽²⁾ Outremont, Québec	1997	President and Chief Executive Officer of Société Financière Bourgie Inc. (a holding company)	230,000
CATERINA MONTICCIOLO, CA ⁽³⁾ Laval, Québec	1997	Controller of Placements Vigica Inc. (a holding company)	59,500
LINO A. SAPUTO, JR. Westmount, Québec	2001	Executive Vice-President, Operations of the Company	16,588
PATRICIA SAPUTO, CA, FP ⁽³⁾ Laval, Québec	1999	President of Pasa Holdings Inc. (a holding company)	8,600
LOUIS A. TANGUAY ⁽³⁾ Laval, Québec	1997	President and Chief Executive Officer of Bell Canada International	2,000

(1) The shares are held by Jolina Capital Inc. and Gestion Jolina Inc., both of which are holding companies controlled by Mr. Emanuele(Lino) Saputo, and by other holding companies owned and controlled by his brothers and sisters and their families, which have granted to Gestion Jolina Inc. a power of attorney to vote all of the Common Shares held by them at the time of the Company's Initial Public Offering. See "Voting Shares and Principal Holders of Voting Shares".

(2) Members of the Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee.

(3) Members of the Audit Committee.

During the last five years, all of the above nominees have been engaged in their present principal occupations or in other executive capacities with the companies indicated opposite their name or with related or affiliated companies, except for: Mr. Claude Blanchet, who, prior to April 1997, was President-General Manager of Fonds de solidarité des travailleurs du Québec (FTQ); Mr. Pierre Bourgie who, prior to January 1997, was President and Chief Executive Officer of Urgel Bourgie Inc. (funeral services); Ms. Caterina Monticciolo who, from January 1995 to October 1996, was a financial analyst with the Company and prior thereto was an accountant with Deloitte & Touche (an accounting firm); Mr. Lino A. Saputo, Jr., who, from January 1, 2000 to January 15, 2001, was Assistant to the President of Uniforêt Inc. (a lumber company); and Ms. Patricia Saputo who, prior to July 1998, was a Senior Tax Manager with Deloitte & Touche.

Information as to shares beneficially owned by each nominee, or over which each exercised control or direction, as at June 1, 2001, has been furnished by the nominees individually as such information is not within the knowledge of the Company.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The following table provides a summary of compensation earned during the fiscal years ended March 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999, as salary, bonus or otherwise, by the five most highly compensated senior executives of the Company (collectively, the “Named Executive Officers”). Certain aspects of this compensation are dealt with in further detail in the following tables.

Name and principal occupation	Year	Annual compensation			Long-term compensation	All other compensation (\$)
		Salary ⁽¹⁾ (\$)	Bonus ⁽¹⁾ (\$)	Other annual compensation ⁽²⁾ (\$)	Awards	
					Number of Common Shares under options granted	
Emanuele (Lino) Saputo Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	2001 C\$	400,000	200,000	-	-	-
	2000 C\$	400,000	200,000	-	-	-
	1999	400,000	200,000	-	-	-
Camillo Lisio ⁽³⁾ President and Chief Operating Officer	2001 C\$	218,000	115,000	-	32,296	-
	2001 US\$	327,000	165,000	-	48,445	-
	2000 C\$	180,000	85,000	-	18,275	-
	2000 US\$	270,000	120,000	-	27,410	-
	1999	300,000	125,000	-	24,425	-
Louis-Philippe Carrière Executive Vice-President Finance and Administration and Secretary	2001 C\$	140,000	59,000	-	15,556	-
	2001 US\$	210,000	81,000	-	23,333	-
	2000 C\$	110,000	49,000	-	8,376	-
	2000 US\$	165,000	66,000	-	12,563	-
	1999	225,000	80,000	-	12,215	-
Dino Dello Sbarba Executive Vice-President Sales, Marketing and Logistics	2001 C\$	140,000	59,000	-	15,556	-
	2001 US\$	210,000	81,000	-	23,333	-
	2000 C\$	110,000	49,000	-	8,376	-
	2000 US\$	165,000	66,000	-	12,563	-
	1999	225,000	80,000	-	12,215	-
Pierre Leroux Executive Vice-President Human Resources and Quality Assurance ⁽⁴⁾	2001 C\$	140,000	59,000	-	15,556	-
	2001 US\$	210,000	81,000	-	23,333	-
	2000 C\$	100,000	49,000	-	7,615	-
	2000 US\$	150,000	66,000	-	11,421	-
	1999	190,000	80,000	-	10,315	-

(1) Because of the nature of the Company’s activities, a portion of the salary and bonus for each Named Executive Officer (other than Mr. Lino Saputo) for fiscal 2000 and 2001 was paid in Canadian dollars, with the balance paid in American dollars. Unless otherwise specified, all amounts are in Canadian dollars.

(2) Excluded from Other Annual Compensation are perquisites and other personal benefits which, in the aggregate, do not exceed the lesser of \$50,000 and ten percent of the total annual salary and bonus of the Named Executive Officer for the year.

(3) On April 6, 2001, Mr. Lisio resigned as President and Chief Executive Officer.

(4) From January 1, 2000 to January 15, 2001, Mr. Leroux was also acting as Executive Vice-President Operations, on an interim basis.

The aggregate cash remuneration paid by the Company and its subsidiaries to the executive officers of the Company for services rendered during fiscal 2001, including salaries and bonuses, was \$1,552,000 and US\$1,365,000.

STOCK OPTION PLAN

On October 15, 1997, prior to the closing of its Initial Public Offering, the Company established a Stock Option Plan (the “Plan”) for full-time employees, officers and directors of the Company. The purpose of the Plan is to attract and retain experienced and competent employees, officers and directors and to encourage share ownership by such persons.

The total number of Common Shares which may be issued pursuant to the Plan is 3,000,000 Common Shares. The maximum number of Common Shares which may be optioned in favour of any single individual shall not exceed the maximum number allowed pursuant to the rules of applicable regulatory authorities.

The terms, exercise price and number of Common Shares covered by each option as well as the vesting periods of such options are determined by the Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee at the time the options are granted. However, the Plan provides that the exercise price may not be less than the closing price of the Common Shares on The Toronto Stock Exchange the business day immediately preceding the date of grant. Options granted under the Plan may not be assigned and expire ten years from the date of grant.

As at March 31, 2001, 1,650,978 options were outstanding. On April 1, 2001, the Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee granted an aggregate of 628,704 options to participants under the Plan at an exercise price of \$38 per share. Of the 2,098,025 options outstanding as at June 1, 2001, 841,925 options were exercisable and 1,256,100 will vest at a rate of 20% per year, on each of the five anniversaries of their date of grant.

As at June 1, 2001, 707,938 common shares remained available on the original basket of 3,000,000 Common Shares established in 1997. It is the Company’s intention to increase this basket in order to continue providing a long-term incentive to its employees in the future. See “Amendment to the Stock Option Plan in order to increase the maximum number of Common Shares reserved for issuance under the Plan”.

Options granted during the most recently completed fiscal year

The following table presents a summary of the options granted under the Plan to the Named Executive Officers during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001.

Name	Number of Common Shares under options granted	% of total options granted to employees in financial year	Exercise price ⁽¹⁾ (\$/Share)	Market value of Common Shares underlying options on the date of grant (\$/Share) ⁽¹⁾	Expiration date
Emanuele (Lino) Saputo	-	-	-	-	-
Camillo Lisio	80,741	11.0	27.00	27.00	04/01/2010
Louis-Philippe Carrière	38,889	5.3	27.00	27.00	04/01/2010
Dino Dello Sbarba	38,889	5.3	27.00	27.00	04/01/2010
Pierre Leroux	38,889	5.3	27.00	27.00	04/01/2010

(1) Corresponds to the closing price of the Common Shares on The Toronto Stock Exchange on March 31, 2000, which is the day immediately preceding the date of grant.

Fiscal year end option values

The following table presents, for each of the Named Executive Officers, a summary of the options exercised during the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001, as well as a summary of the unexercised options and of the value of the unexercised in-the-money options as at March 31, 2001 under the Plan. It should be noted that unexercised options may never be exercised and that the value of unexercised in-the-money options may never be realized.

Name	Number of Common Shares acquired on exercise	Aggregate value realized (\$)	Number of unexercised options as at 03/31/01		Value of unexercised in-the-money options as at 03/31/01 ⁽¹⁾	
			Exercisable	Unexercisable	Exercisable (\$)	Unexercisable (\$)
Emanuele (Lino) Saputo	-	-	-	-	-	-
Camillo Lisio ⁽²⁾	-	-	69,848	146,062	1,080,996	1,201,482
Louis-Philippe Carrière	-	-	27,837	69,794	399,663	579,511
Dino Dello Sbarba	-	-	33,014	71,676	508,380	619,033
Pierre Leroux	-	-	27,992	67,601	425,984	588,070

(1) The value of an unexercised in-the-money option at fiscal year-end is equal to the difference between the closing price of the Common Shares on The Toronto Stock Exchange on March 31, 2001, being \$38 per share, and the exercise price of the option.

(2) Following Mr. Lisio's departure on April 6, 2001, all of his options will either be exercised or cancelled in accordance with the provisions of the Plan.

TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT AND CHANGE OF CONTROL

There is no contract, arrangement or any other understanding with respect to employment, termination of employment, a change of control or a change in responsibilities following a change of control, between the Company and any of the Company's senior executive officers.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Composition of the Committee

The Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee (the "Corporate Governance Committee") is composed of three members of the Board of Directors, being two directors considered related to the Company (Messrs. Emanuele (Lino) Saputo and André Bérard) and one unrelated director (Mr. Pierre Bourgie). See "Statement of Corporate Governance Practices - Composition of the Board and of its Committees".

Mandate of the Committee

The Committee was created on October 28, 1997 and has been assigned by the Board of Directors of the Company various functions which may be summarized as follows:

- (i) the responsibility of reviewing the executive compensation policy of the Company;
- (ii) the determination of option grants and financial performance targets for the bonuses of the executives of the Company;
- (iii) the review of the Company's corporate governance practices and making recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect thereto;
- (iv) the responsibility to ensure proper management succession planning for the Company and making recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect thereto;
- (v) the review of the compensation of the directors in their capacity as directors and making recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect thereto;
- (vi) the implementation of a uniform and transparent process for selecting nominees for election to the Board of Directors and the recruiting of new candidates for Board membership, and making recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect thereto; and
- (vii) the implementation of a process to assess, on an annual basis, the effectiveness of the Board of Directors and its various committees.

Report on Executive Compensation

General Principles of Executive Compensation

During the year ended March 31, 1999, the Company revised its compensation policy following a review conducted by a compensation consulting firm. During such review, the compensation policies of several manufacturing companies and distributors were analysed in light of the size of the Company, the geographic markets in which it operates and the responsibilities given to its senior executives (the “Comparative Group”).

For fiscal 2001, compensation for the senior executives of the Company, including the Named Executive Officers, was composed of three components: base salary, bonus and options. The compensation policy for fiscal 2001 was determined based on the principles established in fiscal 1999. The Corporate Governance Committee believes that the compensation policy is competitive with that offered by Canadian corporations of similar size having operations in the United States.

The following constitutes a summary of the principles based upon which the compensation of the senior executives was determined for fiscal 2001. The compensation policy is designed to attract and retain competent individuals who can ensure the current and long-term success of the Company.

Base Salary

For fiscal 2001, base salary was re-evaluated based on the principles established in fiscal 1999 following the review of the Comparative Group, as well as on more subjective criteria such as internal equity and prior performance of each senior executive. Base salary is competitive with the upper range of the base salaries offered by the Canadian corporations included in the Comparative Group and with the lower range offered by American corporations. A portion of the base salary of the Named Executive Officers (other than the Chief Executive Officer) for fiscal 2001 was paid in U.S. dollars in order to take into account compensation packages paid in the United States for similar positions, considering the importance of the Company’s American operations.

The Corporate Governance Committee believes that the base salary reflects salaries offered for positions involving similar responsibilities and complexity, internal equity comparisons as well as the ability and experience of the Company’s senior executives.

Annual Incentive

For fiscal 2001, the Corporate Governance Committee determined at the beginning of the fiscal year the financial performance targets which had to be achieved by the Company as well as the maximum amount of bonus which could be paid to each senior executive in the event the targets were met.

Under the plan, a bonus could only be paid if at least 85% of the financial performance targets were met by the Company, and, in this event, payments were made in proportion to the level so reached. Therefore, the maximum amount of bonus payable to a senior executive was only paid if the Company reached or exceeded the target levels set at the beginning of the fiscal year.

For fiscal 2001, the amount of bonus paid to each senior executive, other than the Chief Executive Officer, represented between 38.6% and 52.8% of his base salary. Like the base salary, a portion of the bonuses was paid in U.S. dollars in order to take into account compensation packages paid in the United States for similar positions, considering the importance of the Company’s American operations.

The Corporate Governance Committee reviewed the bonus plan and believes that its underlying principles are sufficiently defined and adequately encourage the senior executives to excel.

Long-Term Incentive Plan

Options to purchase Common Shares may be granted from time to time to senior executives and other key employees pursuant to the Stock Option Plan in order to sustain a commitment to long-term profitability and maximize shareholder value.

On April 1, 2000, the Corporate Governance Committee granted options to senior executives for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001. The number of options granted depended on the position held by each senior executive and represented a percentage of base salary, without taking into account the number of options already held by such senior executive. Refer to the section entitled “Stock Option Plan” for a discussion of the terms and conditions relating to the options, including vesting periods.

Chief Executive Officer

For fiscal 2001, the Chief Executive Officer’s base salary and bonus and the evaluation of his performance were based upon the same principles as those used for the other senior executives of the Company.

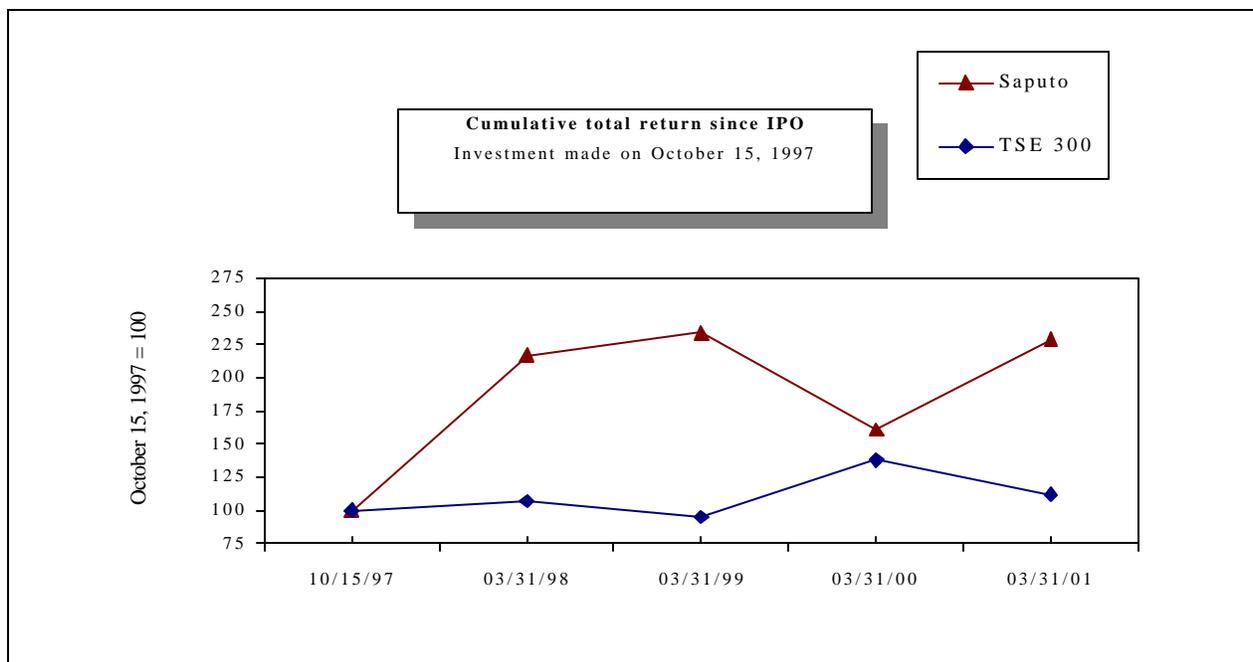
During fiscal 2001, no options were granted to the Chief Executive Officer as his interest as principal shareholder constitutes a sufficient long-term incentive.

The members of the Corporate Governance Committee whose names are set forth below have approved the issue of the foregoing report and its inclusion in this proxy circular.

André Bérard, Chairman
Pierre Bourgie
Emanuele (Lino) Saputo

PERFORMANCE GRAPH

The following graph compares, on a yearly basis, the total cumulative shareholder return for \$100 invested in the Common Shares with the TSE 300 Index of The Toronto Stock Exchange during the period starting October 15, 1997, when the Common Shares were listed on such exchange, and ending March 31, 2001.



	10/15/97	03/31/98	03/31/99	03/31/00	03/31/01
SAPUTO	100	217	234	161	229
TSE 300	100	107	95	138	112

COMPENSATION OF DIRECTORS

Each director who is not a salaried officer or employee of the Company is paid an annual fee of \$18,000 and a further attendance fee of \$750 for each meeting of the Board of Directors or any committee thereof. The Chairman of a committee is also paid an additional annual fee of \$3,000. For fiscal 2001, each director who is not a salaried officer or employee of the Company was granted 1,000 options pursuant to the Company's Stock Option Plan in consideration for his services as director of the Company. See "Stock Option Plan".

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS INSURANCE COVERAGE

The Company carries liability insurance in an amount limited to \$25 million with respect to its directors and officers as a group. For fiscal 2001, the total annual premium in respect of such insurance was approximately \$99,000 all of which was paid by the Company and charged to income.

INDEBTEDNESS OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

None of the directors and other executive officers of the Company, nor their associates, are indebted towards the Company in respect of loans or advances.

STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

General

The Toronto Stock Exchange has adopted a requirement that each listed company incorporated in Canada disclose its corporate governance practices with reference to a series of guidelines (the “Governance Guidelines”). These guidelines (which are not mandatory) address the constitution of boards and committees, their functions, their independence from Management and other means of ensuring sound corporate governance.

The Corporate Governance Committee has the responsibility of reviewing the Governance Guidelines and to report to the Board of Directors as to specific measures to be taken by the Company with respect thereto. In June 2001, a meeting of the Board of Directors was held to discuss the report of the Corporate Governance Committee and adopt the necessary resolutions.

The following is a summary of the corporate governance practices of the Company as well as the plans of the Board of Directors to assure a greater degree of compliance with the Governance Guidelines during the current and future fiscal years.

Mandate of the Board

The mandate of the Board of Directors is to supervise the management of the business and affairs of the Company. In order to better fulfil its mandate, the Board of Directors has formally acknowledged its responsibility for, among other matters,

- (i) reviewing, at least once a year, the Company’s strategic orientation and the plans established with respect thereto;
- (ii) identifying, with Management, the principal risks of the Company’s business and the systems put in place to manage these risks;
- (iii) ensuring proper management succession planning, including appointing, training and monitoring senior management;
- (iv) maintaining a proper communication policy with shareholders, institutional investors and participants in the financial market; and
- (v) monitoring the efficiency of internal control and management information systems.

The Board has taken, when necessary, specific measures in this respect. Some of these duties were delegated to the Corporate Governance Committee and to the Audit Committee. See “Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee - Mandate of the Committee” and “Statement of Corporate Governance Practices - Audit Committee”.

Composition of the Board and of its Committees

The Governance Guidelines recommend that a board of directors be constituted with a majority of individuals who qualify as “unrelated directors”. If a company has a significant shareholder, the board should include, in addition to a majority of unrelated directors, a number of directors who do not have interests in or relationships with either the company or the significant shareholder and which fairly reflects the investment in the company by shareholders other than the significant shareholder. The Governance Guidelines define an “unrelated director” as a director who is independent of management and is free from any interest and any business or other relationship which could, or could reasonably be perceived to, materially interfere with the director’s ability to act with a view to the best interests of the Company, other than interests and relationships arising from shareholding. The Governance Guidelines also recommend that a board of directors should examine its size to ensure an appropriate number of directors in light of the circumstances.

The Board presently consists of a majority of directors who are related to the Company and to the Saputo family, the significant shareholder (see “Voting Shares and Principal Holders of Voting Shares”). There are three unrelated directors, being Messrs. Pierre Bourgie, Claude Blanchet and Louis A. Tanguay, whose presence adequately reflects the investment of minority shareholders in the Company. Ms. Caterina Monticciolo and Ms. Patricia Saputo are considered related as they are members of the Saputo family and Mr. André Bérard is considered related due to his position as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of a Canadian chartered bank which acts as lender and co-agent for the banking syndicate under some of the Company’s credit facilities. In fiscal 1999, the Corporation recognized that in order to comply with the Governance Guideline, changes would have to be made to the composition of the Board of Directors of the Company.

The Board therefore approved the recommendations made by the Corporate Governance Committee to the effect that any changes to the composition of the Board should be made over a period of time which would permit the methodical integration of the new directors without disturbing the normal course of business. The Company indicated, in fiscal 1999, its intention to add two unrelated directors to the Board over the course of the next four years. In fiscal 2001, Mr. Claude Blanchet was elected to the Board of Directors and Management intends to add an additional unrelated director over the course of the next two years. Further to the appointment of the additional unrelated director, the Board will be composed almost equally of related and unrelated directors. In fiscal 2001, the Company’s Articles and By-Laws were amended to authorize the directors to appoint additional directors between shareholders’ meetings. This should enable the Company to increase its level of compliance with the Governance Guidelines. After reviewing its size, the Board determined that a board of seven to nine directors is appropriate for decision-making purposes.

A further Governance Guideline recommends that board committees be generally comprised of outside directors, a majority of whom should be unrelated directors. A guideline also states that the Audit Committee should be composed of outside directors only.

The Company currently has two committees: the Audit Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. The Audit Committee is presently composed exclusively of outside directors and equally of related and unrelated directors. The Corporate Governance Committee is composed of a majority of outside and related directors. It is currently the intention of the Company to modify the composition of its committees in parallel with that of the Board of Directors in order (i) for an outside and unrelated director to be appointed on the Corporate Governance Committee, which will then be composed equally of related and unrelated directors, and (ii) for the Audit Committee to be comprised of a majority of unrelated directors.

Set out below is a description of the committees of the Board and their mandate.

Audit Committee

The mandate of the Audit Committee is to review (i) the annual and quarterly financial statements of the Company and certain other public disclosure documents required by regulatory authorities, (ii) the nature and scope of the annual audit as proposed by the auditors and Management, and (iii) with the auditors and Management, the adequacy of the internal control and management information systems of the Company, and present quarterly reports to the Board of Directors with respect thereto. The Audit Committee is presently composed of Claude Blanchet, Caterina Monticciolo, CA, Patricia Saputo, CA, FP, and Louis A. Tanguay.

Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee

The composition and mandate of the Corporate Governance Committee are outlined above under “Corporate Governance and Human Resources Committee”.

Independence from Management and Evaluation of the Board and Directors

The Governance Guidelines provide that to ensure independence of a board, the chairman of the board should not be a member of management. Mr. Emanuele (Lino) Saputo is acting as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. The Board concluded, after discussions, that Mr. Saputo should continue to act as Chairman of the Board. The Board of Directors approved the recommendation of the Corporate Governance Committee and delegated to the Chairman of this committee the responsibility of ensuring that the independence of the Board of Directors be maintained at all times. The Board is presently composed of eight directors, only two of whom are members of Management.

The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for implementing a process to assess the effectiveness of each director, of the Board of Directors as a whole, and of the various committees of the Board of Directors.

Other

The Board of Directors considers that orienting and educating new directors is an important element of ensuring responsible corporate governance. By ensuring that Board members are properly informed of the business of the Company, the Board considers that it complies with the Governance Guidelines.

In certain circumstances, it may be appropriate for an individual director to engage an outside advisor at the expense of the Company. The Corporate Governance Committee will determine if the circumstances warrant the engagement of an outside advisor.

Furthermore, reference is made to the definition of the mandate of the Corporate Governance Committee for particulars of other measures taken to assure a greater degree of compliance with the Governance Guidelines and increase the effectiveness of the Board of Directors.

INTEREST OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

The Company may from time to time provide services to, or receive services from, other companies controlled by the Saputo Shareholders in consideration for a fee equal to the fair market value of such services.

Mr. André Bérard is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of a Canadian chartered bank which acts as lender and co-agent for the banking syndicate under some of the Company's credit facilities.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Deloitte & Touche, chartered accountants, have been the auditors of the Company since 1992.

Except where the authority to vote in favour of the appointment of Deloitte & Touche is withheld, the persons whose names are printed on the form of proxy intend to vote FOR the appointment of Deloitte & Touche, chartered accountants, as auditors of the Company and to vote FOR authorizing the Board of Directors to determine their remuneration. The auditors will hold office until the next Annual Meeting or until their successors are appointed.

AMENDMENT TO THE STOCK OPTION PLAN IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES RESERVED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER THE PLAN

The Plan was established in 1997 and provides that a maximum of 3,000,000 Common Shares may be issued thereunder. As at June 1, 2001, 707,938 shares remained available on the original basket of 3,000,000 Common Shares. It is the Company's intention to increase this basket in order to continue providing a long-term incentive to its employees. In June 2001, the Board of Directors approved amendments (the "Amendment") to the Plan in order to increase the maximum number of Common Shares reserved for issuance thereunder from 3,000,000 to 7,000,000, which represents approximately 13.6% of the total number of Common Shares outstanding.

Pre-clearance for the Amendment has been granted by The Toronto Stock Exchange on May 22, 2001. The following special resolution will be submitted for approval by the Shareholders at the Meeting.

"IT IS RESOLVED that the Amendment to the Plan approved by the Board of Directors on June 5, 2001 be and it is hereby approved, ratified and confirmed so as to increase the maximum number of Common Shares reserved for issuance under the Plan from 3,000,000 to 7,000,000."

In order for this resolution to be effective, The Toronto Stock Exchange requires that it be approved by a majority of the votes cast at the Meeting, other than votes attaching to Common Shares beneficially owned by insiders to whom shares may be issued pursuant to the Plan and their associates. On June 1, 2001, a total of 35,123,644 Common Shares were beneficially owned by insiders and their associates, representing 68% of the outstanding Common Shares.

Except where the form of proxy indicates the intention of the holder to vote against this resolution, the persons whose names are printed on the form of proxy intend to vote FOR the Amendment.

GENERAL

Except as otherwise specifically indicated, the information contained herein is given as at June 1, 2001. The Management of the Company presently knows of no matters to come before the Meeting other than matters identified in the Notice of Meeting. If any matters which are not known should properly come before the Meeting, the persons named in the form of proxy will vote on such matters according to their best judgment.

APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors of the Company have approved the content and the sending of this Circular.

Saint-Léonard, Québec, June 5, 2001.

(signed) Emanuele (Lino) Saputo,
Chairman of the Board